



ANIMAL ORTHO CARE

# CUSTOM ELBOW/CARPAL BRACE

## CASTING INSTRUCTIONS

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have not done casting on a live subject, we recommend you have someone or your veterinarian who has. A good cast will result in a good brace as the cast is the foundation of how we make the brace. If Fabrication confirms the cast unusable, it will need to be re-done, delaying the build process. If you have any questions on the process please contact us at [care@aocpet.com](mailto:care@aocpet.com) or 651-440-9321.

Items not included in your kit but will be needed to do the casting: Room Temperature/Cool Water in a bowl, Scissors

### **Casting steps:**

- 1.) Watch the custom carpal brace casting video at <https://www.aocpet.com/pages/instructions> to understand how to work with the tape. However you will be casting higher than what is shown in the video. So please reference the below instructions for how to cast properly.
- 2.) Put the rubber gloves on (person who is casting will need these gloves)
- 3.) For this type of brace it is important to cast the dog's leg as if he/she was in a natural standing position even though you are casting your dog laying down. This means the carpus needs to be fairly straight and the paw needs to be flexed (90 degree angle. If there is a contracture, cast the leg in the most functional position). You are basically casting your dog as if he was standing up on all fours.
- 4.) Have a second person place the stockinette along the full leg, going as high as you can above the elbow.
- 5.) Have this same person holding the stockinette also place the cut strip along the front portion of affected limb with groove facing up. This will give you a path to cut the cast off with the hook knife.
- 6.) Open the first fiberglass casting material package. Note: The air activates the tape just as much as water does. So as soon as you open the casting tape, dunk it in water right away. Submerge the fiberglass in room temperature/cool water for 6-15 seconds. Squeeze water out a couple times.
- 7.) Quickly wrap the leg with 3-4 layers of fiberglass casting tape. Material will set up within 1-3 minutes which is why you need to work fast.
- 8.) Start the cast by quickly wrapping the tape starting lower on the limb around the carpus, then wrapping the paw, then work your way up to past the elbow. Wrap snug on the leg otherwise the material may not stick well. Do not cast as snug around the paw.

- 9.) Smooth the cast with your hands making sure to get all contours of the limb.
- 10.) Flex the paw in a standing position as the cast sets.
- 11.) Draw a line over the length of the cut-strip where you will be cutting.
- 12.) Cut down the length of the cut-strip using the hook knife (be careful not to cut yourself), pull cut-strip out from cast and remove cast, then use scissors to cut stockinette at the top if necessary.
- 13.) With a sharpie, write the dog's name on the cast and if the cast is for the right or left leg

Please return cast and fully completed Order Form to the address on the attached cover sheet.