

Taping Pug Ears

When a puppy pulls his ears back, his ears can sometimes start to fold back and then stay that way. By taping ears, we train the cartilage to fold the correct way so that the pups ears are carried correctly.

- You will need:
1. Pug with badly folding ears
 2. Human to hold Pug (optional but helps)
 3. About 3-4 inch length of half inch wide adhesive tape

Make sure ear canals are clean and dry before taping.

Instructions for cleaning a Pug's ear canals:

Hold your pug's ear open with your fingers and squeeze a few drops of cleansing solution on a cotton ball or cosmetic pad. If your pug has especially waxy ears, squeeze a few drops of the solution directly inside his ear canal and let sit for up to 5 minutes before wiping out excess solution. Clean one ear at a time.

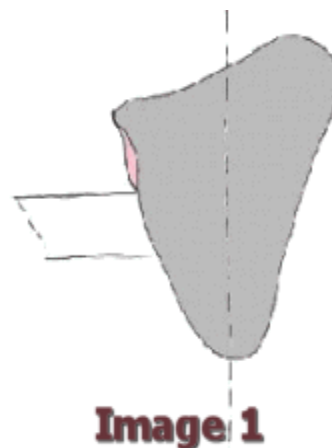
Cleansing Solution: 1 part rubbing alcohol, 1 part white or apple cider vinegar, and 1 part water

Looking at the Pug ear from the front draw an imaginary straight line from the tip of the ear up (*Image 1*) and fold the ear along this line, fur to fur. Attach one end of tape to the skin side of the ear and wrap around the folded ear several times. Since the ear has a tendency to stick out of the head when first taped, you'll have to adjust it so that the end result looks similar to *Image 2* and like the ears on the puppies in *Image 3* at the bottom of the page.



Leave tape on for no longer than one week, then carefully cut it along the front where the folded sides meet. Be careful not to cut the ear. Leave tape on, it'll usually fall off in a day or two.

The tape you choose has a great bearing on the success of the procedure. The best type of tape to use is 3M white surgical tape, which is available at your local pharmacy. Hockey tape and masking tape are other options. Do not use duct tape or electrical tape. These types of tape are too adhesive and could damage your puppy's ears. The inside of the ear might become a bit sore, which is the reason the tape should not be left on for more than a week. If the procedure has to be repeated, wait a few weeks.



A puppy who is teething (at around 4-5 months) often has flying ears, which correct themselves. This procedure should be done before the pup is six months old if any kind of permanent results are to be expected. After that, correction tends to be temporary (long enough to show the dog).

