

Dog Harness

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Dog Harness Instructions:

Supplies that you will need to make harness:

Supply List:

1. Quality lightweight cotton fabric – cut according to Table A, page 3
2. Iron on interfacing, craft weight, again, cut according to Table A, on page 3 (If you are close to a JoAnn Fabric Store or Wal-Mart, they do sell Décor-Bond #809 Interfacing; this is what I use).
3. Collar/leash hardware, we sell this hardware & it's also available at some craft/hardware stores or you can purchase online (search: dog collar hardware). For bulk hardware, I purchase my hardware from the WBC Industries Company. Their website address is: www.wbcindustries.com. They sell the various sizes of hardware. I have found this company to be the most inexpensive to purchase from and they will also provide you with samples of the items you are interested in! They provide fast shipping as well.
4. I use a: 90/14 or 100/16 Universal Sewing Needle.
5. Coordinating thread—I usually use white of ivory.
6. Scissors – You'll always need a good pair of scissors with any sewing project. Note: When you invest in scissors, to keep them in great condition, never use your sewing scissors to cut anything but fabric.

Fig. #1



Table A

Harness Size by Girth of Dog	Girth Straps Cut 2 of Each	Chest Straps Cut 1 of Each	Connector Straps Cut 2 of Each	Hardware Needed
XS: 9"-15"	Fabric: 2.5"w x 17" Interfacing: 2"w x 16"	Fabric: 2.5"w x 10" Interfacing: 2"w x 9"	Fabric: 2.5"w x 6" Interfacing: 2"w x 5"	2 of 5/8" D-rings 2 of 3/4" D-rings 1 of 5/8" Buckle 3 of 5/8" Tri-glides
S: 14"-21"	Fabric: 2.5"w x 22" Interfacing: 2"w x 21"	Fabric: 2.5"w x 12" Interfacing: 2"w x 11"	Fabric: 2.5"w x 6" Interfacing: 2"w x 5"	2 of 5/8" D-rings 2 of 3/4" D-rings 1 of 5/8" Buckle 3 of 5/8" Tri-glides
M: 17"-24"	Fabric: 3"w x 25" Interfacing: 2.5"w x 24"	Fabric: 3"w x 14" Interfacing: 2.5"w x 13"	Fabric: 3"w x 7" Interfacing: 2.5"w x 6"	2 of 1" D-rings 2 of 3/4" D-rings 1 of 3/4" Buckle 3 of 3/4" Tri-glides
L: 22"-30"	Fabric: 3"w x 33" Interfacing: 2.5"w x 32"	Fabric: 3"w x 18" Interfacing: 2.5"w x 17"	Fabric: 3"w x 7" Interfacing: 2.5"w x 6"	2 of 1" D-rings 2 of 3/4" D-rings 1 of 3/4" Buckle 3 of 3/4" Tri-glides

Sewing Machine Note

When you stitch your fabric harness, you are going to want to make sure that your "tension" is correct; otherwise you will produce "loops" or loose stitches. I own a Singer sewing machine which I purchased at JoAnn Fabrics (below is a picture of the machine). I have my tension at 6 when I am stitching the fabric to make this harness. Your tension number may be different than mine, just play around with it but make sure you do adjust your tension

Singer Heavy Duty: This is the sewing machine I use to make all of my pet products. It is an amazing machine at a very reasonable price (on Sale \$175.00) and can be purchased at JoAnn Fabrics. If you go to purchase one and it's not on sale, WAIT because it will go on sale!



Fabric Preparation:

Fabric Preparation Step 1:

From Table A on the previous page, choose the appropriate size harness for your dog and cut the fabric and interfacing accordingly as shown in Fig. #2. You should have 5 strips of fabric and 5 strips of interfacing, for each harness you make.

Place interfacing, centered, on the WRONG side of the fabric and apply the interfacing according to the manufacturer's instructions. Fig. #3 shows you how it should look when you are ironing the interfacing onto the fabric. I always like to stress to take your time and make sure that you place the "adhesive" coated side of the interfacing down onto the fabric. I also suggest that you use a separate iron when you are making your harnesses. Regardless of how many harnesses I make, I have destroyed more irons because I was not paying attention and had the adhesive coated side facing upward and it got onto the iron. In fact, I ruined an iron making this tutorial! Just a suggestion!

Fig. #2



Fig. #3



Fabric Preparation (Continued):

Fabric Preparation Step 2:

Turn inward the short raw ends of the cotton fabric, overlapping the cotton fabric onto the interfacing and press with iron as shown in Fig. #4. Fold the cotton fabric strip in half lengthwise and press with an iron thoroughly as shown in Fig. #5.

Open the cotton fabric and using the newly formed center crease as a guide, fold both raw lengthwise edges towards the center and press (I drew a black line over the crease, so you could see it) as shown in Fig. #6. Now, open both ends (Fig. #7).

Fig. #4



Fig. #5



Fig. #6



Fig. #7



Fabric Preparation (Continued):

Now you will want to cut a wedge from each of the 4 corners of the fabric/interfacing as shown in Fig. #8. This will alleviate some of the bulk in the ends, which is necessary for the fabric to be thin enough to fit thru the hardware.

Fig. #8



Fig. #9



Fabric Preparation Step 3:

Fold the cotton fabric one final time in half lengthwise, as shown in Fig. #9. Press with the iron once again as shown in Fig. #10. At this point, the resulting strip you now have should be the width you determined by using Table A. For example, if you were making a harness for a dog with a "Large Girth", you would have a 3/4" wide strip at this point.

Fig. #10.



Fabric Preparation (Continued):

With the thread color of your choice, you want to stitch close to the strip's edges, along all four sides of the strip as shown in Fig. #11 and Fig. #12.

Fig. #11



Fig. #12



Repeat steps 2 and 3, until all 5 pieces of fabric with interfacing are stitched closed to produce straps, as shown in Fig. #13.

Fig. #13



Adding Hardware

You will want to become familiar with all the different parts of the harness hardware. Fig. #14 is a visual reference for you of the different hardware parts to the harness.

A – Tri-Glide

B – D Ring

C – Male section side of release buckle

D – Female section side of the release buckle

Fig. #14



At this point, I would suggest a short break. You have taken in quite a bit of information, in a very short period. While these steps can be quickly accomplished once mastered, initially it may make you feel a bit overwhelmed.

Adding Hardware (Continued):

Add Hardware Step 1:

Slide the tri-glide onto one of the girth straps (Fig. #15) and fold back the strap about 1.25" - 1.5" (Fig. #16). Sew back and forth from edge to edge across the collar 4 to 5 times to secure the buckle in place. Figure #17 shows you how the adjuster buckle will look on the strap after you complete this step.

Repeat this step for the other girth strap and the chest strap (Fig. #18)

Fig. #15



Fig. #16

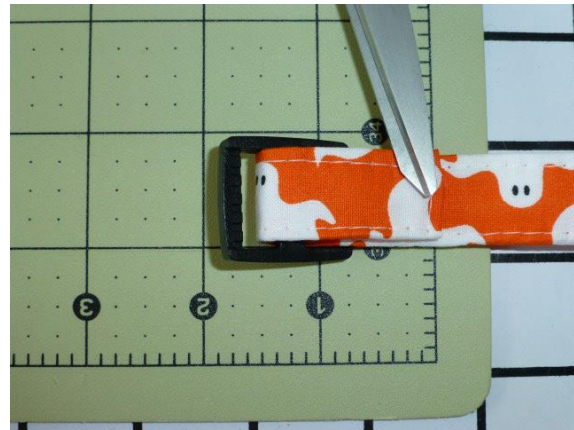


Fig. #17



Fig. #18



Adding Hardware (Continued):

Adding Hardware Step 2:

Insert one end of a connector strap through one of the larger d-rings, and then fold back the strap 1.5". Sew close to the d-ring, sewing back and forth from edge to edge across the strap 4 to 5 times to secure the buckle in place (Fig. #19). Now, move your needle to the left 1/2" and again sew back and forth from edge to edge across the strap 4 to 5 times (Fig.#19).

Fig. #19



Fig. #20



Adding Hardware Step 3:

Now, insert the opposite end, of the same connector strap, through the bottom slot of the male section side of the buckle (prongs should be sticking up) and then through one of the smaller d-rings (Fig. #20). Now, pull the free end of the strap through the unused slot (top slot) of the male section of the buckle, so that the ends of the strap are touch (Fig. #21). Sew close to the smaller d-ring, making several passes from edge to edge and do the same to secure both ends of the strap (Fig. #22)

Fig. #21



Fig. #22



Adding Hardware (Continued):

Adding Hardware Step 4:

Repeat the first part of Step 3 for the remaining connector strap (Fig. #21 & #22). Now, insert the free end of the connector strap FIRST through the smaller d-ring and then through the slot in the female section of the buckle (Fig. #23). Pull the ends together so that they are touching and stitch across the strap near the d-ring then again at both ends of the strap (Fig. #24).

Fig. #23



Fig. #24



Your connector strap should now look like the item in Fig. #25.

Fig. #25



Adding Hardware (Continued):

Adding Hardware Step 5:

Turn one of the connector straps so that the right side is facing you. With the “wrong” side of one of the girth straps facing upward, pull the free end of the girth strap up and through the opening of the larger d-ring (Fig. #26). Thread the free end of the girth strap back through the open slot in the tri-glide (Fig. #27)

Fig. #26



Fig. #27



Repeat the same process (Step 5) for the other girth strap (Fig. #28)

Fig. #28



Adding Hardware (Continued):

Adding Hardware Step 6:

With the “wrong” side of the other connector strap facing up, thread about 1” of the free end of one of the girth straps through the large d-ring (Fig. #29) of the other connector strap and sew securely in place, close to the d-ring and across the very end of the girth strap (Fig. #30)

Fig. #29



Fig. #30



Repeat the same process (Step 6) for the other girth strap (Fig. #31)

Fig. #31



Adding Hardware (Continued):

Adding Chest Strap - Step 7:

Turn the almost done harness so that the "right side" is facing up (Fig. #32).

Take the chest strap and with the "wrong" side up, thread one end of the chest strap under and up and over one of the girth straps (Fig. #33).

Fig. #32



Fig. #33



Fold under about 2" of the chest strap, creating a loop around the opposite girth strap (Fig. #34).

Fig. #34



Adding Hardware (Continued):

Adding Chest Strap - Step 8:

Stitch close to the end of the chest strap, (Fig. #35) making sure that the resulting loop is large enough for the tri-glide, on the girth strap, to pass through the loop if need be.

Fig. #35

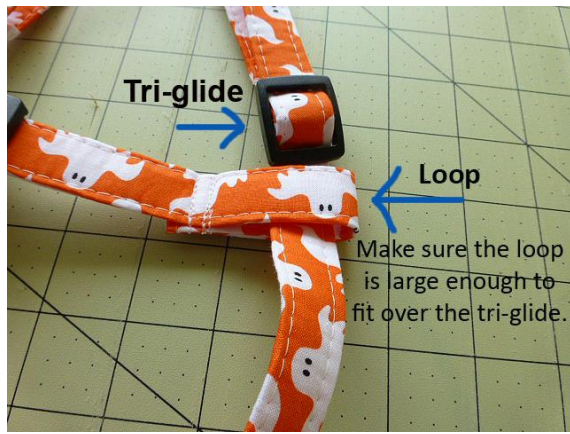


Fig. #36



