Sizing & Using Lupine® Collars and Harnesses

The best way to choose the correct size range is to measure your pet. A dressmaker’s tape measure is the most accurate, or a shoelace or piece of string can be used and then measured against a ruler, or even estimated against a known length, like a standard sheet of copy paper (8.5” x 11”, for US letter-size.)

Measure snug against the fur, and for harnesses, measure while your pet is standing. In all cases, the extra room needed for a comfortable fit can be estimated by taking the actual-inches-around and adding about 5% of that amount to the total.

Example

If pet’s actual inches = 17” • 10% would be 1.7” (about 1 ¾ “)

Half of 1.7” = .85” or somewhat less than a full inch.

This pet would need a size range that adjusts to about 18”.

This is more accurate than ‘measure and add 2 inches’. 2 inches is a lot to a Chihuahua, but may not be enough for a Mastiff.

Please Note: We do not recommend any of our products be used for tie-out.

About Specific Products

Adjustable Collar: The best collar for all-the-time use. Measure around the mid-point of the dog’s neck.

Combo Collar: Offered in 3/4” and 1” patterns. Designed to prevent a dog from ‘backing out’ of its collar, the Combo has a limited-slip choker action. These collars have no buckle and need to fit over the widest aspect of the dog’s head. In addition to measuring the dog’s neck (see above), measure all the way around the head, from the highest point of the skull, under the jaw, and back up. For your dog’s safety, a Combo collar should not be left on when the dog is unleashed and/or unattended. We label these collars for ‘walking & training only’.

Adjustable/Roman Harness: A traditional non-restrictive harness, which slips on over the dog’s head. Removes pressure from the throat and neck, transferring it to the shoulders and chest. Harnesses are sized based on the adjustability of the girth. Measure around the ribcage, just behind the front legs.

To put this harness on a dog, unbuckle the clasp on the girth. The strap with the D-ring should be on top with the D-ring pointing towards the tail. Place the two adjustable shoulder straps over the dog’s head.

Pick up the dog’s left front paw and place over the sternum strap, so that the strap passes between the forelegs. Adjust and buckle the girth. The girth should be supported by the ribcage all the way around, especially underneath. Adjusting the shoulders smaller will shorten the front-to-back length of the harness. Not recommended for cats.

Step In Harness: A wraparound style of harness that is also non-restrictive, reducing pressure on the throat. When unbuckled, two openings are created for the paws, with an adjustable sternum strap between. Bring the ends up and over the dog’s back and fasten the buckle. The lead is attached to both D-rings. Adjust the front and back straps for a secure fit, then adjust the sternum strap so it fits smoothly. Not recommended for cats.

H-style Harness: Offered in 1/2” patterns only. Best for cats, but can also be used on a small dog. When the collar is adjusted so that it cannot slip over the cat’s head, it unlikely the cat will escape. This harness should not be left on an unattended or unleashed cat.

Cat Collar: The only item we recommend for all-the-time use on a cat. Cat collars are sold on cards and feature a break-away buckle designed to release under about 5 lbs. of pressure. The collar should be adjusted to fit so that the cat cannot get its jaw under the collar and force the buckle open. This collar is for ID purposes only. Not for leash-walking.

If you have any questions about choosing the correct product or size, please email to lupine.help@lupinepet.com or call us at 1-800-228-9653, M-F, 9-5, Eastern time.