Bandaging with Cravats
(Triangular Bandages)

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Use the following techniques to hold dressings in place, immobilize, and protect various body parts.

A dressing should always be applied over a wound before bandaging.

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Elbow Bandage

1. Bend the arm at the elbow and place the middle of the cravat at the point of the elbow bringing the ends upward.

2. Bring the ends across, extending both downward.
3. Take both ends around the arm and tie with a square knot at the front of the elbow.

CAUTION: If an elbow fracture is suspected, DO NOT bend the elbow; bandage it in the position found.

Knee Bandage

To apply a cravat bandage to the knee use the same technique applied in bandaging the elbow.

[Diagrams of elbow bandage and knee bandage]

Sling

1. Place cravat under injured arm with one end over opposite shoulder (A)
2. Bring other end over injured arm and same shoulder (B)
3. Tie ends at side of neck (C)
4. Fold over point and pin, or tie in knot to make “cup” for elbow (D)

The same caution for the elbow also applies to the knee.
6. Take one end across the back and under the arm on the opposite side and the other end across the chest. Tie the ends using a square knot.

**CAUTION:** Be sure to place sufficient padding in the armpit. DO NOT tie the cravat bandage too tightly. Avoid compressing the major blood vessels in the armpit.

**Ear Injuries**

2. Place the middle of the bandage over the ear (A).
3. Cross the ends, wrap in opposite directions around the head, and tie (B and C).
4. Place a dressing between the ear and head.

**Hand/Foot Bandage**

1. Place the Hand/Foot in the middle of the triangular bandage with the wrist/heel well forward of the base (A).
2. Ensure that the fingers/toes are separated with absorbent material to prevent chafing and irritation of the skin.
3. Place the apex over the top of the hand/foot and tuck any excess material into the pleats on each side (B).
4. Cross the ends on top of the hand/foot, take them around the wrist/ankle, and tie at the front of the wrist/ankle (C, D, and E).
Apply a Triangular Bandage to the Head/Scalp.

1. Turn the base (longest side) of the bandage up and center its base on center of the forehead, letting the point (apex) fall on the back of the neck.
2. Take the ends behind the head and cross the ends over the apex.
3. If short, tie at base of neck, or take them over the forehead and tie.
4. Tuck the apex behind the crossed part of the bandage and/or secure it with a safety pin.

Head Injury: Jaw /Cheek/Top/Back/Forehead

1. Place the bandage under the chin and carry its ends upward. Adjust the bandage to make one end longer than the other.
2. Take the longer end over the top of the head to meet the short end at the temple and cross the ends over.
3. Take the ends in opposite directions to the other side of the head and tie them over the part of the bandage that was applied first.

Shoulder or Armpit

1. Make an extended cravat bandage by using two triangular bandages (A); place the end of the first triangular bandage along the base of the second one (B).
2. Fold the two bandages into a single extended bandage (C).
3. Fold the extended bandage into a single cravat bandage (D). After folding, secure the thicker part (overlap) with two or more safety pins (E).
4. Place the middle of the cravat bandage under the armpit so that the front end is longer than the back end and safety pins are on the outside (F).
5. Cross the ends on top of the shoulder (G).
**Palm of the Hand (2) Closed Hand**

1. Drape Cravat over wrist of palm up hand.
2. Bring one end over closed hand from back to front.
3. Bring other end over closed hand from back to front.
4. Snug, wrap around wrist and tie with square knot.
   (Note – Hand is “pulled closed” into a fist.)
   Thumb is used for PMS check

**Head Injury**

1. Place the middle of the bandage over the dressing (A).
2. Cross the ends of the bandage in opposite directions completely around the head (B).
3. Tie the ends over the dressing (C).

**Cravat Donut**

Twist a triangular bandage into a rope shape. Form about a third into a ring of the size required and wrap the rest round and round through the hole to keep it together.

Used for:
1. Impaled objects
2. Fractured skull
3. To apply pressure around a wound
4. May be used on any part of the body
Leg/Arm (Upper and Lower) Bandage

1. Place the center of the cravat over the dressing (A).
2. Take one end around and up the leg/arm in a spiral motion and the other end down and around the leg/arm in a spiral motion, overlapping part of each preceding turn (B).
3. Bring both ends together and tie them (C) with a square knot.

Palm of the Hand (1)

1. Lay the middle of the cravat over the palm with the ends hanging down on each side (A).
2. Take the end of the cravat at the little finger across the back of the hand, extending it upward over the base of the thumb; then downward across the palm (B).
3. Take the thumb end across the back of the hand, over the palm, and through the hollow between the thumb and palm (C).
4. Take the ends to the back of the hand and cross them; then bring them up over the wrist and cross them again (D).
5. Bring both ends down and tie them with a square knot on top of the wrist (E and F).

Palm of the Hand (cont.)

1. Cross the ends on top of the hand, take them around the wrist, and tie with a square knot. (C, D, and E)