

EQUIPMENT GUIDE

Please see below our recommendations for equipment that will keep everyone safe and be effective for training in a group class environment. These guidelines come from years of experience and hundreds of successfully trained dogs.

COLLARS The collar should be appropriate for your dogs size, especially on big strong dogs. Equipped with a buckle, double ring or locking clip and sturdy lead clip ring (for strong dogs). Adjusted so that it will not pass over your dogs head when fastened. If it feels snug when you put two fingers under the collar it is usually right. Any walking aid collar, (a collar that gets tighter if the dog pulls) or collar with a snout loop that discourages pulling are okay.

FLAT COLLAR



MARTINGALE



HEAD HALTER

Designed to give a handler more control, especially a large boisterous dog.

CORRECTION CHAIN We teach reward based training and will not be instructing you to physically punish your dog. However a correction chain may be effective as a "self correcting" device to deter pulling.

HARNESSES Any of the available training harnesses, that discourage pulling are acceptable. Although our goal is to help you teach your dog to walk without pulling, on an ordinary collar.



EASY WALKER



If your dog has a thick neck and small head (common in Greyhounds and Whippets) and pulls out of a collar you may need to use a training harness for their safety.



"Seat belt harness" or any other "comfort" harness will make it more comfortable for your dog to pull and thereby encourage it to do so. Not appropriate for training and general control.

LEADS A lead should be of an appropriate weight for the size of your dog. A small dog should have a light lead. A large dog should have a strong lead. Leads can be made from leather, cotton webbing, nylon webbing or fibretec.



Leads should be in good condition, not chewed or frayed etc, comfortable to hold with no chain or metal fittings near the hand loop. They should be long enough to give your dog a loose lead when walking close to you (at heel). You should be able to make a "J" shape in the lead from your hand to the collar. Short enough to keep your dog out of trouble. 120cm is usually right.



EXTENDING LEADS

These are not appropriate in a group class environment as it is too easy for the dog to range far from you and into trouble. These are not a good training tool as there is constant tension on the collar. The dog needs to feel the contrast of loose and tight to learn to walk on a loose lead.



STRETCHY LEADS

Good for jogging or cycling but not for training or walking. Your dog needs to feel a loose lead and a definite tightness when they get to the end of the lead.



CHAIN LEADS

Not recommended as they can be heavy and very hard on the hands when used for obedience training

If you are still in doubt about what equipment is best for you and your dog, any of our friendly instructors will be happy to discuss your particular situation when you are at the grounds.