



Managing a bandage or cast

Your pet has had a cast or bandage applied to its leg to provide extra support or protection. Whilst casts and bandages are robust structures, they require careful monitoring to ensure they do not damage your pet's leg. As your pet's injury heals, the leg may swell requiring different or replacement supports and regular checks are essential.

You should check your pet 3-4 times daily:

- The toes should be checked for any swelling, discolouration or coolness, unless they are covered by the bandage
- The bandage or cast should not become loose or slip down the leg
- The bandage or cast should not change position i.e. twist around the leg
- The bandage or cast should not appear damaged with cracks, bite marks or having been licked/chewed
- The bandage or cast should not smell
- The bandage or cast should not be wet

If any of the above are noticed, your pet will need to be checked and possibly have their dressing replaced.

We recommend the use of a plastic bag or boot over the bottom of the cast/bandage when taking your dog outdoors for toileting purposes. It is imperative that you **do not** leave this bag on your pet's leg at any other time or it will become wet with sweat.

If your pet shows any sign of pain with the cast or bandage i.e. not putting as much weight on the leg, or chewing at it, then please contact us immediately.

You should also contact us if your pet shows any sign of general ill health e.g. reduced appetite or lethargy.

Your pet will require regular checks with us whilst the cast/bandage is in place and your vet will advise you of the exact timings.

If you are at all concerned about your pet's health or the cast/bandage, then please contact us. An uncomfortable cast or bandage, or one that is wet requires urgent attention.