



Loose lead walking.



It's no fun being dragged down the road by your dog. It's also very damaging to the handler's shoulder and arm muscles. A good way to avoid this is to teach your pup from 8 weeks of age how to walk on a loose lead. This method also works very successfully when training/re-training an older dog. However if you experience difficulties you may need assistance from an experienced dog trainer.

You need lots of patience and a quantity of soft dog treats.

- Firstly, use a lightweight lead, approx 1.2 metres long
- Place treats in your left pocket.
- Have your dog on your left side and hold the lead in your right hand.
- Slowly take a few steps and when you are happy with the position your dog is in, reward with the treat from your left hand. (It is vital that your dog is rewarded from your left hand, otherwise they will move in front of you to follow the treat from your right hand)
- Make sure that you reward the dog when it is in the place you want.
- Never allow your dog to walk in front of you.
- If your dog does manage to get in front of you, **STOP MOVING**; use your left hand with the food in it to lure the pup back to the desired position.
- Once in the correct place, reward and continue.
- Initially reward frequently, and then as your dog's confidence grows increase the amount of steps before rewarding