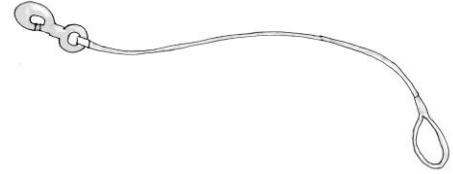


Tie Down



What is it?

A tie-down, also known as a pet tether or the magnificent management tool, is a leash, rope or ideally a specialized cable that is two to three feet long with snaps at each end. One end of the tie down is attached to an immovable object, like a piece of furniture or an eyebolt screwed into the wall, and the other end is attached to your dog's buckle or martingale collar.

Cable is the most durable, flexible and chew-resistant material. Cable tie-downs are available commercially in either regular gauge or lightweight gauge for small dogs. A tie-down for use with doors is available with a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) cap at one end, rather than a second snap.

What is it for?

A tie-down is a flexible containment system to manage your dog in various situations and environments.

How do you use it?

A tie-down should be placed in a fairly busy room in your house. It is used only when someone is home and actively supervising the dog. Your dog should be provided with a comfortable bed and a very interesting, long-lasting chew toy. Proactively used, a tie-down is not a punishment; it is management.

Training:

Choose a time to train the tie down when the house is calm and you can monitor your dog.

1. Create a comfortable tie down area away from traffic.
2. Have an extra special, tie-down only chew toy ready to hand, like a Kong® stuffed with goodies (please review our **Enrichment Toys** handout).
3. Take your dog to the tie down area and say "on your bed." Place your dog on tie down and hand him the extra special chew toy.
4. Put your dog on the tie-down several times daily for 10 to 15 minutes at a time while you are teaching your dog to calmly accept containment.
5. Calmly reward him with praise when he is quiet and relaxed. Ignore any barking.
6. End each session on a quiet note. Release your dog without fanfare and remove the chew toy. Your dog only gets his extra special chew toy when he's on the tie-down.

Common Uses:

- Houstraining
- Barking at the door /doorbell aggression
- Jumping up on people or furniture
- Dog-cat introductions and management
- Adolescent chewing and destructive behavior
- General environment management
- Jumping on the bed
- Separation anxiety
- Management in the car



Safety Concerns:

A tie-down is not a tie out. A tie out is a long cable used to tie out dogs in a yard so they don't run away. A dog can hang himself on an ill-designed tie out. Tie outs can often make a dog aggressive, since the dog cannot run away from any perceived threat. We don't recommend use of a tie out and many tie outs are illegal in California.

- Use the tie-down only with dogs wearing regular or martingale collars.
- Do not use a tie-down with Gentle Leader, Halti, choke chain, pinch or other restricting collars.
- If the tie-down is secured by furniture, ensure that the furniture is immovable.
- Tie-downs should be relatively short. Although commercially available, longer lengths can be dangerous.
- The tie-down area should be clear of furniture on which your dog can jump.

Training Resources:

Marin Humane's **Behavior & Training Consultants** are available for consultations (on-site or in-home) regarding the behavior modification uses of the Tie Down at 415.506.6280 or OhBeHAVE@MarinHumane.org.

Tie Downs are available for purchase at the Marin Humane **Animal Outfitters Store**. Stop by our store or visit us online at: [Animal Outfitters](#). Please call 415.506.6229 to verify available stock.

Remember to license your dog (It's the LAW)! If your dog gets lost, a license tag on your dog's collar is the fastest way to reunite you and your dog. Even if your dog is microchipped, a license tag is immediately visible and doesn't require a scanning device to read. For more information about licensing, microchipping, and other services provided by **Marin Humane**, visit us at MarinHumane.org or stop by at 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd, Novato, CA.

