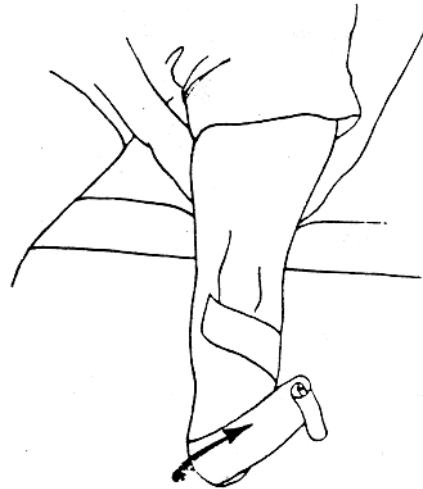


Ace Wrapping Lower Extremity (Leg) After Amputation

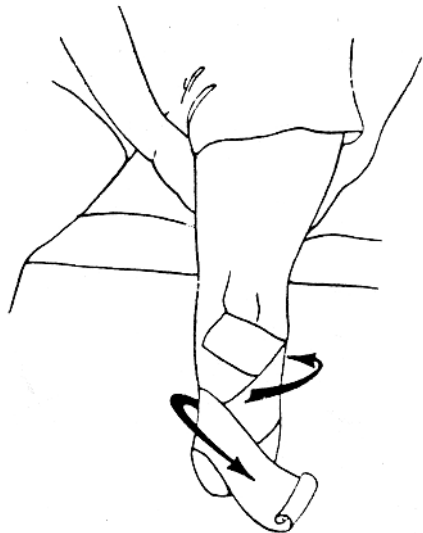
Ace wrapping after amputation prepares for fitting of artificial limbs (protheses). Ace wrapping shrinks and shapes the leg end. To wrap, begin with a **dry** rolled ace bandage. Your leg should also be dry. Wear the bandage at all times.

Below the Knee Amputations

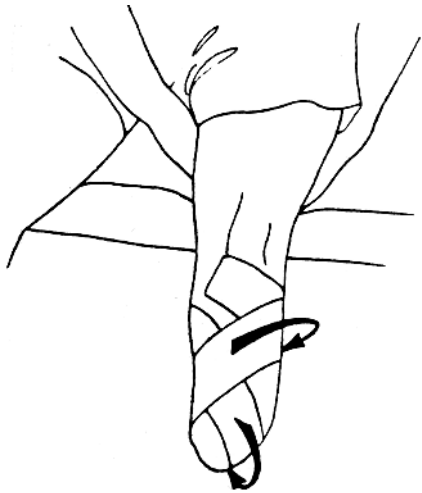
1. Start at the end of the limb. Pull the ace wrap diagonally, in an upward direction to secure the wrap in place upon itself. Wrap, making all turns in a diagonal direction, forming a criss-cross pattern. *Never use horizontal turns as they tend to constrict circulation.*



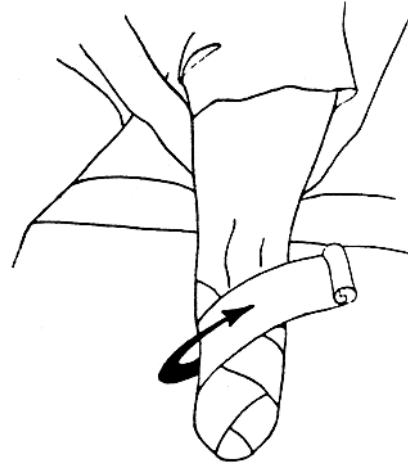
2. Do not encircle the end with one turn. It may cause the skin to crease over the scar. Cover the inside, then the outside end with each turn.



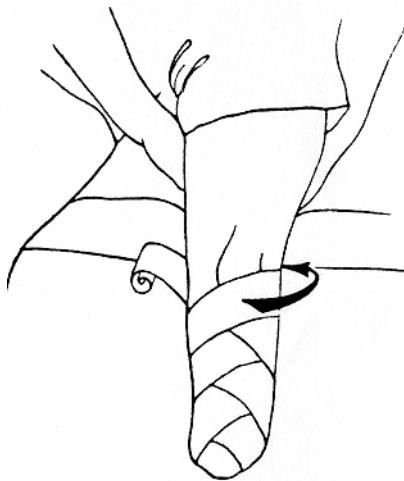
3. Continue making diagonal turns. Apply firm pressure over the end of the limb.



4. Ace bandage pressure should become less and less as you wrap higher toward the thigh.



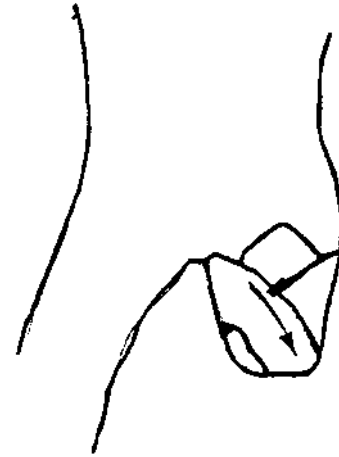
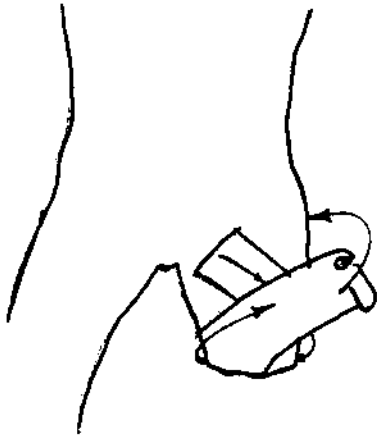
5. Extend the wrap above your knee. There should be at least one turn above the kneecap.



6. Anchor the ace bandage with tape. Do not use safety pins. Re-wrap every ___ hours or more often if the ace bandage slips or bunches.

Above the Knee Amputations

1. Start with the bandage in the groin area. Roll toward the outside, the behind and around the end, covering the inside. Be certain to keep the bandage smooth. Avoid wrinkles as they may cause skin irritations.
2. Roll around behind the end of the limb. Continue down and around the outside half of the end of the limb.



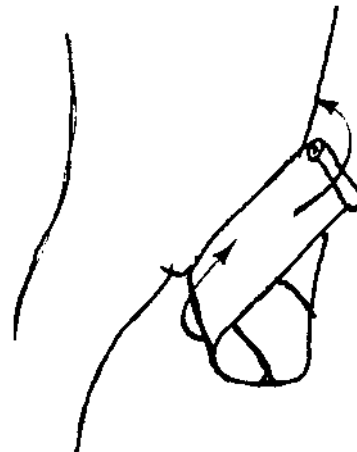
3. Continue making diagonal turns around until all skin is covered with at least two layers of bandage and firm pressure is obtained over the end.

Avoid encircling the end with one turn as this tends to cause skin creases in the scar.

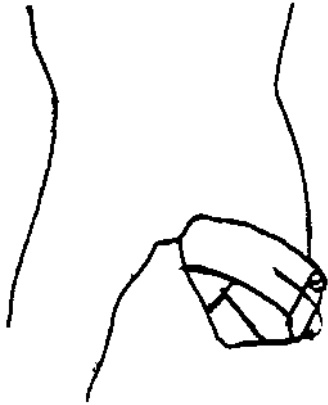
Never use circular turns as this constricts circulation.

Pressure should be greatest at the end, and lessen as you wrap toward the hip.

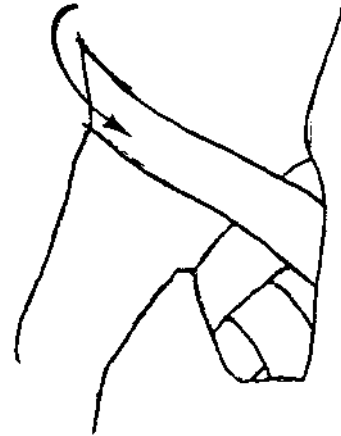
Include all soft tissue on the inside of the thigh at the groin.



4. Begin the turn around the hip as shown here. The bandage should be placed as high as possible on the inside of the thigh and then cross over the hip joint.

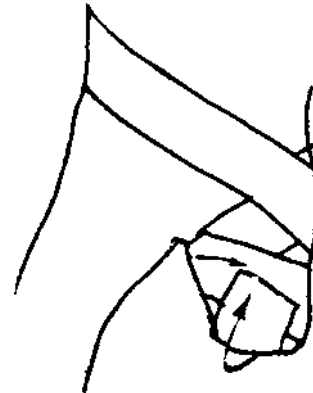


5. Carry the bandage behind and around the pelvis, crossing just below the waist on the non-amputated side; Returning to the amputated side, cross over the hip joint again.



6. Finish the bandage by making diagonal turns around the end. Anchor the bandage with tape. Do not use safety pins.

The bandage should not cause pain. If it does, remove the bandage and re-wrap. Re-wrap every 3-4 hours or more often if the bandage slips or bunches.



Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 3/2018 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority, All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#4409