

## **Bandage/Splint Instructions**

Bandages and splints require some special care to be of value. The following instructions should help you:

- 1) Bandages and splints **MUST** be kept dry. A wet bandage is dangerous. To prevent this from happening you can cover the bandage with a waterproof covering, such as a plastic bag, when going outside. The covering should be removed when indoors!
- 2) Keep your pet quiet. Avoid playing, running, and jumping. Take care with slippery floors and stairs. An overly active pet can make the bandage or splint slip or twist, rendering it ineffective at best, painful at worst.
- 3) Prevent your pet from chewing or otherwise damaging the bandage or splint. Chewing can lead to the two above issues, wet bandage and/or slipping. Your pet may need an Elizabethan collar to prevent licking and chewing
- 4) Check the bandage or splint daily. Problems to look for include: skin swelling above or below the bandage/splint, bad odors, slipping, and twisting.
- 5) You can lightly dust the area around the splint with baby powder to help prevent chafing of the skin.

Remember, a bandage or splint is only of value while it is properly in place. Even the most skillfully applied bandage and splint will not stay in place forever.

To avoid unnecessary discomfort, tissue damage, or other problems, please return for recheck appointments at the appropriate intervals. These visits should be scheduled ahead of time unless there is an emergency. In case of emergency, please call us before heading down so we know you are coming.

Good home care is the best way to promote fast recovery. Check the bandage or splint daily for slippage, twisting, damage, tissue swelling, or bad odors. Let us know immediately if any of these occur, these are considered bandage emergencies!

Feel free to call with any questions or concerns!