

TAPING TOLLER EARS

Has your beautiful puppy suddenly developed flyaway ears; the ears the Canadians call wonky, and we refer to as folded or in the worst case, rosebud?

Seemingly overnight, the ear develops a fold and flies back, instead of framing the face. This usually happens between three and four months and changes the whole look of pup's face. There is a cosmetic solution, one which will not hurt the



pup in any way, and will restore the fold to the correct place.



What you will need:

light cardboard

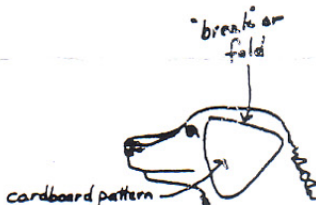
stoma or mastectomy glue (Skin-Bond Cement, by United/Howmedica available from a surgical supply)

2 pieces of moleskin (Dr. Scholl's, one package is sufficient)

Directions:

1. Trace and cut the shape of the ear out of light cardboard. Be careful to put the fold where you want the ear to "break".

2. Cut 2 pieces of moleskin using the pattern. Be sure to cut them so the sticky side will be up!!!! on both pieces.



3. Apply cement to one adhesive side and allow it to dry for 4 to 5 minutes, and then apply the moleskin side of the other piece to the cement. This will give you a double layer with one adhesive side and

one moleskin side. Check the fit to the ear again.

4. Again apply cement to the adhesive side and allow to dry for 4 to 5 minutes.

5. Stick the moleskin to the underside of the pup's ear, and press firmly.

Leave the moleskin on one month and then remove and check to see if the ear stays forward. During the month, the pup can swim, be bathed, etc. If it falls off, reapply.

New moleskin can be reapplied for one more month. If the fold is not gone after two months, oh well, at least you tried.

This procedure probably will not work if the ear has been allowed to remain folded, and the pup is over one year, but it may be worth a try. Do remember, if this is a potential breeding puppy, the likelihood is that he/she carries the folded ear, so it is always necessary to be up front about it with potential matings.

--submitted by Marile Waterstraat