



Dachshund Rescue of Bucks County & NJ

www.doxierescue.com

Note: The information offered herein is for educational and informational purposes only. Seek the timely care of a licensed veterinarian or veterinary surgeon if you believe your dog is exhibiting any of the signs or symptoms of IVDD. This document does not seek to diagnose or treat IVDD.

Sling Walking



Pictured above is a doxie in a sling. Note that the back is level and although the back legs are not supporting the doxies body, the sling is. Veterinary staff members can teach you the proper way to use a sling or towel to assist your doxie. Talk to your veterinary care team about the use of a sling for your doxie.

Did You Know? This procedure is also know as 'towel walking' as frequently a large towel can be used to make the sling. Your veterinarian can tech you to use a towel for walking although other options are available. Visit us on the web at www.doxierescue.com for additional information.

Home Made Slings

Listed below are the steps for making your own sling. Note that a towel may be used and that commercially available sling can be purchased from our friends at: K9 Karts [www.k9-carts.com]. *Remember to consult your veterinary care team before beginning any program that includes sling walking.*

1. Cut a large bath towel in half lengthwise and slip one end under your dog's lower abdomen. Bring both ends up and hold together firmly, applying upward pressure to assist your doxie in walking. This isn't optimal for long-term usage but you can use it in a pinch.
2. Wrap your dog's abdomen lightly with an elastic athletic bandage, leaving 18 inches free on each end to bring up on either side of your dog and tie together, making a handle. This is a better choice if your dog will be spending a longer period in the sling as the elastic bandage, when wrapped around a few times distributes the pressure over a larger area.
3. Recycle a child's jacket when you need an insulated dog sling. Measure around your dog's abdomen and take the measurement to a local used clothing store. Locate a child's jacket that measures about an inch longer in circumference.
4. Cut the sleeves off, leaving an inch or so and sew straps on the sides long enough that you can comfortably hold onto them while your dog is walking. If the coat has a hood or large collar, remove them along with an additional section to allow male dogs to urinate. You can spend extra time and seam up the raw cuts for a doggy sling that will last for months.
5. Allow your dog to step into a converted coat/sling as opposed to slipping it on him as he lies down. If two people are walking, slip a broom handle through the straps and allow each person to hold one end.

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