

## SMARTIES, THE THREE-LEGGED DOG

The story of Smarties is that of a veterinarian and her family who fell in love with one of her patients.

At the beginning, Smarties' owner intended to breed her since white Boxers are rather rare and in demand. When still very young, infection attacked one of her hind legs. She bravely submitted to multiple joint flushes, two months of cage-rest and wore an Elizabethan collar around her neck, in addition to taking antibiotics and painkillers. After all these interventions to try to heal Smarties' leg, reality set in and the fact had to be faced that she could not be bred since her system was too weak. Smarties' owner, who was at the end of her budget and very worried, gave her to Dr. Plante who had become attached to her patient... but the game was not over yet!

The leg had to be amputated before the infection went further up the femur - that was done. It remained to be seen if Smarties was capable of rehabilitating herself and be able to lead as normal a dog life as possible. After long months of antibiotics, Dr. Plante could finally say that Smarties was healed. Now, seeing her playing in the yard with her sister, Nova, we can say that she is very happy and quite unaware of her missing leg. She just doesn't get to go on long family walks!

