

Diapering Pets

Best Friends Animal Society does not recommend the use of pet diapers. We have found that no matter how diligent the care, diapered pets may still get urine burns, irritation on their hind end and even urinary tract infections (UTIs). With fecally incontinent pets, the feces will be held against the skin and can cause significant skin infections.

If there is no other option, changing diapers frequently and bathing the hind end of the pet twice a day, in the morning and in the evening, is suggested. Make sure that the area not only looks clean, but also smells clean. The area may look clean, but urine may still be on the fur. We have found that one daily bath isn't enough, and may not prevent UTIs and skin irritation, but bathing too frequently can also be harmful to the skin. Diaper rash cream can be used as long as the pet cannot lick it off.

We also recommend consulting a veterinarian to see if the incontinent issue may be controlled with a diet change.