

Thera-Paw® INC.

ASSISTIVE PRODUCTS FOR ANIMALS WITH SPECIAL

HINDLIMB DORSI-FLEX ASSIST REDUCES KNUCKLING, ASSISTS W/ TARSAL FLEXION

size:

Reduces dragging of the paw without immobilizing joints. Assists with tarsal flexion. Used as a mobility aid for unstable or weak distal hind legs. Lightweight and durable. Can be used bilaterally and in conjunction with a harness or cart. Recommended for distal hindlimb weakness; pet should have some ability to advance the hip and flex the stifle.

1. Fitting the Tibial Cuff

- Place the Tibial Cuff above the tarsal joint with padding centered along the back over the Achilles tendon.
- Fasten the Tibial Cuff using Velcro closure and Velcro tabs to provide a snug fit.

2. Fitting the Boot

- With the pet lying down, slip the boot onto pet's paw.
- Fasten the Velcro lapel boot cuff starting at the bottom closest to paw, tightening as you work your way up the limb. Then seal the boot cuff using the outer safety strap.

3. Fitting the Adjustable Toe Straps

- Have pet stand with paw flat on the ground in neutral stance.
- Crisscross "X" the Toe Straps cranially then secure them to the back of the Tibial Cuff using the Velcro tabs.
- Adjust Toe Straps to provide the tension needed to assist the pet with dorsiflexion (and reduce knuckling).
- Toe Straps should provide consistent tension and should be tightened as needed. Adjusting the Toe Strap tension can be done by either applying the Velcro tabs further on the back of the Tibial Cuff or by shortening the Velcro closures around the D-Rings.

Adjustable Toe Straps with Velcro tabs fasten onto the back of the Tibial Cuff

(crisscrossed application is most often used but these straps can be applied in any way that best suits the pet)

D-Ring fasteners with Adjustable Toe Straps (straps can be adjusted by manipulating the Velcro closures around the D-Ring or the Velcro tabs around the Tibial Cuff)



Tibial Cuff with padding is placed above calcaneus and centered along the Achilles Tendon

The v-shaped cut-out of the Tibial Cuff should sit directly above the calcaneus (ankle joint) (inner padding should be replaced when compressed; some additional padding is included and additional padding sheets can be purchased at www.therapaw.com – item name: self-adhesive foam padding)

Thera-Paw Boot with D-Ring fasteners

NOTES

- **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** is a therapeutic aid and assistive product. It is used for functional mobility and therapeutic exercises and should not be left on for long, continuous periods. We highly recommend that this device be used only when the pet is being supervised.
- If the **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** is being used for longer than 1-2 continuous hours or if the pet lives in a hot climate or has sensitive paws, consider applying some [anti-chafing powder](http://www.therapaw.com) (available at www.therapaw.com) inside the **Thera-Paw® Boot** to help absorb moisture, prevent irritation, and soothe itchiness.
- D-Ring fasteners are stainless steel. To protect nails and distal digits, the hardware inside the toe cap of the **Thera-Paw® Boot** can be covered with a thin piece of self-adhesive moleskin and replaced as needed.
- **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** components including self-adhesive foam padding, and regular and reinforced Adjustable Toe Straps are also sold separately.

*IMPORTANT- PLEASE READ

- **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** is specifically designed for dogs with distal hindlimb weakness and injuries. Some of these injuries include wounds, pad burns, and digital amputations. Because of their medical usage (and the risk of transmitting infection), **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** cannot be restocked once it has been worn by a pet. Therefore, please read the application instructions carefully PRIOR to applying the device on the pet.
- **WEAR AND TEAR** – Some dogs may continue to scuff or shuffle even when using this device. Please be proactive in the care of the boot portion of the device by reinforcing areas of wear on the sole and hardware before the pet wears through the boot. Use duct tape or liquid rubber (e.g., Shoe Goo) to reinforce areas where the dog seems to be wearing down the rubber sole or hardware. Replace duct tape or liquid rubber as needed to help maintain the integrity of the boot of this device.
- **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:** Open your **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** package. Cover the pet's paw with Saran Wrap to assess fit and ensure that the device stays clean and free from hair and debris. There are no exchanges/returns for a **Thera-Paw® Dorsi-Flex Assist** that has the slightest amount of hair or other debris.
- **For exchanges or returns, please contact the veterinary professional or clinic from where the device was purchased.**
- **To Launder:** Wash by hand with warm water and mild detergent. Wring out and let air dry. Self-adhesive foam padding may need to be replaced after laundering.