

POSTING EARS

In German Shepherds, the ears usually stand by 6 months of age. If they come up prior to teething age of approximately 4 months of age, the ears will go back down during teething. There is a saying that if the ears have come up once, they will come up again. This is usually true. Allot of people panic when the dog's ears fall. This is normal for GSD. I usually wait until 7 months of age before I start thinking of posting the ears.

There are many factors that can come into play if a dog's ears do not stand. Nutrition, size, teething, and genetics all come into play. If a crease has formed in the ear, it will never come up as the crease has restricted blood flow to the ear. For whatever reason the dog's ears do not stand, posting is a way to correct it for most. There are several ways to post the ears. Many people use foam curlers or some foreign object and tape it in the ear for support. Anything in the ear has a chance of causing irritation. Without a foreign object in the ear, you can still monitor the ear for cleanliness and health. We have found two different posting methods that work very well. First clean the ears and let dry.

1. This is a simple method using 2" masking tape. The ears must be placed where you want them to stand. Wrap many layers around both ears leaving the tips of the ears protruding out the top. In between the ears the masking tape must bond to itself, this gives it strength. Put as many layers as needed to make it stiff. Leave for a month unless the dog takes it out first. Clean the ear and repost if needed.



2. The second method is gluing the ears. We use soft fabric glue called Tear Mender. The principle is the same as above except you glue the ears to each other. You will need help to hold the dog as the glue takes about 5 minutes to dry and the dog cannot move. Once dried, the glue is soft, pliable, and causes no irritation. This method will stay in by itself for approximately a month depending on the dog. There will be glue residue left on the ears, but it will eventually come off.



The dogs will not like either of these methods at first and try to scratch at it. Monitor them closely for the first 12 hrs and make them leave it alone. Once they get used to it, it will stay for quite some time. Good Luck!!!

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