

HOW TO INTRODUCE A SPLINT TO YOUR PET



It's important to remember that any splint placed on a pet's foot will need to be removed at bedtime, and should be removed for at least an hour during the day to allow the foot to breathe.

When introducing a new splint to a pet, it's important to start slowly. Positive reinforcement methods, using praise, treats, or toys should always be used in association with the splint. The splint will initially make the pet walk "funny" or maybe not want to walk at all. Using positive reinforcement to encourage walking is always the best approach.

Day 1:

Place splint on pet for 10-15 minutes at a time, then remove. Try these short sessions 3 to 4 times during Day One. Once the splint is removed, look for any areas of irritation or rubbing on the pet's skin that may have been caused by the splint. If you notice an area of rubbing, please consult one of our customer service representatives for fitting assistance, and your Veterinarian with any medical concerns. It's important to make sure the pet is comfortable with the splint, the fit is correct, and to not rush the process. Continue with these short sessions until your dog adjusts. If you are concerned that the fit isn't correct, please contact our customer service department or consult with your Veterinarian.

Day 2:

If your pet is having a hard time adjusting to wearing the splint, continue with the short 10-15 minute sessions, as described in Day One. If your pet seems to be walking a little better and is getting used to the splint, then it's time to increase the session length a bit.

Place splint on for 15-30 minutes at a time, then remove. Try these sessions 3 to 4 times during Day Two. Again, look for any signs of discomfort, and respond accordingly.

Day 3:

If your pet is still having a hard time, continue with the short 10-15 minute sessions, as described in Day One. If the pet seems to be walking a little better than in Day Two and is getting used to the splint, then it's time to increase session length again.

Place splint on for 30-60 minutes at a time, then remove. Try these sessions 3 to 4 times during Day Three. Once again, look for any signs of discomfort, and respond accordingly.

Ongoing:

Once the pet is able to comfortably wear the splint for 4 hours or more in the day, and no areas of rubbing or irritation are present, it's all right to increase wear time to almost a full day, if needed. If you are unsure how long the splint should be worn based on your dog's medical condition, it's always best to consult with your Veterinarian.

