

Splinting An Injured Leg

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Recently we had a buck kid injure his hind leg and we eventually had to take him to a vet to see if it could be corrected. They were able to correct the problem and he is doing fine now. Now we have had a young doe kid get a similar injury and we are going to try and treat it the same as the vet did. Several young kids may get injured by older animals and many times the injury is to the ligament in the leg. The picture to the right shows the injured right leg. The animal will not put any weight on the leg and continually holds it up.



Many times that type of an injury to one leg will cause problems in the good leg. Look at the left leg in the picture to the right. The good leg is starting to bow out because it is the only weight support in the back. This can eventually cause the leg to be permanently bowed out. The good leg in the buck kid treated earlier had an extreme bow and the vet decided action had to be taken on both legs in a similar manner. At this time, we are only going to do the injured leg for this doe but we may come back and splint it if it continues to have a problem.



The splints the vet used on our buck kid were named "Quicksplint". I found them on the internet. They are for dogs and cats but work great for young goat kids. You can get them for the front or back legs and three different sizes. We ordered one set of each size for the back legs so we will be prepared for our next injuries. They are shown to the right. They come in a pair for each leg. Notice the one with the X on it. This is from the ones used on our buck kid and they can be reused. Notice the bottom of the one with the X. A section at the bottom was removed for a better fit in the length. The top and bottom have sections that can be broken off to adjust the height at the top or bottom.



We gave our injured doe a shot of Banamine for pain 10-15 minutes before starting to work on the leg just to help ease her while we splint the leg. That may not be necessary but the leg injury may also have inflammation in it and we will continue to do Banamine treatment for the inflammation for the next 5 days.

The picture to the right shows us measuring the different splints to see which size is best. This is a medium sized splint and the doe is approx. 6-7 weeks old.

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The first step is to start developing a stirrup that will be used to help prevent the splint from slipping down. We take a roll of adhesive tape and put it on the injured leg starting approx. at the hock and going passed the hoof for 4-5 inches. The tape needs to be on the hair to help prevent future slippage.



Next we first take some cotton padding roll and pad up the leg where the splint will be. The padding is to allow the splint a better fit and prevent later bandaging to cut off any blood circulation. After the padding is applied, we take a roll of gauze and firmly wrap the cotton padding into place and to give a smooth appearance for the splint to be placed upon.



The splint is placed on the leg. Ensure the splint is positioned so the bend in the splint is properly fitting at the hock area. Next, the loose end of the stirrup bandage is move up over the bottom of the splint thus creating a stirrup for the bottom of the splint. We take the roll of tape and secure the stirrup strip in the proper position so we can do the final taping. We ordered some Porous Adhesive tape for the final wrapping. The vet used an elastic, porous adhesive tape on the buck. Both types were available on the internet site where we found our supplies



We took the Porous adhesive tape and started wrapping it from the hoof area. An inch or two above the hoof did not have any splint or wrapping. There was hair visible. This is where we started wrapping so that the tape initially was directly in contact with the hair to give a more permanent base. We continually wrapped the leg from the bottom to the top a few times to ensure we had a good covering that was firm but not so tight as to stop blood circulation.

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Now we have put the doe and her mother in a pen area where she will not have to do much walking or possible have another animal injure her again at this time. For the buck kid, the vet had us leave the splint on for a month before removing it. When we initially removed the splint, the legs seemed weak to us. However, the more he used the legs without the splints applied, the stronger the muscle in the legs became. The buck's bowed leg is no longer noticeable any more. We hope this young doe will have a successful recovery also.



Here is the name and internet address of where we found the supplies and the specific supplies we ordered:

WWW.SHOPMEDVET.COM

We did not order the large size splint for the rear leg since we already had a pair. The SKU for the large size is JOR119S. We bought a roll of gauze from Wal-Mart.

Qty	SKU	Name	Price
3	2661	COTTON ROLL,1 POUND,EACH	\$7.50
1	JOR119R	SPLINTS,QUICK,PAIR,MEDIUM	\$12.25
1	JOR119Q	SPLINTS,QUICK,PAIR,SMALL	\$10.10
1	PT2	TAPE,POROUS CLOTH,2"X10YD,6/BX	\$9.95

Note: The date is unknown for the prices listed above