



Run
Fast!

Dogs love to run.

Dogs need jobs.

Pulling builds skill, endurance, and teamwork.

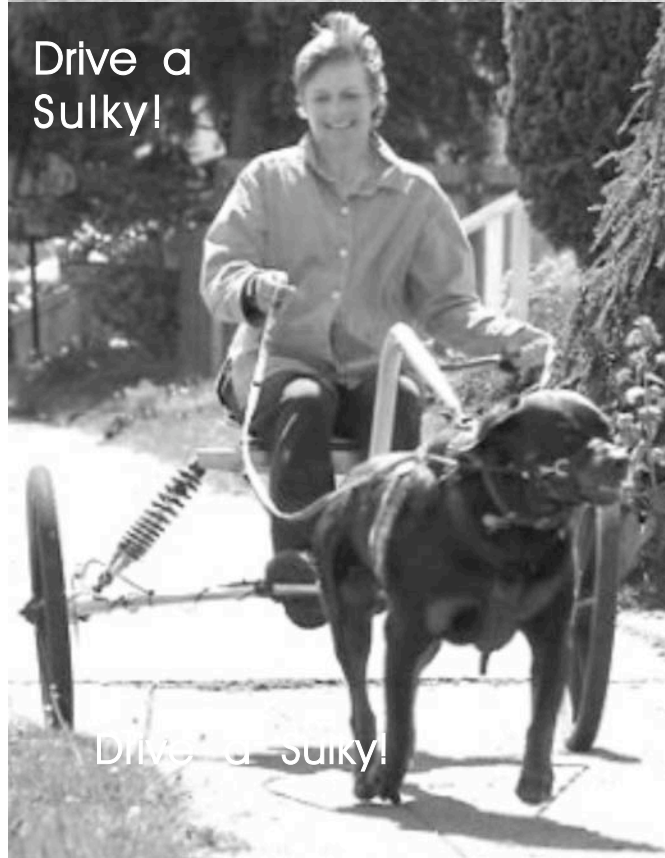
Dogs can pull sulky, scooter, cart, skis, skateboard, and roller blades - and wagons with firewood, yard debris, groceries, and children.

Dogs love to explore.

Buy a book of mountain bike trails. Explore a new trail each weekend. You and your dog can scooter 5 to 20 miles - once he and you are in shape.



Scooter
with
Friends!



Drive a
Sulky!

Drive a Sulky!

www.dogscooter.com

**TRAIN
YOUR DOG
TO PULL!**



What Breed can pull?

Any dog who loves to run can pull. A dog pulling your arm off on a leash is pulling with more force than the same dog pulling you on a scooter. Dogs weighing 30 pounds and up can pull a scooter. Dogs smaller than 30 pounds, like Jack Russell terriers, can pull in pairs.

At what age do you Start Training?

Mushers recommend teaching the pup to wear the harness and pull light “drags” at 4-6 months - but KEEP IT FUN. Keep the pulling so easy that the puppy wants more. He learns that running and pulling is fun. Stop well before the pup is tired. Training the *attitude* that “running in harness is great fun” is the most important lesson. Let your 9 month puppy run and pull you for a block. If you run a mile down the trail, stop frequently for rest and play along the way.

Large breeds can start learning to pull at a young age with this regime of light, “keep it fun” training. Scootering helps build a puppy’s muscle and endurance. Large breeds have completed their bone growth by 2 years and so can work as an adult at two years.

Can my senior dog pull?

Older dogs may have trouble lying down and getting up, but trotting down the trail keeps their joints lubricated. Aerobic exercise is good for old dogs and old humans. The rottweiler pulling the sulky is 10 1/2 years old.

What equipment do you need?

Harness, custom made	\$20- 40
Tugline	\$25 to \$35
Scooter	\$125 to \$600

Training

Teach scooter commands Gee; Haw, Wait, Easy, “Hup hup” when walking dog on leash. Exaggerate changes and say the command.

Teach the dog “Line out”. Attach one end of the tug line to something that won’t move. Have him hold the tug line out tight (“Line out”) until you release him from the command. “Line out” is a basic command to keep the dog from turning and running back to you on the scooter and thereby tangling the tugline around his legs.

When a dog is pulling a scooter, his job is to “go on by” distractions such as dogs and smells. Teach the two opposite commands, “Go say hi” and “On by”, while on your daily walks.

Order the harness and tugline. When you snap the tugline to the harness, it signals to the dog that he is working. He should work in front of you with no sniffing and no peeing. Attach a drag to the harness so that it drags on the ground about 7 feet behind him. A milk jug with water or a piece of firewood will work. Let the dog get used to pulling his drag. Now with leash on collar and tugline attached to harness, go for a walk with him pulling the drag. When he is comfortable pulling the drag with you beside him, gradually drop further back until you can walk behind the drag. The dog is used to heeling beside you, so having you walk behind can be confusing for him.

For the first run with a scooter, choose a defined trail where running is comfortable. Usually the dog desires to run down the trail. A person riding a bicycle ahead of you, often gets the dog chasing and running. If you can go with other scooterers, the dog probably will chase after them.

For reluctant dogs, walk and push the scooter until your dog and you are an easy distance from the car. Turn in the direction of the car and tell the dog to run to the car. Chances are he will run happily back to the car to get his treats while you ride the scooter.

Once the dog understands that the scooter means freedom to run and explore, he will love scooter outings and his enthusiasm will be infectious.

Commands

Ready?: Stand up and line out.

Pull: Start pulling.

Gee: Turn right. Haw: Turn left.

Over gee: Move to the right and keep going. Use when passing oncoming trail users.

Haw come: Turn left and come back past me. A command for a u turn.

Wait (or Whooooo): Stop.

Easy: Go slower.

Hike: Go fast.

Hup! hup!: go faster.

Line out: Hold the tugline tight while facing away from the scooter.

On By: Go on by the distraction.

Leave It: Don’t.

Walk: Useful when dogs are too hot or are on crowded sidewalks or when the human can’t run anymore.

Go to the Car: You will never be lost once your dog learns this command.

This way: Go the direction the scooter is pointing.

Go Up: Go up those stairs or that slope.