

## Casting instructions:

- Casting should extend past the joint above and below the fracture; fractures of the upper leg should not be casted if immobilization of joint above and below cannot be accomplished so casting is generally only indicated if the fracture is below the knee or hock
- Apply stockinette, put the entire roll on the leg, past the top of the cast, roll down past foot, twist, then roll remaining half back up the leg.
- Place cast padding, start at the bottom, overlap by  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Place orthopedic felt along the top edge of wrap and secure with a small piece of white tape. Pull the stockinette over the felt to secure its place
- Go over cast padding with brown gauze; pull snug
- Place ob wire on opposite sides of leg from top to bottom, secure with small piece of white tape
- Put on latex gloves
- Dip casting material in water (warmer water will cause cast material to harden faster)
- Wrap casting material starting at the **bottom** and going up, overlay casting material by one half as you go up the leg.
- Take another casting material, fold over 4-5 times to create a foot pad. Place over foot and continue to wrap the roll back up the leg.
- \*Make sure the OB wire saw is free!
- Casting material should not go beyond the cast padding and orthopedic felt. It should be about halfway up the orthopedic felt. If you accidentally went above the top, use scissors to trim away excess while it is still soft.
- Once casting material hardens, use duct tape to secure the ends of the wire saw to the cast
- Loosley apply one layer of elastiant to the top of the cast to prevent debris from falling inside the cast.
- Cast should stay in place 4-6 weeks depending on location and severity of the fracture
- In growing calves, cast should be checked at least once weekly to check for tight spots or slipping
- If too tight or slipping, cast can be removed with ob wire and underlying cast padding can be redone, cast can then be replaced and secured with duct tape
- Confinement will aid healing and reduce the chance of pressure sores
- If the calf stops bearing weight on the leg, it has a pressure sore. The cast needs to be removed immediately