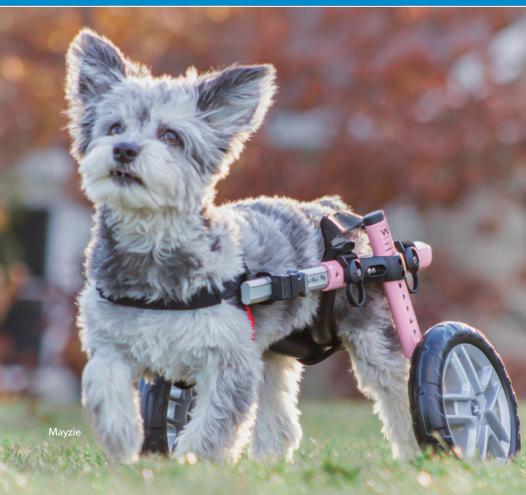


# **SMALL FRAME**

with Optional Full Support Front Wheel Attachment



Thank you for purchasing a Walkin' Wheels® Small wheelchair. Questions or comments? Call us at: (603) 577-8854 or email us at: HelpMe@WalkinPets.com

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#### **Quick Start Guide**

- 1. Set up wheelchair length (p.7), height (p.8), and width (p.8)
- 2. Attach Leg Rings to wheelchair (p.10)
- 3. Put Front Harness on your pet (p.11)
- 4. Put your pet in wheelchair:

Now that your pet is wearing the front harness, he/she is ready to get started. The wheelchair should be positioned with extenders slanted down on the ground. Get behind the wheelchair, lift your pet's back legs up, and place legs into the leg rings (if your pet is lightweight, you may lift him/her to do so). When the legs are through the rings, pull up extenders (side bars). Slide each extender through the D-Ring on the front harness, and clip in place. Instructional videos: hpets.net/swi

5. How to fit dog (adjustments p.13)

#### Tips for adjusting the wheelchair to your pet:

- Height: All four toe pads of both rear paws are touching the ground
- Length: Side extenders do not go past center of the front leg and the rear hips are centered with the black knuckle
- Width:  $\frac{1}{2}$ " 1" between the body and the wheelchair frame at the widest part of your pet (usually the chest)



# Parts of the Walkin' Wheels® Rear Small Wheelchair



Aluminum wheelchair frame with Width Connector and Extenders installed.



Width Connectors 4" installed in frame. Use 7" for wider dogs.



Length Extenders The extenders are installed in frame.



Knuckle Attached to frame.



Tool kit with Allen wrench and cup screws for noise reduction; use if desired.



Leg Rings for rear support.



One Belly Belt for mid-section support; use if needed.



Stirrups to keep feet from dragging; use if needed.



Front Harness with comfort sleeves, fully adjustable.



The wheels included with the wheelchair will be determined by your pet's weight

# Teach Your Dog How to Use Walkin' Wheels®

We created the Walkin' Wheels® with the intention that you will adjust the wheelchair, put your pet in it, and in a few moments watch him/her running and playing again. It can happen that way, but it doesn't always. A wheelchair can be an adjustment for an animal. To some, there is a strange device following him/her around making odd noises and getting caught on furniture and doorways. They will adapt to these changes, but need a little time.

We recommend you be calm, quiet, and slow when putting on the wheelchair for the first time. Give your pet lots of positive reinforcement and reassurance. Treats help, too! Let your pet get used to the harness before attaching it to the wheelchair. It may take a few minutes to a few hours for your dog to get used to the harnesses.

See next page for important step-by-step tips to begin the process of getting your pet used to the Walkin' Wheels and starting on the path to a second chance for an active life.



- 1. When starting this process we suggest that you use your pet's favorite treats to reward your pet for walking forward. You won't need to keep using these treats every day, just in the beginning of the training process. A hungry pet is a motivated pet! Work witth your pet before you have fed him/her a meal. She/he will be more eager to pay attention and earn the food reward if she/he is hungry.
- 2. Do not immediately put your pet in the wheelchair. Assemble the wheelchair and leave it in an area where your pet can see, smell, and touch it.
- 3. Once your pet is comfortable near the wheelchair, put the front harness on and leave him/her alone for a while. Let your pet get used to the feeling of the straps.
- 4. When your pet is comfortable, try putting him/her in the leg ring support system and attach the front harness to the wheelchair. Give him/her a treat for positive association.
- 5. After your pet is in the wheelchair, hold the food reward right at his/her nose level. Feed several pieces. Then you can step one foot backwards, again holding the food reward in front of you. She/he should then walk toward you to get the treat. Before you know it, she/he is walking in his Walkin' Wheels<sup>®</sup>! Again, give a treat and positive praise.
- 6. Work in very short (5-10) minute sessions, several times a day. Give your pet rest periods between each session.

**Note:** Keep in control of your pet's movement at first. Keep your pet in a clear area and on a short leash. If your pet does become frightened, then disconnect the harness from the wheelchair and try again later.

Until your pet gets used to the Walkin' Wheels®, limit the amount of time spent in it. The Walkin' Wheels® is designed to allow your pet to get exercise and physical therapy. Pets cannot lie down in the wheelchair, but will be able to urinate and defecate while in the wheelchair. Start with short periods and increase slowly. Make sure you don't overdo it the first day.

### **Setting Up the Dog Wheelchair:**

# Use Snap Buttons to Adjust Length, Width, and Height



- Side bar should run parallel to the ground through the center of the body.
- Side bars should end at the shoulder blade.





The Snap Buttons are an easy way to adjust the length, width, and height of the Walkin' Wheels® wheelchair. Use an Allen key to push the Snap Button when it is inside the knuckle to make height adjustments.

#### **Adjusting the Length**

**Note:** If you have the Front Wheel Attachment, remove the extenders and skip to p.16.



The extenders are for length adjustments. The kit comes with one set. To adjust the extenders, depress the snap button and move to desired length. The left and right are reversible.

#### Is the Length Correct?

The end of the extenders should be positioned at the center of your pet's shoulder blades. The extenders should be touching the neoprene pads on the front harness and not pulling outward.

#### **Adjusting the Width**

Use the snap buttons on the width connector to adjust the wheelchair to the proper width. The width adjustment will be determined by the widest part of your pet which is usually the chest. The wheelchair should be  $\frac{1}{2}$ " - 1" off the widest part of your pet's body. The width connector that comes installed with the frame is 4" long and will extend to 6.5". A 7" width connector is also included for pets that need more width (7"-9").

If you need a replacement, call us at (888) 253-0777. To order the 7 or 10" connector, or order from our spare part listing:

www.WalkinPets.com/connectors





# Attaching the Struts and Wheels

You received your wheelchair with the correct size strut and wheel combination according to your pet's rear leg measurement and weight. Insert the strut into the wheelchair leg and adjust to the height needed. The wheels go on the outside. If you think you need a different size wheel and strut, please contact us.



# **Adjusting the Height**

The correct height setting is based on the height and condition of your pet. If your pet has some use of their back legs, use the snap buttons to adjust the height so all four toe pads of each rear paw are just touching the ground. If the back legs are very weak or paralyzed and scraping or knuckling under, put the legs in the stirrups (to hold them off the ground) or protect them with Walkin'® Pet Boots (see p.21).

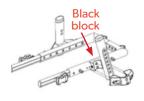
As shipped, your wheelchair will fit most small pets. However, there is an additional adjustment that can be made to further increase the height. The legs can be in the HIGH or LOW setting (see photos on pp. 3 & 5). Wheelchairs are typically shipped with the wheels in the LOW setting.

There is a detailed "HOW TO" video on the DVD and online:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxuAgcBzZpQ







Remove knuckle, re-position leg that holds the wheel



Long Legs position

#### Use a Phillips head screwdriver to change the position of the leg:

- 1. Remove the wheel/strut from the leg using the push button.
- 2. Loosen the knuckle with Phillips screwdriver, keeping the screws and washers in place.
- 3. Reposition the leg on the high setting where you see the two holes on the inside of the leg. This makes it 2" taller.
- 4. Align the knuckle and re-tighten the screws in the knuckle.



5. Make sure to keep the washers in place inside the screws. Make sure the small black block is not installed upside down. Adjust one side at a time because the Left and Right knuckles are different. You will see an L or R inside the plastic knuckle block to indicate the correct position. Make sure this is not upside down!

# **Stirrups**

Stirrups are optional for paws that are dragging or knuckling under. The stirrups attach to the back of the wheelchair on each silver metal loop. The rubber tubes on the stirrups need to be above Your pet's hock. Use the push lock to adjust to a snug fit. Your pet's leg should be several inches off the ground. You can adjust the length of the cord by re-tying the knot. If you use the stirrups, use both. Using only one stirrup causes your pet to feel unbalanced.

IMPORTANT: When taking the pet out of the wheelchair, make sure to release the stirrups FIRST.



hock

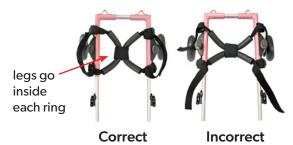


### **Rear Support Leg Rings**



The Leg Rings support your pet's hindquarters. They will take the weight off the legs while still allowing your pet to use their legs to maintain muscle mass. The Leg Rings should hang no lower than 3" below the frame. This will create a supportive cradle.





When your pet is in the Leg Rings, the wheelchair knuckle should be centered with the hip joint. The Leg Rings should look like two Cs, not two Vs, with the center connector holding them together.

# Clip the Leg Rings to the Wheelchair



The Leg Ring straps go over the top of the frame, and the black plastic harness clips have a slot that fits over the Shoulder Socket screws. Put your thumb into the round circle and push upward to lock (you will hear it click into place). The round circle will face the ground. Your pet's legs go through each ring.

To release, put your thumb in the circle and pull downward. Now, you can slowly lower your pet to the ground. The excess Velcro® strapping can cross over your pet's back, or Velcro® together to form handles (see photos p.11).

Shoulder Socket Screw

The Velcro® center connector can be moved forward or backward to avoid putting pressure on your pet's genitals (ideal for intact pets). In addition, the Velcro connector can be wrapped loosely so there is space between the rings. The Velcro center connector MUST be used. Adjust for best comfort and fit.



Excess Velcro® strapping on the leg rings can crisscross over rump.

or

Velcro® two sides together to form handles.

The rubber tubing can be cut shorter if needed (do not cut the strapping). Try cutting about a 1/2" off all four ends of the rubber then adjusting the tri-glides on the straps to tighten them up.



#### **Front Harness Attachment**

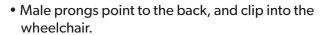


Adjust the extenders so they reach the harness clips on the front harness. The extender ends will go through each D-Ring and then clip into the front harness. The D-Rings should be positioned just behind the shoulder blades.



#### **Adjusting the Front Harness:**

- Take the three black comfort sleeves off the harness so you can make sizing adjustments.
- Your pet's head goes between the black straps.
- Red strap goes behind the front legs and clips into the side of harness.



- All three straps should be snug.
- Comfort sleeves can be cut in half for smaller pets and excess straps tucked in.
   This material will not fray.



#### Is the Wheelchair Adjusted Properly?

Check the items below to make sure the wheelchair is fitted properly. If you are still unsure about the fit, please email rear and side view photographs of your dog in the wheelchair to:

helpme@walkinpets.com, and we will evaluate the fitting. Make sure you include what name the wheelchair was ordered under and your phone or sales receipt number.



When the wheelchair is adjusted properly, your pet will be stand in a natural position. Here is what to check:

- A Knuckles should be centered with the hips.
- **B** Front harness D-Ring clips: clip into extenders behind shoulder blade. Back should be straight.
- C Extenders parallel to the ground and do not extend past the center of the front legs.
- D All four toe pads of both rear paws touching the ground, or
- E Stirrups placed above hock.



Incorrect

If the extenders tilt up, then loosen the black strap on the front harness over your pet's back, and tighten up the red bottom strap.



Incorrect

If the extenders tilt down, loosen the red bottom strap, and tighten the black strap over your pet's back to raise extenders.



Correct

The side extenders should be parallel to the ground and in the middle of your pet's body.

If you have a Corgi or Dachshund, the side bars will tilt downward in the front because their rear legs are longer than their front legs.

#### **Optional Set Screws for Noise Reduction**

Using the set screws is not necessary, but will tighten up your wheelchair and reduce any rattling noises. The set screws also keep the wheelchair tight after it has been adjusted for your pet. When you tighten up the wheelchair, the side arms, called extenders, will be able to move up and down as your pet turns corners. This is completely normal. The flexibility also allows for ease of movement on uneven terrain. There are six places to put the set screws using the Allen wrench. They are indicated below with red arrows.

Note: Make sure the set screws shown below are loosened or removed before making adjustments.





### **Belly Belt, if Needed**

Some animals will need additional support under their belly. You can determine if your pet needs additional support if their spine bows downward. It is also helpful for overweight pets or pets with spinal or disc issues. One end of the belly belt has a tri-glide (rectangular with bar in the middle) attached and the other side has Velcro® strapping. Both sides have a rope with a push button adjuster (instructions on p.16).



**A.** Take the side with the tri-glide and put the extender through the end of the loop.



**B.** Take the rope and put inside the harness clip on the extender (B). Then, attach the front harness to the harness clip in order to secure the rope. This will keep the belly belt from sliding backwards. Now, adjust the belly belt so it is in the middle of your pet's belly.



C. Secure the other side over the extender and Velcro to bottom of belly belt. The purpose of the belly belt is to provide support for your pet's midsection.

If your pet needs more support, you can purchase the Walkin' Belly Support: www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-belly-support

# This section is for Assembling the Fully Supportive (Quad) Wheelchair

#### Walkin' Wheels® Front Wheel Attachment

(purchased separately)



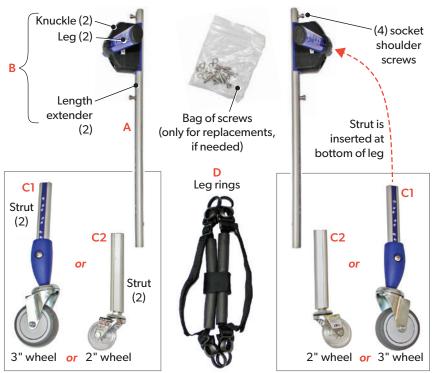
The Walkin' Wheels<sup>®</sup> Front Wheel Attachment gives mobility to pets with front leg weakness or weakness in all four legs. It is ideal for helping disabled pets get exercise and for rehabilitation while they are healing.

Like the rest of the Walkin' Wheels® products, the Front Wheel Attachment is adjustable so it will fit the Walkin' Wheels® wheelchair for any size pet from 11 to 25 pounds and can be easily removed at any time.

# In the Package

The Front Wheel Attachment is easy to assemble and snap into the wheelchair. You will need a Phillips head screwdriver.

#### The package contains:



**IMPORTANT**: The LEFT and RIGHT Struts and Casters must match the LEFT and RIGHT Legs. If they are not installed correctly the wheelchair will be extremely wobbly. We refer to L and R as if your pet is in the wheelchair.

# **Assembling Fully Supportive Wheelchair**

Video instructions also available: hpets.net/sfav

#### Step 1: Length: Left and Right Extenders (A & B)

Take out existing side extenders on rear wheelchair and replace with the front wheel extenders. Socket Shoulder Screws (4) will be on the outside of wheelchair and used to attach leg rings.

#### Step 2: Height: Struts and Wheels (C1 or C2)

Insert the struts into the legs, making sure the left and right are on the correct side.

### Step 3: Leg Rings (D)

Install the leg rings (p.10). The straps go over the frame; insert the black plastic clip on the socket shoulder screw and push upward. You will hear a click when it is locked into place. Leg rings should look like two Cs, not two Vs (p.10).

Your pet's legs will go inside each ring to support his/her body in the front. The front leg rings may be lower than the rear Leg Rings to accommodate the dog's full chest. To remove Leg Rings, put your thumb in the circle and pull down.

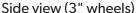


# Make sure that all Rs and Ls are on the proper sides.

#### Step 4: Width:

Adjust width according to your pet's chest (usually the widest area).







Front view (2" wheels)

# Putting Your Pet into the Fully Supportive (Quad) Wheelchair

After the fully supportive wheelchair is assembled, place your pet's legs into each leg ring. You can cross extra strapping from leg rings over the body or Velcro together to form handles (p.11).

Height: Set the height so that all four toe pads on each of your pet's front paws are touching the ground. Extenders need to be parallel to the ground.

Length: Pet's front leg should be centered between the two shoulder socket screws.

Width: Width is determined by the widest part of the dog (generally the dog's chest). Allow at least an inch of space on both sides.

Leg Rings: The leg rings in the front generally need to be a bit lower than in the rear to accommodate your pet's deeper chest. Adjust the leg rings accordingly.





# **Optional Items and Accessories**

#### Walkin'® Lift Harness

www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-lift-rear-harness



The Walkin'® Lift Harness is used to support your pet's hind quarters. This harness is compatible with the Walkin' Wheels® wheelchair, and can be used instead of the Leg Rings. This harness comes with clip-in handles for easy lifting and walking assistance.

#### **Walkin' Warrior Front Harness**

www.handicappedpets.com/walkin-warrior-front-harness



The Walkin' Warrior Rear Harness provides the rear leg support your dog needs to get them back on their feet. Safely support your dog's back legs and gently lift their hind end, so you can both enjoy your daily walk. This heavy-duty lifting harness is fully compatible with the Walkin' Wheels dog wheelchair.

#### **Walkin' Warrior Rear Harness**

www.handicappedpets.com/walkin-warrior-rear-harness





The Walkin' Warrior Rear Harness provides the rear leg support your dog needs to get them back on their feet. Safely support your dog's back legs and gently lift their hind end, so you can both enjoy your daily walk. This heavy-duty lifting harness is fully compatible with the Walkin' Wheels dog wheelchair.

For the Front, Rear or Both Warrior Harnesss, simply unclip the adjustable harness handles, and replace the existing rear leg rings with the warrior rear harness for comfortable hind end support. The harness allows you to support and stabilize your dog as you lift them into their wheelchair, so getting in and out of the wheelchair is a breeze.

### **Optional Items and Accessories** (continued)

#### Walkin'® Small Front Vest

www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-small-front-vest



This vest is designed for smaller breeds of dogs with a broad chest such as Dachshunds or Pugs. This wheelchair compatible vest is made of a durable neoprene material with Velcro enclosure on the belly and front of neck area.

#### **Neoprene Front Harness for Quad**

www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-wheels-front-neoprene-harness



The new Front Neoprene Harness is used to support the front legs of your Pet. This harness is compatible with the Quad Walkin' Wheels® wheelchair and can be used instead of the leg rings for extra support and comfort.

#### **Amputee Cover**

www.WalkinPets.com/amputee-leg-ring-cover



The amputee cover is for pets with a smooth amputation and works with the leg rings.

The cover slips over the leg ring to close off one side for comfort.

# Walkin'® Belly Support

www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-belly-support



The Walkin'® Belly Support helps provide additional support for your pet's back while in the Walkin' Wheels® wheelchair. Made of lightweight but strong neoprene fabric, the Belly Support helps raise the middle of your pet's body to relieve undue stress on their back. This is especially helpful for those pets with longer bodies or those with any type of spinal or back injury.

### Walkin'® Drag Bag

#### www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-drag-bag



The Walkin' Wheels® Drag Bag is designed for pets to use in the home when they are not in their chair. Great for protecting the chest and limbs. Prevents abrasions and sores that can be caused by scraping against carpets, floors, and rough surfaces.

#### Walkin' Scooter

#### www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-small-front-vest



The Walkin' Scooter for pets is designed to keep your pet comfortable and always on the go! The Walkin' Scooter allows pets to be able to move freely around the house while easily maneuvering around indoor obstacles. The Walkin Scooter is perfect for when your pet is not using their Walkin' Wheels wheelchair.

#### Walkin'® Pet Boots

#### www.WalkinPets.com/walkin-pet-boots-for-dogs-and-cats



High quality, stay-on boots keep your pet from tracking dirt, mud, or snow into the house. Helps pets that drag their paws and provides confidence on slippery surfaces like hardwood floors. Ideal for pets with cuts, bruises, or sensitive paws.

#### **No-Knuckling Training Sock**

#### www.WalkinPets.com/no-knuckling-training-sock



The No-Knuckling Training Sock should be used as a temporary training tool. It is intended for short-term, multiple use to help correct gait and improve hind paw placement. Should not be worn for more than 2-5 minutes at a time.



# **Handicapped Pets Foundation**

www.hpets.org

The Handicapped Pets Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation dedicated to the health and well-being of aging, disabled, and injured pets. It's mission is to extend the life of pets by helping them move so that they can get the exercise they need to live long, happy, healthy lives; the Foundation donates wheelchairs to pets in need for this purpose. You can help!

Donations are gratefully accepted (checks payable to Handicapped Pets Foundation) and can be sent to:

Handicapped Pets Foundation 14 Veterans Road, #22, Amherst, NH 03031

# AARF All-Inclusive Walkin' Wheels Membership Program

www.handicappedpets.com/aarf-memembership-program



#### Wear, Maintenance, Liability & Guarantee

With proper use and maintenance, the wheelchair is designed to last a lifetime. When you need replacement parts for the wheels, harnesses, and other wear-and-tear items, they may be purchased at www.WalkinPets.com/spare-parts.

The wheelchair frame will not rust. If dirt or sand gets inside the wheelchair, you can hose it off. All components can be removed and cleaned. Oiling is not necessary.

# **Limited Liability**

Walkin' Wheels® is provided as a walking aid for animals that are under the care of a veterinarian and for which a wheelchair has been recommended. Wheels for Pets, LLC, and its affiliates, agents, and distributors make no representation to the effectiveness or appropriateness of this product.

#### **Guarantee**

The Walkin' Wheels® wheelchair frame is guaranteed by the manufacturer, Wheels for Pets, LLC, for five years from the date of purchase against defects in material or workmanship.

If the frame breaks under normal usage, please let us know, and we will repair or replace the wheelchair at our option. You are responsible for all shipping charges. The Warranty is for the original owner and is non-transferable.

# **Return Policy**

We are here to help your pet get the best fit possible. If there is a problem we cannot correct with fitting assistance, contact us within 30 days from the day the wheelchair arrived, and we will issue a return authorization number (RA). If refurbishing is needed due to scratches or wear, this will reduce your refund. The RA# must be written on the outside of the shipping box, and a Return Form must be filled out in order for a refund to be considered.

www.WalkinPets.com/return-policy-walkin-wheels



# **MIRACLES IN MOTION**



















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Patents: US 7549398 • Japan 5385584 • Canada 2641092 • EPO 2 050 418 Trademarks: Walkin' Wheels® 4,765,026 • 4,882,354 • 3,725,405 • 4,765,026 Other patents pending and trademarks pending.