

LIZ GETS THE BOOT!

SCREEN legend Liz Taylor has broken her foot in a nasty fall, but she's too stylish and classy to wear a klutzy cast.

"Liz was fitted with a removable boot," says a source close to the violet-eyed superstar. "It's better than a cast because a boot can be removed when she sleeps and showers."

Even though the boot is more comfortable, the 70-year-old actress is in agony from her latest nasty tumble at her Beverly Hills mansion.

"Liz was wandering around her house in the middle of the night and she fell," the source confides. "Somehow, she banged the side of her foot against a piece of furniture and was instantly in pain."

"One of the household staff helped her back to bed and she went to sleep hoping it wasn't serious."

Still in pain the next morning, her doctor ordered her to Cedars-Sinai Hospital for an X-ray, which revealed she'd broken a metatarsal bone, one of the five bones connecting the main part of the foot to the toes, says the source.

Doctors fitted her with a boot to keep the bones aligned while they heal.

"She was told to keep her weight off her foot," the source says. "She needs to wear the boot and use a walker or wheelchair to get around."

This puts added duties on her staff.

"It's hard on her and her staff," the source explains. "Every time she has to get up during the night, someone has to help her put on the boot and walk her to the bathroom."

Following her hospital visit, doctors are continuing to treat her at home.

"Liz is such a legend,

Docs fit her with foot brace after midnight fall



Just days before her accident, Liz was honored at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and arrived at the gala event by wheelchair

doctors are happy to accommodate her by making house calls," the source says.

The bone break is the latest health crisis for the eight-times wed star, who's been hospitalized more than 100 times for a myriad of problems and was twice pronounced dead.

In recent years, she's had two hip replacement surgeries and a tumor removed from her brain. Two months ago, she blacked out and fell in her home. Doctors feared she had a heart disorder. She suffers from diabetes, high blood pressure

and an enlarged heart.

Because of her previous addiction to painkillers, doctors did not prescribe heavy-duty medication for her foot, the source says.

"Liz is determined to remain off medication," the source reveals, "even if it means dealing with the pain as her foot mends. She could be fitted with a cast if X-rays show the bones aren't mending properly."

"But broken bones take longer to heal in older patients. It'll be months before her foot is completely healed."

- ROBIN MIZRAHI