

YOU AND YOUR PET'S CAST

The First Few Days

It does take some time for your pet to adjust to a cast! At first he will be constantly aware of it. You should expect him to take life a little more easily and slowly. But, with time, he will become accustomed to the cast and his new physical limitations.

After a time, your pet will perform most of the activities he was doing before the injury. Try to use some caution, however, to assure that the injury will heal uneventfully.

General Precautions

1. Follow your veterinarian's instructions carefully regarding your pet's activity.
2. Check toes daily. They should not be swollen or cold. Call our office immediately if either problem is noticed.
3. Check the cast for moist spots, foul odors, or pressure sores.
4. Watch your pet for sudden discomfort associated with the leg. This may present itself as an unwillingness to use the limb or chewing the cast.
5. Never stuff cotton or toilet tissue under the margins of the cast, since it may fall into the cast or decrease your pet's circulation and cause serious medical problems.
6. Never trim or cut down the length of your pet's cast yourself. Call our office if the cast becomes loose, broken or cracked.
7. Contact our office if you have any problems with your pet's cast and especially if your pet experiences any of the problems mentioned above.

Cast Care

One of the advantages of your pet's fiberglass cast is that it is water resistant. It is not totally waterproof. If your pet's cast becomes soiled, you can clean it with a damp cloth and mild soap, but use only a small amount of soap and water as it could seep through the cast and cause skin irritation. Keep the cast as clean and dry as possible by covering it with a plastic bag whenever your pet goes outside in wet weather. (Leave uncovered at all other times so the cast and skin can "breathe").

Caring People Helping Pets



2082 Cheyenne Court, Grafton, WI 53024 • phone: 262-375-0130 • fax: 262-375-4196 • www.bestfriendsvet.com



If your pet's cast and padding become wet, dry thoroughly or problems will result. To dry a wet cast, use a hair dryer. Drying time is from 30 minutes to two hours, depending on cast construction.

If you find a rough edge on your pet's cast, you can reduce it by lightly filing with a nail file or emery board.

Cast Removal

When your pet's injury has healed, the cast will be removed with a saw or cutting wire that has been especially designed for this purpose. Cast removal is usually a fast and painless process.

Back to Normal

Your veterinarian will determine how much physical activity is advisable for your pet following removal of the cast.

Good luck with the cast!