

Leash pulling: how to prevent it

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One of the most common behavior problems that people have with their puppies is pulling on the leash. It is much easier to prevent the problem than to have to correct it once it has become a habit. There are several training methods you can use to teach your puppy the right way to walk on a leash.

Slack leash method

A regular buckle collar and a six foot leash are required for this training. The first step to teaching loose leash walking is to keep in mind that leaving the house on a leash is a reward. Secondly, remember that if you continue to walk while your puppy is pulling, you are, in fact, teaching your dog to "Mush." First, put the collar and leash on the puppy and stand in one place. Give your puppy enough leash so he can walk about four feet from you. Reward your puppy every time the leash goes slack. This method is best when teamed with a reward marker, like "yes" or a clicker.

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