

## Taping German Shepherd Puppy Ears.

German Shepherds will eventually hold their ears up, but to ensure we have them up quickly and beautifully straight up, breeders typically will tape them up around 12 weeks of age. It is really easy to complete with the right products and a little patience. It is also best, some say necessary to have 2 people to complete this.



1. What you need(see picture below)
  - 1.5 inch Pipe wrap
  - 1 can of TORBOT Bonding Cement
  - Roll of 1 inch fabric Medical tape(breathable)
  - A pair of scissors
  - Alcohol and cotton balls/wipes
  - Puppy treats



2. Clean the inside of your puppy's ears with alcohol and cotton balls/wipes. (Let it dry for 15 minutes while cutting the pipe wrap to fit the ears).
3. Cut (2) 4inch lengths of the Pipe wrap



4. Find the seam and cut it with a pair of scissors(Picture)



5. Trim it as shown in the following picture pointy at one end and round on the other end.



6. Place down in the puppy's ear as far as it will go to ensure the length is correct and none of the trimmed pipe wrap is wider or taller than your puppy's ear. If the pipe wrap is wider or taller than the ear, continue to trim the sides and base and recheck the sizing in the puppy's ear.
7. Cut 2 pieces of the Medical tape approximately 10 inches long and place where they are readily available for the next step.
8. When you have trimmed the pipe wrap to fit the puppy's ear, place the trimmed pipe wrap on your finger (Round end towards the end of your finger) as shown and apply a generous amount of the "Cement Bonding" on the pipe wrap. This position on your finger will make it easy to place it down in the ear. Let it dry for approximately 2 minutes.



9. Here comes the "fun part".....Have the second person hold your puppy in a sit position and have a good hold on the nose of the puppy. FYI... It is important not to stress your puppy out, so you may need to give treats between taping each ear and talking up to your puppy.
10. Apply a second coat of Bonding Cement and immediately place it down in the ear firmly making sure the ear is fully wrapped around the pipe wrap. Hold it firming for at least 30 seconds.
11. While the puppy is still being held, Take one of the pieces of medical tape and wrap it around the ear as low as you can on the ear. It does not need to be tight, just around the ear without any slack. (If it is too high, the puppy will be able to remove it scratching at it).
12. Repeat with the other ear.
13. Cut another piece of medical tape about 20 inches long.
14. While the second person is holding the ears straight up by the tips of the ears, wrap this 3<sup>rd</sup> piece of tape around one ear over the existing tape(Low on the ear), and over to and around the 2<sup>nd</sup> ear, back to the center creating a bridge sticking to itself between the 2 ears and around the 1<sup>st</sup> ear again. Repeat to make sure you have a good bridge. Try not to catch the hair on the head between the ears. Note: this step can cause the tips of the ears to touch each other if you make the bridge too tight. Make sure your bridge between the 2 ears is loose enough to ensure the ears are straight up.
15. Cut a 5-6 inch piece of tape. Slide it under the bridge and wrap around the tape between the ears so it looks like a rope to strengthen the bridge between the ears. Again, try not to catch the hair between the ears.
16. Take your puppy for a walk and give treats for about 15-30 minutes to ensure the glue dries and keep the puppy busy while they want to scratch at their ears. It is just important to keep this time fun as they typically want to scratch at their ears. Some puppies hardly notice their ears

have been taped up, but try not to laugh if you are blessed with the puppy who wants to walk on 3 legs while trying to scratch their ears or wants to lay down while walking.....lol....just keep walking.....and giving treats.



17. This will probably stay in for 2-3 weeks. This has worked for many breeders to have very pretty ears on our GSD puppies. (Same puppy pictured above before taping ears).



18. This can be repeated if the ears are still down, but I would give the ears 1-2 weeks between taping back up.

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