

## Bandage and Cast Aftercare

Your pet has been sent home wearing a bandage or Cast on his/her leg. Taking care of your pet's bandage/cast is essential to prevent potentially serious complications.

**The bandage or cast must be kept clean and dry at all times and your pet kept indoors.**

When you take your dog outside to go to the toilet, a plastic bag must be placed over the paw/lower leg to prevent it getting wet or soiled. However it is important that the plastic bag is removed when your dog comes back inside.

A cat should not be allowed outside at all during the recovery/bandage period. (We may have advised that your cat be confined to a large cage if it is recovering from an orthopaedic injury).

You will need to bring your pet back to us for frequent bandage changes in the coming days and weeks. The frequency depends on the type of injury your pet has. We will instruct you at the time of discharge of your pet, as to how often you need to return for changes or check ups.

If your dog or cat attempts to chew or destroy the bandage, please inform us and we will provide you with a special collar to help prevent further interference with the bandage.

It is important that the bandage/cast and affected leg is monitored several times each day for the following:

- Swollen toes or paw (if not covered)
- Warmth/heat in the affected leg
- Wetness of the bandage
- Soiling of the bandage
- Slippage of the bandage
- Chewing or destruction of bandage

Any of the above requires the bandage or cast to be changed as soon as possible at the Animal Care Hospital during normal working hours.

If in doubt about any of the above please don't hesitate to phone us for advice.