

Helping your dog adjust to the wheelchair

Once you have the wheelchair adjusted properly there are a few things that you can do to help your pet become use to the wheelchair and become mobile again.

One of the first things you may notice is the lack of your dog wanting to move, standing there not sure what to do. Your dog may have a tendency to back up or look as though he's trying to sit down. This is normal, you may have noticed when a dog gets into a tight place, like between the coffee table and the couch they will back out of a situation. You must encourage your pet to move forward. This may be done by playing fetch, tossing a ball or chasing the neighbors cat. Maybe a treat or food may be the ticket to encourage forward motion. If the pet is use to going for walks you may associate the wheelchair with the walk. Using a leash to physically encourage your dog to go forward may help. It's a good idea to use a leash once your dog gets the idea so as he won't run off.

It may take a few minutes or a few hours or days for your dog to adjust. It's a training program for your pet as well as you. You'll be teaching your dog a new trick, the trick being to accept the wheelchair. It's true you can teach an old dog new tricks. Also, your dog may be weak in the front legs due to its injury, it's illness or just having been down for a while, therefore it will take some time to regain its strength. If your pet shows signs of fatigue or wanting to lay down its time to remove him from the wheelchair and let him rest. Getting your pet use ti the wheelchair may take time and patience. Make it a happy experience.

The wheelchair comes with slings attached to the back. These are to be used when your dog has no use or minimum use of the hind legs. If your dog has limited use , you may want to keep the legs in the down position so your pet may still use its legs as though its walking on its own. If a dog still has feelings in its hind end they sometimes feel better with their legs on the ground. Booties would help to prevent the paws from getting sores.

Sending photos of your dog in the wheelchair helps me to see if the wheelchair is properly adjusted. You know what is said about a photo being worth a thousand words. Once I've reviewed the photo and if any changes were to be made I would contact you and discuss these changes with you. Also the photos may be used on my web site.

If your having problems please call 877-312-2122