



# Care of a Recovery Shirt

Recovery shirts are a great alternative to the traditional buster collar, used to prevent patients from interfering with their wounds.

However, they do need to be monitored daily.

Things to watch out for:

- The shirt getting wet or contaminated – if your pet goes outside, is licking the shirt or contaminates the shirt in any way, it is important to remove it and wash it, making sure that it is clean and dry before putting it back on.
- If the wound produces any discharge that the suit absorbs, the wound needs to be bathed and the suit cleaned. A dirty suit sitting on the wound interferes with the healing process.
- If you need to remove the shirt, it is advisable to either get two so you can swap them, or to only remove it when someone can stay with your pet and stop them from interfering with the wound.
- The shirt rubbing – the shirts sizes aren't always accurate and even though we try to provide you with the correct size, they can still sometimes rub or dig into your pet's skin. This is uncomfortable and can cause extra issues, therefore it is important to check the shirt everyday. Make sure that it isn't too tight, rubbing the skin, or twisted, especially around the limbs of your pet.
- If you feel that you are able to, you can make an incision into the leg holes to make them slightly bigger. However, if you do not feel comfortable doing this please bring them to the practice and we can do it for you.
- If you think the shirt doesn't fit correctly please contact the practice.