

Home Care Information—Bandage and Splint Care

Your pet has had a bandage/splint applied to protect an injury or surgical site. Careful monitoring and maintenance is necessary for safe and effective bandage wear. Major problems can result from simple bandages; please do not hesitate to call if any problems are noted.

Please monitor the bandage for slipping or damage from chewing, etc. If it changes position or loses its integrity (i.e. section is chewed off), serious problems may occur with healing or new problems with pressure sores may develop. Please call if any changes in bandage position occur; we may need to replace the bandage.

If the end of the bandage is open, check the two central toenails twice daily (i.e. look at or feel them). They should be close together. If they are spreading apart, this indicates toe swelling which can result in serious complications, and the bandage needs to be assessed by a veterinarian within 4-6 hours. Please call if any swelling is noted.

Please keep the bandage clean and dry. Place a plastic baggy on the end every time your pet goes outside. *Remove when indoors.*

If the bandage gets wet or you notice any bad odor coming from the bandage, it will need to be evaluated within 4-6 hours; serious skin problems may develop.

We strongly advised that you do not modify the bandage in any way. Adding tape or other wrappings can seriously compromise the safety of the bandage/splint. If you are concerned about the security or integrity of the bandage, please return for re-evaluation and reapplication as needed.

Please know that bandages and splints can cause very serious complications. They are very effective treatment tools for better healing and pain control, but careful monitoring and appropriate follow-up must occur. If you have any questions or concerns related to issues outlined above or in general regarding bandage/splint wear, please do not hesitate to call your veterinarian or return for evaluation.