



Valley Veterinary Group

'For all creatures great and small'

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Caring For Your Pet When A dressing Or Cast Has Been Applied

Dressings or casts are applied for several reasons :

- Immobilisation of a joint
- Protection of a wound
- Comfort
- Preventing self mutilation

Please observe the following instructions when caring for a pet wearing a dressing :

1. Keep the dressing **Clean** and **Dry**. A wet dressing will be very uncomfortable for your pet and may allow infection to develop in the wet skin under the bandage. Keep cats indoors with a litter tray and put a plastic bag over foot bandages on dogs when outside. **Do Not** secure with an elastic band as this may restrict blood supply to the foot
2. Follow instruction regarding exercise.
3. Ensure that your pet does not damage or remove the dressing. "Buster" collars are available from the surgery.
4. Keep appointments for dressing checks and changes. Bandages kept on too long or not changed frequently enough may cause problems.
5. Please contact the surgery if :
 - a) the dressing slips or comes off
 - b) there is any redness or soreness around the top of the bandage or it smells
 - c) your pet seems unduly troubled by the bandage or it resents it being touched
 - d) any toes exposed below a foot dressing appear swollen or sore