



## DID YOU KNOW?

- The neck - highway between brain and body, carrying blood supply to the brain from the heart and signals from the brain down the body. The neck also houses the windpipe. All 3 super critical functions and all 3 exposed to mechanical damage, without bone cover. You can see this when pulling dogs start choking - i.e. collapsing windpipe
- The neck also contains soft tissue organs like thyroid gland, thymus and lymph nodes. Studies now show direct correlation between collar usage and increased cases of hypothyroidism
- The neck muscles attach the head to shoulders and front legs. Excessive stress on this muscle results in pain in head, shoulders and front legs. Such dogs are often seen licking paws. Studies now show correlation between collar use and paw licking
- Studies also show collar usage linked with increased eye pressure, leading to glaucoma, especially in short snouted dogs, dogs with eye surgery and/or dogs with eye problems
- The tongue bone is a skinny bone in the neck that fractures easily and rarely diagnosed.

## HOW TO PUT ON A HARNESS:

▶ Turid Rugaas - <http://bit.ly/harnessnotcollars>



A Swedish study showed that

# 91%

of the dogs that had back problems were yanked by the collar or pulled a lot.



A Norwegian study showed that of 350 dogs on collars,

# 75%

had neck problems.

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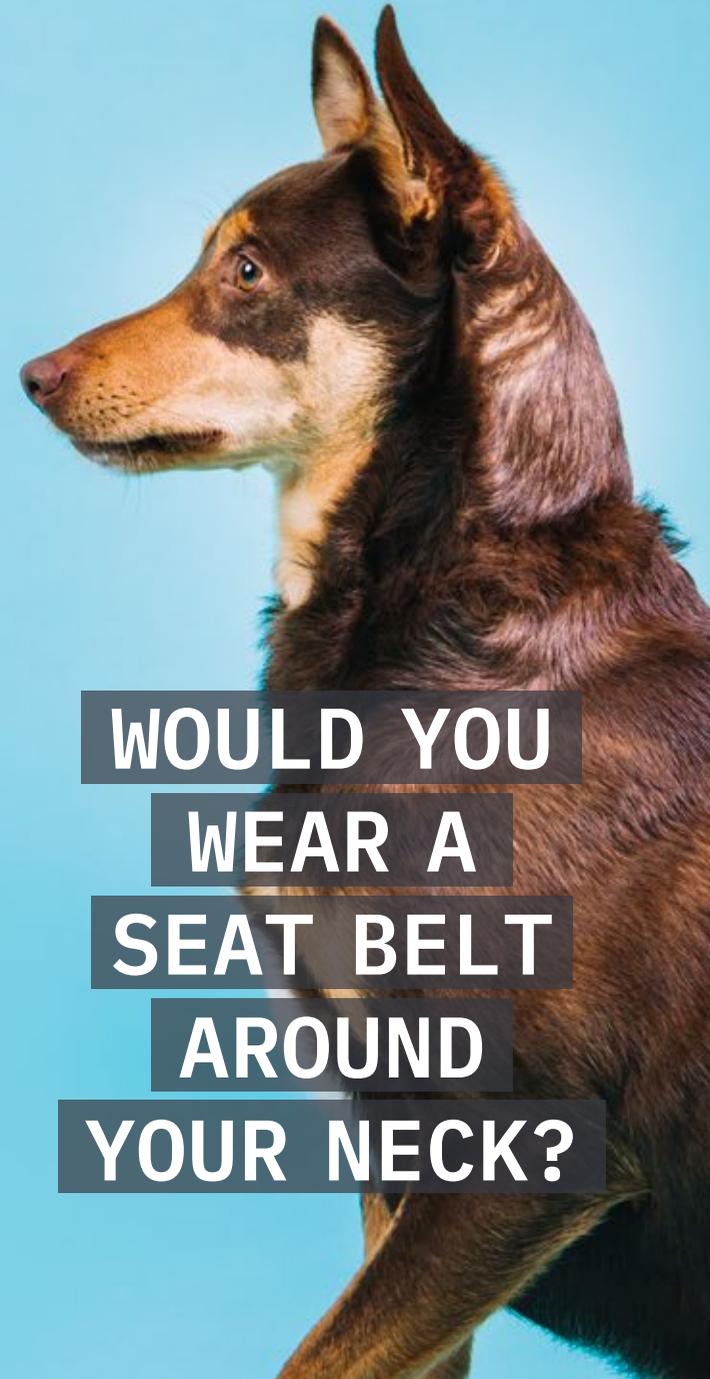
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**WOULD YOU WEAR A SEAT BELT AROUND YOUR NECK?**

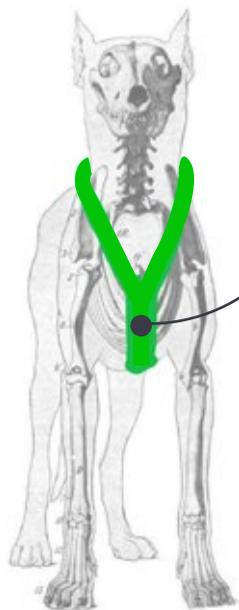
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# HARNESS GUIDE

Not all harnesses are good. Some can injure. What to look for when selecting a harness.

The dog's front leg is a floating limb with the shoulder blade (highlighted in RED) not attached to the ribs, but gliding smoothly over the rib cage. A good harness will have bands that DO NOT run over the fan shaped shoulder bone, thus giving full range of movement.

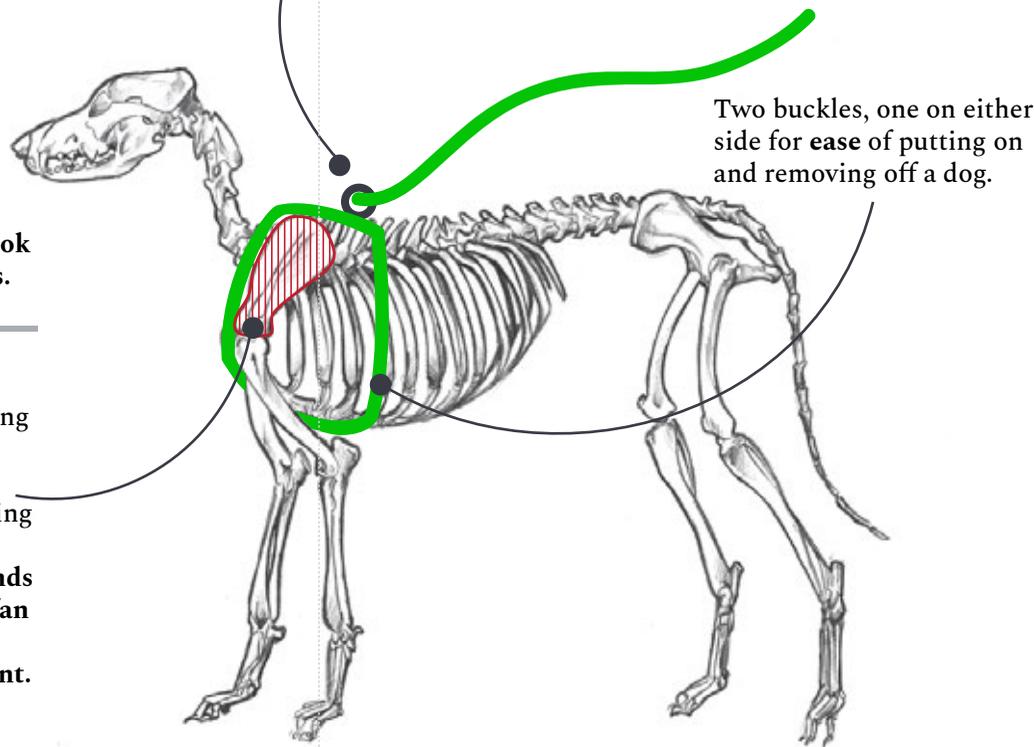


The front should be deep and sit on the bony part called **Sternum**.



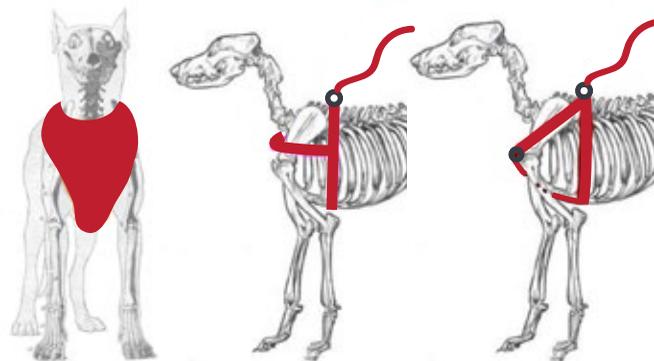
Good mechanical parts, Strong buckles that operate smoothly, light yet strong fabric and rings, no sharp edges - gives a good, snug fit to ensure safety.

The metal ring is on the back, **not front**. Front clips are known to apply sheer (twisting) pressure on the spine.



Two buckles, one on either side for ease of putting on and removing off a dog.

## RESTRICTIVE HARNESS DESIGNS:



## FAQs

**My dog is an escape artist...**

A well fitted harness is harder to escape out of. Some come with additional bands for Houdinis like yours :)

**Will my dog start pulling more?**

Not at all. The harness neither stops pulling, nor causes it, just like the seat belt does not influence how you drive. It's only a safety equipment.

**My dog does not pull. Do I still need to replace a collar with a harness?**

The best behaved of dogs may spook or bolt. It takes one whiplash injury to damage the spine.



Why risk it? If you drove well, would you strap the seat belt around your neck?



**I've been told harnesses cause spinal injury. Should I be worried?**

There is no documented evidence of a good harness causing injury, but there's plenty on collar damage (bad harnesses, especially front clip can injure)

**Don't dogs have thick muscles around the neck that protect against injury?**

Yes, they do have strong muscles in the neck. But the underside remains exposed (you can feel it) and the muscles themselves too can get injured.