

Balance Assistance & Mobility Support

2020 Harness Sample Sale



The boss has lost her mind! BLD has never before offered imperfect harnesses at tremendous discounts! This is your chance to get ready-made, quality, functional BLD gear without paying the custom-made prices.

We have gathered assorted harnesses and components that may have various flaws or minor cosmetic issue that prevented the item from being sold at full price. These items may have been used as samples, made incorrectly for a customer, made in the wrong size and returned, made by a BLD team member as they train to be a harness specialist, have cosmetic imperfections (uneven stitching, scratch, scrape, etc.), have an older/discontinued feature, and/or otherwise deemed to be irregular. Each item has been inspected and verified to be functional and structurally sound; this means these **Sample Sale items will perform as intended despite being imperfect.**

When you place an order for a new, custom made harness, we are here to support you thorough every step of the process. **However, with this once-in-a-lifetime Sample Sale during this unusual global pandemic, our customer service is extremely limited. These harnesses and handles are being sold as-is, with no warranty or guarantee. All sales are final, no refunds or exchanges.** The deeply discounted prices reflect the services unavailable on these products.

Our special Sample Sale webpage will describe the features of each individual harness or component available, and we guarantee our description is accurate (this means we will ensure you get what you purchase!). Each product will be discreetly marked to indicate no warranty, refund, or exchange is available. However, we are available to assist should you encounter an issue or problem with your equipment; in the rare instance that a repair is needed, repair service is always available at a nominal cost. Additionally, new made-to-order handles and straps can be purchased at any time. These harnesses have been designed with interchangeable parts to make them easy to fit and re-fit.

Please read the information in this booklet and on this Sample Sale website page thoroughly to understand what you are purchasing. These harnesses and components will be sold as-is on a first-come-first serve basis only via our website. Due to the nature of this special sale, customer service will be extremely limited. we expect these items to sell fast! If you have specific questions about your measurements, sizing, or features that are not addressed in the info booklet or on the website, please reach out during the preview time before the sale goes live.

Measure your dog and determine what size you will need, and the features that you will need your harness to have. Follow the measuring instructions in this booklet and find videos online to help guide you through the process.

This booklet contains detailed product information, harness features & options, pricing, measuring instructions, abridged to reflect the conditions of the Sample Sale.



Important Notes:

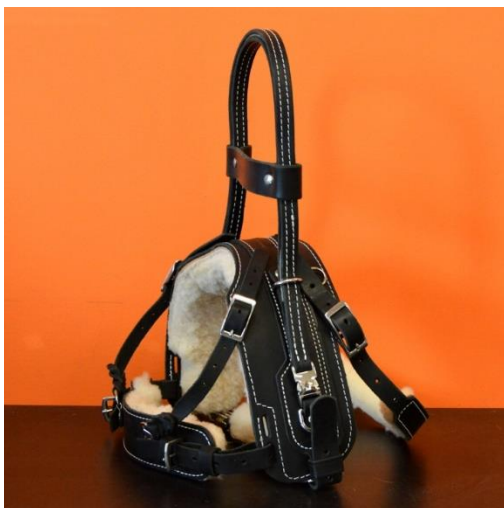
Dogs must be physically mature and of appropriate size, fitness and soundness for the work you would like them to perform.

Mobility, stability, and balance assistance work is physically demanding; a service dog must be in prime physical condition. The dog's growth plates must be closed before beginning harness work (recommended minimum of 18-24 months of age). Please allow your dog time to grow and mature. Dogs **MUST** be in our recommended weight/measurement range for the harness to fit and function properly.

Consulting a qualified veterinarian (orthopedic specialist or canine sports medicine physical therapist) is highly recommended for all service/assistance dogs that perform physical tasks. Fit and performance of the equipment can only be assured if the dog meets the minimum recommended standards, the user and trainer have reasonable expectations, and when the equipment is used responsibly for the purpose it was designed. Likewise, harness users should consult a physician and physical therapist to determine what medical equipment is appropriate for their mobility needs.

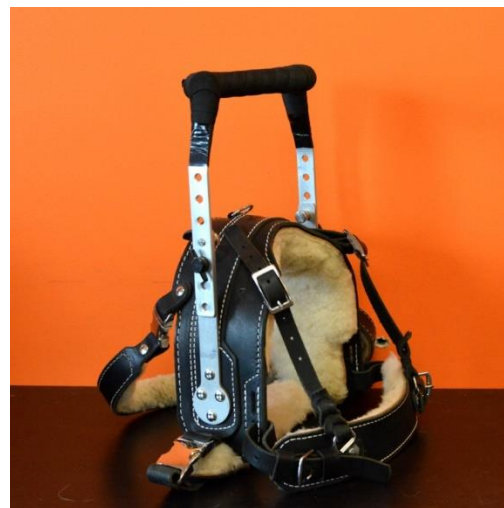
Our equipment is designed to allow an appropriately selected and trained service dog to reasonably assist a person with a balance, mobility impairment, or other disability that requires specialty service dog gear. BLD cannot assess a dog's suitability or appropriateness. BLD harnesses are not intended to serve as, or to replace, a durable medical device such as a cane, walker, or crutch. User assumes all responsibility for the safety, health, and care of the animal and human alike.

There are 2 harness styles available: the difference is the primary handle



Balance Assistance Harness (BAH)

has a flexible leather assistance handle (formerly the "Basic" Assistance Harness)



Mobility Support Harness (MSH)

accommodates a rigid metal support handle that folds down. Must be used with handle support handle attached.

The handle mounting hardware on the saddle cannot be changed.

Handles are sold separately during the Sample Sale so you can choose the one that best fits your needs. BAH and MSH primary handles are not interchangeable. However, leather Balance Assistance Handles can only be interchanged with another leather handle. Likewise, a metal Mobility Support Handle can be interchanged with a new metal support handle. (Tall handles require a saddle with tall/heavy support bars; any MSH harness can accommodate a shorter handle.)

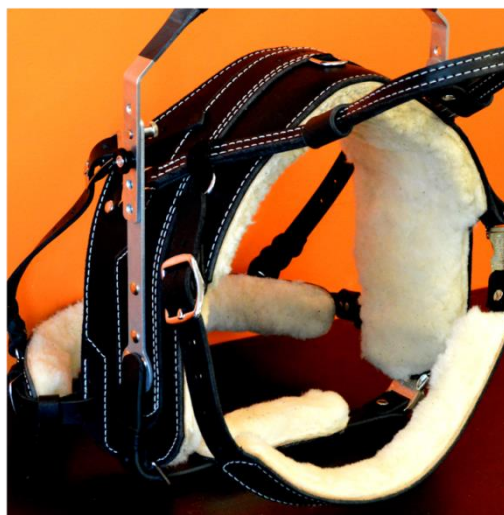
All BAH & MSH harnesses come standard with these great features!

Dog-friendly features:

- Harnesses are **custom made** to fit your dog's measurements and conform to your dog's anatomy
- Allows dog freedom of movement & distribution of weight/pressure around the core of the dog's body
- Harness flexes with dog's movement yet does not shift or wobble when fit and used properly
- **Lightweight** despite its sturdy nature!
 - Complete harness weighs only 2.5 lb. (1 KG) for standard size, and around 3 pounds for giant size
- **Adjustable Straps**
 - All straps have several inches of adjustment to fine-tune the fit
 - Straps are replaceable and can be re-fit to another requiring the same saddle size
- **Layers of specialized padding for dog's comfort**
 - No hard edges or direct contact with irritating synthetic materials
 - Saddle is made with layers of neoprene padding inside to protect the spine and distribute pressure properly
- **Natural shearling wool** (genuine sheepskin)
 - Sheepskin lining on saddle breastplate, girth, and belly straps provide proper cushion to prevent pinching or rubbing, as well as optimal structural support for the function of the harness (wool-free option available for true allergies—inquire for details if needed)
- **Suitable for all climates** due to the natural material's breathability, resilience, and durability
 - Does not get hot or retain heat like synthetic materials (not recommended for swimming)



Belly strap, shown here, is adjustable on one side, and has Quick-Release buckles on the other.



Harness saddle, breastplate, girth, and belly strap are lined with genuine sheepskin

People-friendly features:

- **Premium quality top grain leather and durable hardware** combined with fine workmanship offers a lifetime of reliable performance.
- Our harnesses are **designed to offer optimal balance support and stability.**
- **A variety of handle options** are available to meet your needs.
- Handles are made to your desired height, are well-balanced and properly supported for maximum stability assistance.
- Choose the harness style based on the primary handle you need.
 - Balance Assistance Harness with flexible leather handle, see pages 5-8
 - Mobility Support Harness with rigid metal handle, see pages 9-12
- **Quick-Release buckles** make it easy to put on and take off the dog—simply click together two easy-to-use latches; harness remains adjusted when removed.
- **D-rings** for attaching accessories, such as a cape, pouch, ID badges, pulling strap, etc. are included on all harnesses. There are 3 D-rings 3 on the top of the saddle.
- **Some Sample Sale harnesses may accommodate other types of leather handles, as described in the individual harness description.**
- **Easy to clean and maintain**, details available on our website and in Owner's Manual.
 - Simply apply leather conditioner regularly to keep harness supple and weather resistant
 - Clean the wool lining with a brush and vacuum
 - Can be hand-washed as needed
- Harness will arrive with detailed instructions for fitting, use and care of the equipment, links to fit & cleaning videos, and warranty information for your reference. Comprehensive **Owner's Manual** is included with each harness. However, the fit guarantee and lifetime warranty described in the manual will not apply to any harness sold as imperfect or used.



**Quick release buckles
for easy on and off.**



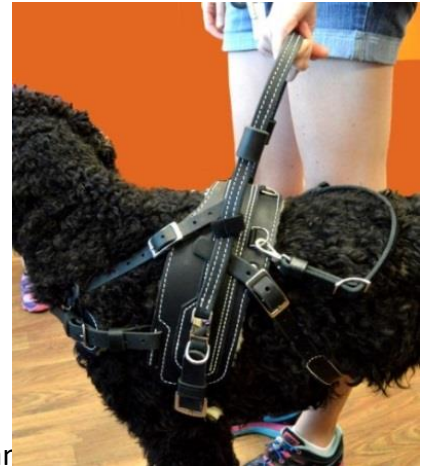
3 D-rings on top of harness

Balance Assistance Harness (BAH) with leather handle

Who is it for? The BAH is a good choice for many people with conditions such as vertigo, balance or gait impairment, disequilibrium, neurological conditions, brain injuries, Parkinson's, MS, etc. where light to moderate contact with a flexible handle can assist with orientation, and/or balance support.

This harness offers counterbalance, pulling, and excellent communication with the dog. The BAH can provide stabilization while standing or walking, momentum pull to help maintain a regular gait, leading/guiding feedback, and/or getting up from a seated position.

- Several styles of Assistance Handles are available, each made with sturdy, double-layered leather.
- Choose one or a combination of Assistance Handle styles for specific tasks you'd like your dog to perform. Each handle style is designed to properly distribute pressure around the dog's core. Handle options are described on the following pages.
- Some Sample Sale harnesses may accommodate other types of handle in individual harness description.



NOTES: This harness does NOT offer bracing; leather assistance handles are lower impact and generally safer for the dog than a rigid metal handle. This harness will not fit dogs smaller than the minimum weight and measurement size and cannot be adjusted or made smaller than stated.



Harness Size:

- Standard BAH \$425**
For most dogs 45-95 pounds, with a girth size of 26-34 inches (best choice for most retrievers and doodles).
- Extra Large BAH \$450**
For most dogs 90-150 pounds, with a girth size of 33-40 inches (also recommended for deep-chested breeds such as GSD's and Dobermans weighing 85 pounds or more, and any dog over 100 pounds such as Rottweilers, female Great Danes, Newfoundlands, Bernese, etc.).

Color:

- Black:** Latigo leather is our standard offering. Because the leather is solid black all the way through, it does not fade, hides the appearance of scuffs and wears beautifully over time.
- London Tan:** Gorgeous bridle leather. Tan shades may vary slightly; each part of harness may be a different shade but always coordinate beautifully. May darken and show some scuffs with use over time.

Sample Sale harnesses do not come with handles (except as noted in the individual description). An assortment of Sample Sale handles and sizes are available separately. New, made-to-order handles may be ordered anytime.

BAH Primary Assistance Handle: AVAILABLE SEPERATLY

Balance Handle (vertical):

A) Flexible Balance Handle – all BAH harnesses are compatible

This leather handle is positioned vertically on the harness. It is stabilized to provide excellent feedback and communication with your dog. Mounts low on the harness saddle with quick-release buckles, and is kept upright with heavy-duty O-rings. Folds flat by unclipping the quick-release buckles and pivoting back. (A brace strap may be added to stabilize the handle loop, depending on the height of your handle, shown at right.) This flexible handle will soften and slump over time. Good for counterbalance, and light momentum while walking.

B) Semi-Rigid Balance Handle – all BAH harnesses are compatible

Most popular!

Same looks and features as the above option. Reinforced with a rawhide core for a firmer feel and increased feedback, this handle will hold its form and stand upright, making it accessible for grasping without bending over. Very sturdy yet does not transfer excess motion or torque to the dog like a metal handle does. Good for counterbalance and stability, especially for people that have non-fluid movement yet need a sturdy option.

Additional BAH handle options:

Some Sample Sale harnesses may accommodate other types of handles, as described in the individual harness description. Harness must be equipped with mounts for these handles to be compatible.

D) Support Pull Handle in flexible leather (~~add \$45~~)

E) Support Pull Handle in semi-rigid leather (~~add \$65~~)

Highly Recommended!

The Support Pull Handle is designed for heavier momentum and pulling needs and is the best option for those who need moderate gait stabilization, or a sturdy momentum pull. Provides optimal pulling pressure distribution. Available as a flexible handle, or semi-rigid which is reinforced for a sturdier feel.

Harness and **requires support D-rings and “mouse ear” loops** to keep this handle in position—these can be easily added to any standard size harness. NOT compatible on XL size harnesses if mouse ears have not been installed.

F) Flexible Leather Guide Handle (~~add \$45~~)

G) Semi-Rigid Leather Guide Handle (~~add \$65~~)

Leather **Guide Handles** are for light-duty leading/guiding. This handle offers excellent communication; attaches to the front edge of the harness, and angles back. Available as a flexible handle, or semi-rigid which is reinforced for a sturdier feel. **Guide handle mounts on the saddle are required.**

Note: A brace strap will be added to handles over 4.5” tall to stabilize the handle loop and help the handle hold its shape.



Balance Handle
A) Flexible
B) Semi-Rigid



Support Pull Handle
D) Flexible
E) Semi-Rigid



Leather Guide Handle
F) Flexible
G) Semi-Rigid

Mobility Support Harness (MSH) with rigid metal support handle

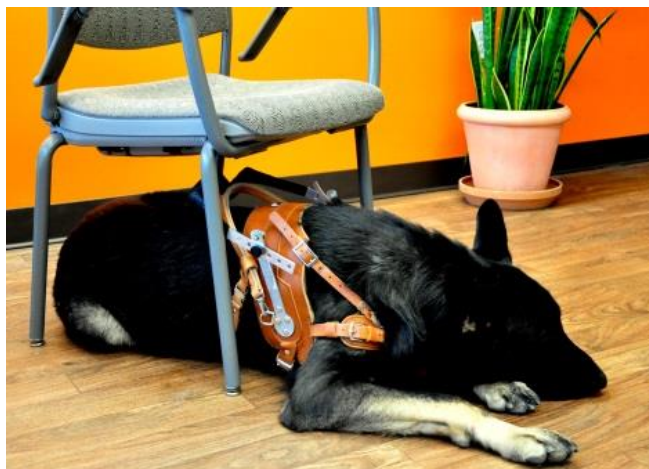
Who is it for? The MSH can be a good option for people with balance impairment, disequilibrium, neurological conditions, or other conditions where light to moderate contact with a rigid vertical handle can **assist with orientation and/or balance support**. This harness can provide **light bracing** while the dog is standing.

An additional handle can be added to allow the MSH to assist with momentum, gait stabilization, pulling, leading, and counterbalance support while in motion.

- **Rigid metal Support Handle** made from lightweight, high-grade aluminum.
- Provides vertical stability support and can be used for occasional light bracing, such as getting up from a seated position or for balance while standing.
- The MSH Support Handle is designed with low center of gravity to distribute pressure around the dog's core. Support bars mounted to the harness saddle are permanent and will not loosen over time.
- **Support Handle folds down** to allow dogs into tight spaces, in vehicles, under tables or chairs.
- Padded handle grip is comfortable and easy to clean.
- Reflective tape on sides of handlebar for night-time visibility
- Additional leather handle options are available to add additional functionality to the harness.
- The MSH is only for dogs over 60 pounds that are large and strong enough to perform this physically demanding work for their partner.

NOTE: Rigid support handles must not be leaned on for constant support, to pull on, or use for momentum while walking. Heavy pressure should never be applied to the metal handle, especially while the dog is in motion. The MSH is not recommended for people with ataxia, Parkinson's disease, or similar conditions that cause shaking or tremors because

excess movement through the metal handle will throw the dog off balance, add additional strain to the dog, and will feel unstable to the person: the BAH is better suited for such applications. This harness will not fit dogs smaller than the stated minimum weight and measurement size.





Harness Size:

- Standard MSH \$500**
For most dogs 60-95 pounds, with a girth size of 28-34 inches (best choice for most retrievers and doodles). NOT available for dogs under 60 pounds.
- Extra Large MSH \$525**
For most dogs 90-150 pounds, with a girth size of 33-40 inches (also recommended for deep-chested breeds such as GSD's and Dobermans weighing 85 pounds or more, and any dog over 100 pounds such as Rottweilers, Great Danes, Newfoundlands, etc.)

Color:

- Black:** Latigo leather is our standard offering. Because the leather is solid black all the way through it does not fade, hides the appearance of scuffs, and wears beautifully over time.
- London Tan:** Gorgeous bridle leather. Tan shades may vary slightly; each part of harness may be a different shade but always coordinate beautifully. May darken and show some scuffs with use over time.

MSH Support Handle: AVAILABLE SEPERATLY

Sample Sale harnesses do not come with handles (except as noted in the individual description). An assortment of Sample Sale handles and sizes are available separately. **It is critical that you order a handle that is the correct width for your dog.** The width of the handle must match your dog's width to fit and function correctly. New, made-to-order handles may be ordered anytime. These harnesses should never be used without a handle: handle is required.

Support Handle height: approximate height of handles is listed

- 2-4"
- 3-6"
- 6.5-8.5"
- 9-11" TALL*

Tall option includes heavier gauge metal and upgraded support bars on saddle.
Tall handles will ONLY fit on saddles with TALL support bars.

**Tall handles apply more torque and pressure to the dog than shorter handles. Not recommended for most users or any dog smaller than our recommended size. Consider the BAH if tall handle is required.*



NOTE: Height is the distance between the top of the harness saddle and the top of the handlebar. Support Handle adjustment range listed is approximate; exact dimensions depend on the harness size and dog's width. Measurements will determine the handle size you need. Handlebars can be replaced at any time with a similar height (Tall handles will ONLY fit on harnesses ordered with a TALL handlebar option).

Support Handle grip style:

Straight Grip

Standard handle grip is ambidextrous. Your hand and elbow will be positioned directly over the dog's body, with your palm facing back.

Ergonomic Grip (add \$50) Highly recommended!

Left Hand Ergo.

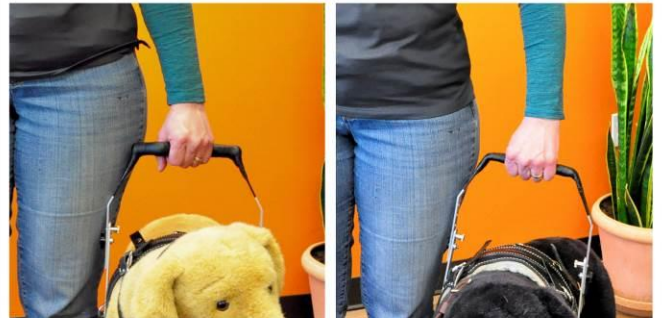
Right Hand Ergo.

Z-shaped handle grip allows for more natural hand and arm position. Arm and elbow are able to relax in toward your body while your hand remains centered over the dog. Ergonomic grip is comfortable and balanced for most people, especially those with hand/wrist/shoulder mobility or pain issues. (When necessary, ergo. handle can be used with opposite hand; palm will face forward.)

Ergonomic grip vs. Straight grip



Top View



Front View

Handle Folding: select one:

Standard release pegs – all harnesses!

Standard release pegs are a small metal knob (dime sized). Pull the pegs to fold. Can be operated together or independently when the built-in locking mechanism is engaged.

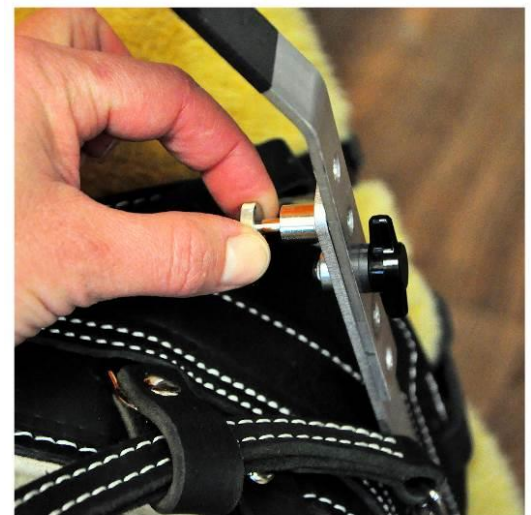
Pull-Rings individual harness description will indicate if this option is included

Highly recommended for weak hands or one-hand operation.

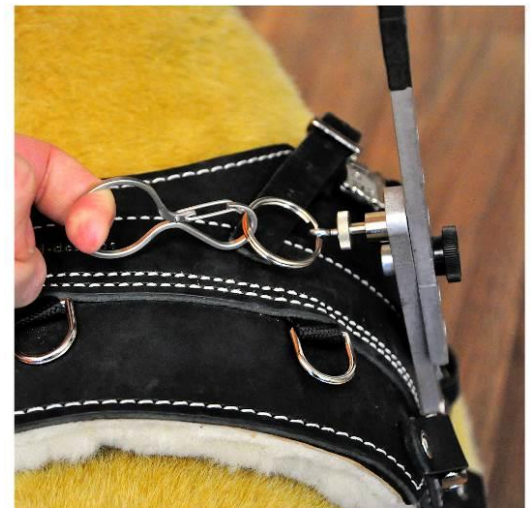
For people with limited dexterity who have trouble grasping a small peg, Pull-Rings make it easier to operate the handle folding mechanism. **Sample Sale harnesses do NOT include Infini-Key extenders** shown here.

ALL support handles fold down!

Handle folding mechanism is engaged by pulling two small pegs—one on each side of the handlebar.



Standard Release Peg



Pull-Ring option

MSH additional handle options: select one

Customize your MSH harness for pulling, leading, forward momentum, and guiding; several handle styles to choose from. Individual Sample Sale harness description will indicate if the harness can accommodate additional handles.

○ Basic Pull-Strap (add \$25) – all harnesses are compatible

Simple leather strap is adjustable and forms a 3-6” handle when clipped onto the standard D-rings. Good for getting up from a seated position, or occasional wheelchair pulling. (Not built into the harness, can be added anytime.)

Support Pull Handle

Check individual harness description to see if it will accommodate this handle option.

D) Support Pull Handle in flexible leather (add \$45)

E) Support Pull Handle in semi-rigid leather (add \$65)

Highly Recommended!

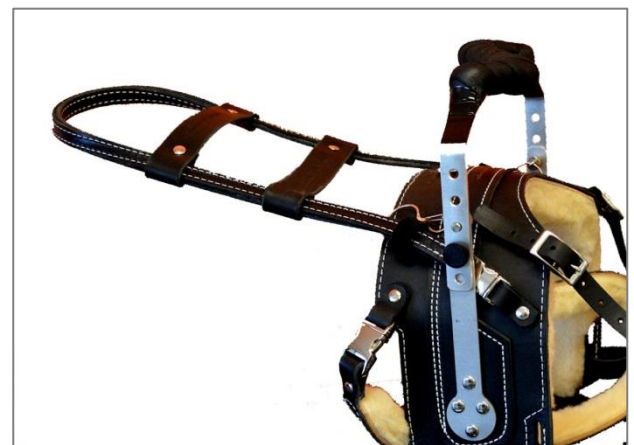
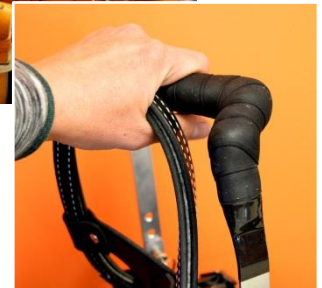
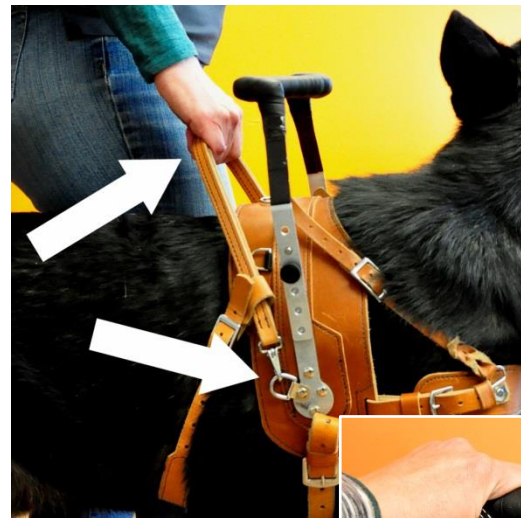
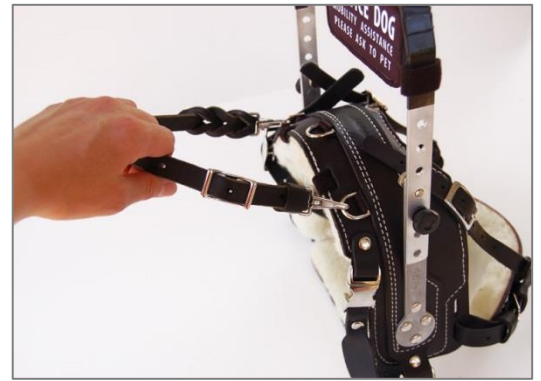
The Support Pull Handle is designed for heavier momentum and pulling needs and is the best option for those who need moderate gait stabilization, or a sturdy momentum pull. Provides optimal pulling pressure distribution. Available as a flexible handle, or semi-rigid which is reinforced for a sturdier feel.

Harness and **requires support D-rings and “mouse ear” loops** to keep this handle in position—these can be easily added to any standard size harness. NOT compatible on XL size harnesses if mouse ears have not been installed.

F) Flexible Leather Guide Handle (add \$45)

G) Semi-Rigid Leather Guide Handle (add \$65)

Leather **Guide Handles** are for light-duty leading/guiding. This handle offers excellent communication; attaches to the front edge of the harness, and angles back. Available as a flexible handle, or semi-rigid which is reinforced for a sturdier feel. **Guide handle mounts on the saddle are required.**



MSH Accessories are available at regular price

Replacement bolts:

Highly recommended!

Removable bolts hold the handle onto the harness. All bolt sets include rubber washers, and are available in standard or tall size to fit your handle. Your MSH will come with one full set. Keep an extra set handy, just in case.

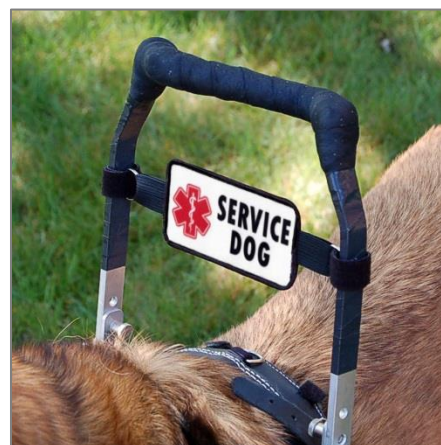
- Full set of bolts includes two round bolts, two winged bolts \$6
- Pair of winged (T-shaped) bolts \$4
- Pair of Round bolts \$4



Banner Badge: \$20

Two-sided woven patch spans between the handlebars. 2.5 x 5 inches. Easily attaches to handlebar with Velcro straps. Only fits rigid metal support handles 4" or taller.

- #101 SERVICE DOG
- #102 SERVICE DOG / Ignore me, I'm working
- #103 SERVICE DOG / DO NOT PET / Public Access Required by Law
- #104 Balance and Medical Support / ASSISTANCE DOG
- #105 Mobility Assistance Dog / STOP sign / DO NOT PET / DO NOT DISTRACT / Do Not Separate Dog from Handler



Harness Accessories for BAH & MSH:

BLD's Service Dog Cape/Vest:

- Cape/Vest is specifically designed to be compatible with BLD's BAH & MSH.
- Sits on the dog's back behind the harness saddle and does not interfere with the function of your harness, or overburden your dog.
- Velcro tabs attach the cape/vest to the D-rings on your harness.
- Flat, low-profile design does not catch on your legs as you walk next to your dog (providing they're not over-stuffed!)
- Three Velcro panels to attach patches
- Medium overall size: 6.5 x 18, fits standard size harness; large overall size: 7.5 x 20 inches, fits XL and Giant harnesses.
- Optional nylon **Chest Harness Strap** is available if you wish to use without the harness, as a stand-alone service dog vest
- Assorted colors available. Made in Colorado.

- Medium Cape/Vest **\$55** (assorted colors)
- Large Cape/Vest **\$60** (assorted colors)
- \$12** Med. **\$15** Lg. Chest Harness Strap (black)

Harness Pouch

Fabric Accessory Pouch features a roomy main pouch, front zipper pocket, reflective stripes, accessory D-rings, and a Velcro panel to attach a patch or badge. The pouch can be clipped onto the standard D-rings on BLD's service dog harnesses, or can be worn as a waist pack by attaching to belt-loops on your jeans/trousers, or worn on any belt. Main pouch opening is half-moon shaped at the top to allow easy access, and tapers at the bottom. Measures approx. 8 x 6 inches (20 x 15 cm); front zipper pocket is approx. 3 x 5 inches (7.5 x 13 cm). Made in Colorado.

Leather Accessory Pouch is made with designer handbag quality leather and detailing by Amish artisans in Ohio. Zippered pouch is half-moon shaped with a smaller zipper pocket on the top.

- Fabric Accessory Pouch \$30 (assorted colors)
- Leather pouch, standard size 8 x 4 x 2" \$90 (black or red)
- Leather pouch, large size 10 x 5 x 2.5" \$100 (black or red)



Chest Harness Strap



Velcro Patch:

Clear and legible woven patches are backed with Velcro to stick onto your vest/cape or pouch. No sewing required! Choose one or a combination of patches to identify your dog's status as a service dog. Imported.

3 x 1 inches (7.6 cm) \$6 each

- #13-1 Do Not Separate/Dog From Handler
- #13-2 Emergency/Info Inside Pocket
- #13-3 Mobility/Assistance Dog
- #13-4 Ignore Me/I'm Working

5 x 1.5 inches (12.7cm) \$8 each

- #155-1 Service Dog
- #155-2 Service Dog/In Training
- #155-3 STOP/Do Not Distract
- #155-4 Service Dog /Do Not Pet

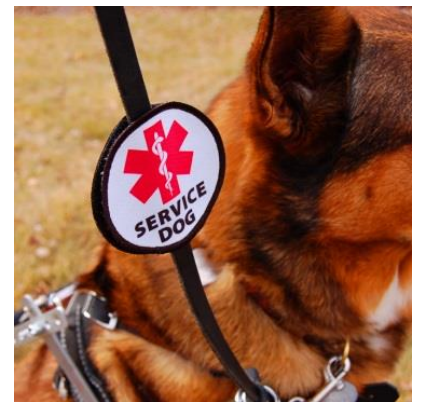


Leash Wrap (aka Double Patch):

Specially designed as a leash wrap, these round double-sided badges can Velcro around a leash or harness strap up to 1 inch wide. Looks great on harness shoulder straps or on the sides of handles.

Choose from various Service Dog and STOP sign designs. Made from premium fabric or woven damask. Most badges are 3.25" (8.25 cm) in diameter. Imported. Round designs are \$16.

- #300 Please STOP I Need Space (3.25" / 8.9 cm)
- #301A Service Dog
- #302 Service Dog / In Training
- #303A Service Dog / Do Not Distract
- #304A Do Not Pet / STOP / Do Not Distract
- #305 Medical Alert / Assistance Dog
- #306 Service Dog / Medical Assistance / Public Access Required

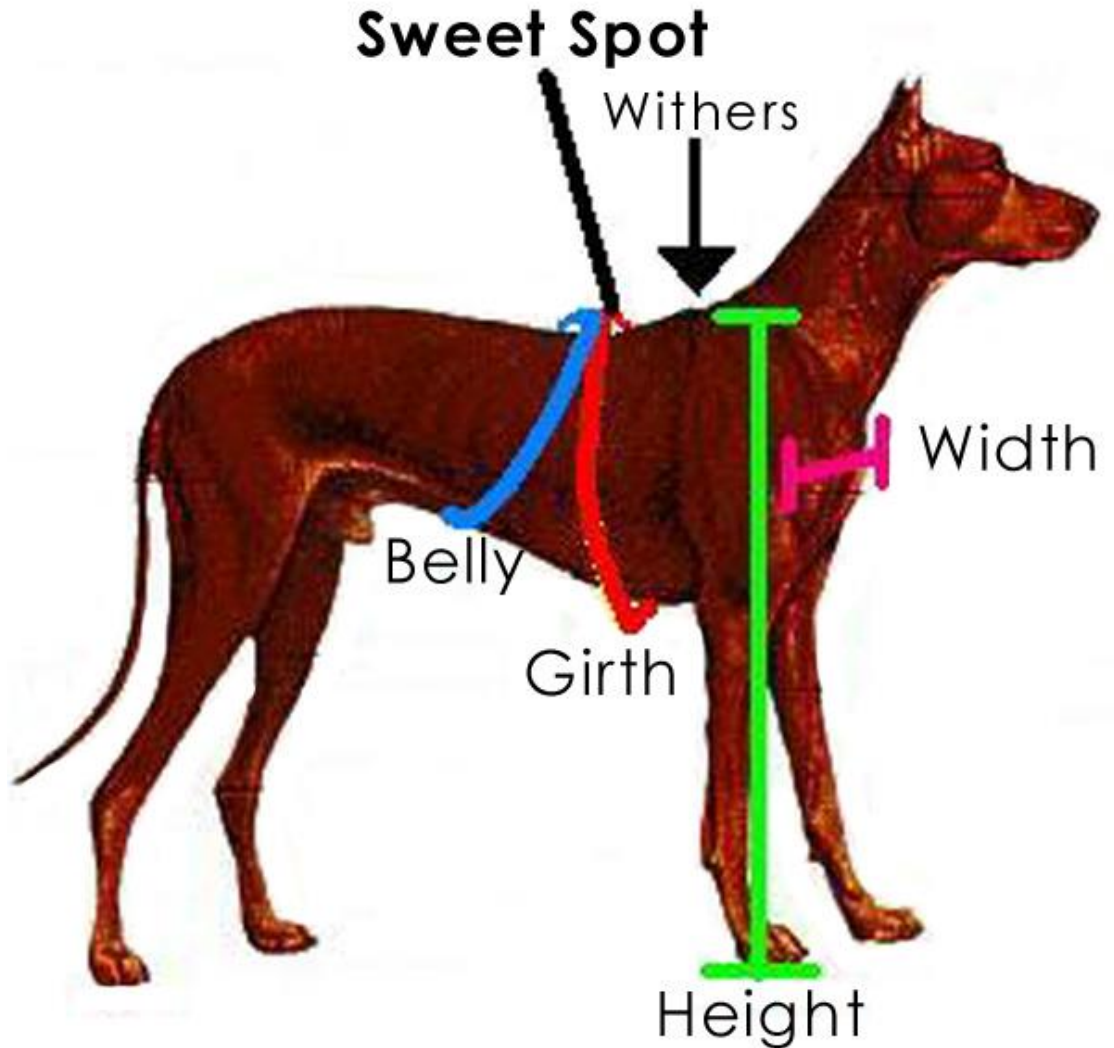


- #801-2A \$18
Side 1: STOP Please Ignore
Side 2: NO Eye Contact Touch or Talk / Dog is Working
(3.25" / 8.25 cm)



How to measure for your BAH or MSH harness:

Dog Measuring Diagram:



Tips & Hints

- Read through the all directions below! There's a worksheet on the back page to keep track of the measurements and any questions remaining after reading this packet.
- You may want a friend to help you.
- **Watch our video about how to measure on our website!** bld.pet/measuring
- The dog and user do NOT have to be together to measure for these harnesses.
- Measure the harness user to determine the correct handle height.
- Please don't guess the handle height, as is made-to-order for your harness.
- Measure the dog according to the diagram, directions, and video.
- Please let us know if there are any special considerations we should note for your order.
- **Take each measurement 2 or 3 times for accuracy.** Each time may give you different results; this is normal, don't panic. Try again and average the numbers.
- **When selecting a Sample Sale harness,** choose the saddle size and strap size in the range that best fits your dog's measurements.

Measure the dog:

- First, get out the very best treats you have, perhaps cheese, ham, or peanut butter! This is a great opportunity to have a helper bait your dog with a fistful of soft treats to keep your dog focused on trying to lick the food. No helper? Smear something tasty on a paper plate and tape it to the wall at the dog's eye level.
- Use a cloth/tailor's measuring tape or a string for measuring around your dog's body. Use a flat ruler for the width.
 - Pro Tip: if your dog is nervous with a measuring tape, try using a leash around their body, then measure the leash separately.
- **Have the dog stand square and balanced when taking all measurements.**
- For accurate measurements, be sure your dog is standing and square (no sitting or lying down). Keep the measuring tape snug.
- The **withers** are where the dog's shoulder blades stick up.
- Locate the "sweet spot," this is where the dog's back begins, just behind the withers.
- Please use the **diagram on page 21** for reference and watch the **video** at bld.pet/measuring
- Use the worksheet on the back page (p. 24) to record the numbers.

1) Measure **height** from withers to the floor

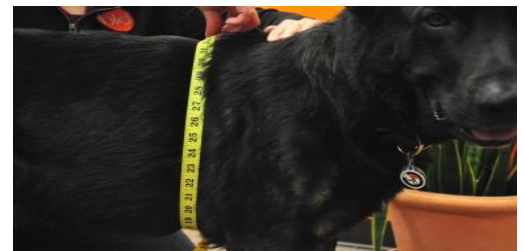
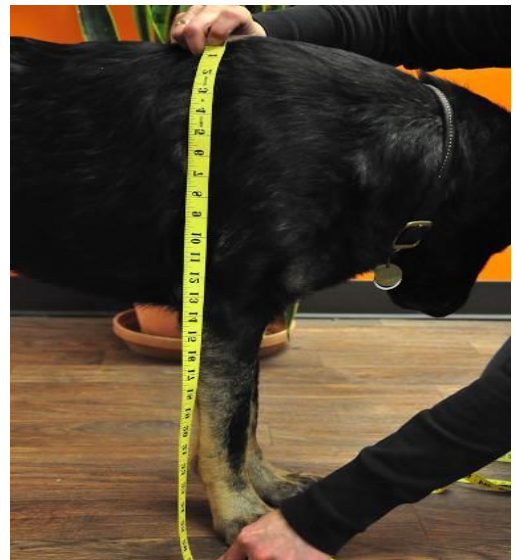
- This measurement should be a straight, vertical line from the tip of the shoulders to the ground.
- Place a book or other flat object across the shoulders if you need.

2) Measure the **girth**

- This measurement goes around your dog's ribs, behind the front legs, at the deepest part of his chest.
- Start the measuring at the "sweet spot" behind the withers, down under the deepest part of the dog's chest, and back to the top.
- The measuring tape should be mostly vertical, forming a complete circle around the dog's chest. Measure snugly but don't squish your dog.

3) Measure the **belly**

- Feel under your dog's ribs and locate the place where his/her ribs come together underneath, just before the soft part of his belly. Or count 4 ribs from the back of your dog's ribcage, and palpate to notice the notch where the deep part of the his chest recedes up toward the belly area.
- Bring the measuring tape under this point of the dog's ribs, and pull the tape snugly back up to the "sweet spot."
- The measuring tape should be at a diagonal, a few inches behind where the girth was measured.



- **Pro Tip:** put the measuring tape under your dog and “see-saw” it back and forth while pulling forward toward the withers—this settles the tape nicely under the belly. Usually, the belly and girth measurement are within 3 inches of each other.
 - Be careful not to measure vertically around the dog’s waist, or place the measuring tape so far back it reaches the dog’s flanks—both will yield inaccurate measurements. Remember, we will let you know if anything doesn’t look right!
 - Boxy or long bodied dogs may not have a clearly defined tuck, just try your best.
- 4) Measure the dog’s **width**
- There are three ways to measure the dog’s width. All are easiest is with a regular flat ruler.
 - This is an important measurement, the handle(s) will be made based on how wide your dog is, so take this measurement multiple times to find the average.
 - **Chest method:** Sit in front of your dog, and hold the ruler in both hands across the dog’s breastbone. While touching each side of the dog’s shoulder bones, at the widest part of his chest, measure this distance.
 - **Doorway method:** Have your dog squeeze through a doorway and stop when his shoulders are just past the doorjamb; **measure the width of the door opening at the dog’s ribcage**. Be sure the door and doorjamb touch the dog. This works well with a sliding door, and a fistful of tasty treats.
 - **Bird’s Eye View method:** This method works well with dogs that heavy muscling in the shoulders, such as bully breeds) whose shoulders are distinctly wider than the ribcage. Stand directly above your dog, looking straight down over his body. If you touch one hand to each side of his ribs, how far apart are your hands?

**Tip: Use a door!
Measure door opening.**



**Width:
Measure accross dog’s chest.**

Measure for the handle:

Now it's time to measure the person who will use the harness to determine the handle size. Measure on the side the dog and harness will primarily be used (most dogs work on the left side). We need to know the person's **wrist to ground** and **hand to ground** measurements, taken while they stand wearing their everyday shoes. Please take each measurement 2-3 times for accuracy.

A: Wrist to ground:

for MSH rigid metal support handle

1. **Stand while wearing normal shoes.**
2. Be sure you are balanced and comfortable. No slouching or exaggerated posture
3. **Allow arm to hang naturally** at your side. (Don't bend or straighten, your arm, just be relaxed.)
4. **Measure from the bend in the wrist to the floor.**
5. Repeat! Move around, shake out your arm. Stand up straight, relax the shoulders, and measure again.
6. Subtract the dog's height to determine handle measurement.

B: Hand to ground:

for all leather handle options

1. **Stand while wearing normal shoes.**
2. Be sure you are balanced and comfortable. Are you standing up straight? No slouching!
3. Hold a pencil in your hand (or similar object to represent a handle) the way you wish to hold the harness handle.
4. Allow your arm to relax, with elbow slightly bent.
5. **Measure from the pencil to the floor.**
6. Repeat! Move around, shake out your arm and measure a few times for accuracy.
7. Subtract the dog's height to determine handle measurement.

HINT! Tape a piece of paper to a wall. Stand with your shoulder touching the wall. Use a pencil to mark the paper at the **hand** and **wrist** heights. Then, measure the wall from the ground to the marks.

Wrist measurement A:

Minus dog's height: - _____

Equals rigid support handle = _____

(If the dog is taller than the person's wrist, order a 2-3" handle.)

Hand measurement B:

Minus dog's height: - _____

Equals leather handle: = _____

(If the person's palm can touch the dog's back while standing & relaxed order a 2-3" handle.)



My Harness Worksheet



Notes on what I'd like to order:

Dog's Measurement worksheet:

Dog's Name _____

Breed _____

Sex _____ Age* _____

Weight _____

1) Height _____

2) Girth _____

3) Belly _____

4) Width _____

Handle Measurement worksheet:

Person's name _____

Child who will grow? Check if yes

Wrist measurement A: _____

Minus dog's height: - _____

Handle height/length A: = _____

Hand measurement B: _____

Minus dog's height: - _____

Handle height/length B: = _____

Notes:

* Your dog must be over 18 months of age, mature and sound. See important notes on page 2.