The Robert Jones bandage is an excellent temporary bandage for the initial treatment of traumatized limbs or for initial postoperative treatment following internal fixation. It immobilizes the limb and applies even pressure to prevent or reduce edema. The Robert Jones bandage is large and cumbersome, but it aims to provide support, immobilization of the fracture or dislocation, and comfort.

**Application:**
Tape stirrups are applied to the toes initially. If padding is used between the toes, ensure it is cotton wool, not soffban. Cotton wool is a natural fibre whereas soffban is synthetic.
(Shoof Vet catalogue pg 43 Cotton Wool Balls 201583 and pg 46 Nexcare tape 200034 or Omniplast tape 200035)

Rolled cotton wool makes up the bulk of the bandage. The roll is extended as far proximal as possible and returned to the foot, overlapping 50% of the width of the roll.
(Shoof Vet catalogue pg 43 Zigzag Cotton Wool 201586 or Cotton Wool Roll 201585)

Elastic gauze bandage is then wrapped over the cotton wool to compress it and produce smooth and even tension over the length of the bandage.
(Shoof Vet Catalogue pg 47 Elasticated Gauze 10cm 207376)

Vetrap Cohesive Bandage and or Elastoplast tape forms the outer layer. To assist in alleviating some of the bandage weight, use Vetrap for the majority of the outer layer and only use Elastoplast for the top half.
(Shoof Vet Catalogue pg 48 Vetrap Bandage 10cm, and pg 47 Elastoplast Bandage 7.5cm 200288)

When completed, the Robert Jones bandage is firm to touch, and if flicked with a finger, it should sound similar to that of flicking a ripe melon!

**Home Care tips for your customers:**
1. Assess toes twice daily for swelling, sweating, or pain.
2. Keep bandage clean and dry.
3. Try to keep patient indoors and confined. If patient needs to venture outside, ensure a plastic bag is secured over bandage to avoid wet from either weather or urinating.
4. An Elizabethan collar can be helpful if patient resents bandage.
5. If excessive licking or biting of the bandage is evident, this needs to be checked as there may be chafing or rubbing occurring inside.