



Bandage Care Instructions

Rule 1: Animals with bandages may not be outside unattended. Ever. All the bad things listed below will happen if you let your bandaged pet run loose outside. This means that your pet must be kept inside the house. When your dog goes outside to potty, you must take him or her on a leash.

Rule 2: The bandage must be kept dry. If your pet has a bandage on the leg or foot, when your pet goes outside to potty, put a plastic bag over the bandage. Be sure and take it off when he or she comes in. Bathing and swimming are not allowed until the bandage comes off.

Rule 3: Animals with bandages must not be allowed to exercise freely. Our patients are not able to tell when they are over-doing it. They cannot tell us when they start to develop bandage sores. It is vital that your pet not run wild. Usually, being inside the house is enough, but if your pet is especially rambunctious, it will be necessary to confine him or her to a cage. Do not let your pet outdoors without a leash.

Rule 4: You must check the bandage at least once a day. Bandages can loosen over time as the padding compacts and the limb shrinks from lack of use. Also, many of our bandaged patients are young and growing, and it is not uncommon for a bandaged patient to outgrow the bandage before it is time to take it off. For these and other reasons, bandages can rub and cause sores. If not attended to right away, these sores can be quite severe.

Problem signs:

- 1. Your pet uses the bandaged limb less than before.**
- 2. You see a wet spot on the bandage**
- 3. You smell a bad odor**
- 4. Your pet has a decrease in appetite or activity level.**

If you notice any of these things, call us immediately. 250-371-3236