

Handling a Long Leash

Why It Matters

Handling a long line smoothly is a vital skill for any dog owner. It's more than just holding a leash—it's about keeping communication clear and preventing injuries or frustration.

Dogs need space to explore and learn while still being connected to you, and a long line allows for that balance. But if it's constantly tangling, pulling tight, or getting dragged underfoot, the benefits disappear. Learning how to handle one properly, will create a safer, more effective training experience for both of you.

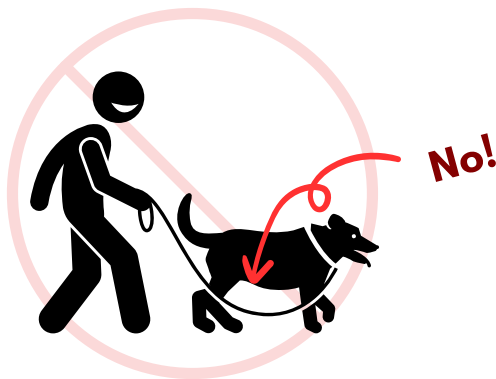
3 Key Things



Video | [Click Here](#)

Position of the Line

- The line should ideally stay above the dog's back.
- This positioning helps reduce the chance of tripping, tangling, or dragging along the ground unnecessarily.



Tension on the Line:

- Aim for a neutral line—not too tight, not too slack (see above).
- This helps your dog learn how to stay within range without relying on leash pressure to guide them.

How to Collect the Line:

- Try to let the extra line drag loosely at your side when calling your dog back and fourth.
- Only gather extra slack by holding the handle and the end of the leash to create a large loop when heeling.
- Avoid bunching or wrapping the line around your hand to prevent accidents and maintain fluid movement.