



Choosing the Right Leash: Safety First

Tips from H.O.P.E. Animal Rescue

*It's important to choose the right leash for every occasion. A **classic 6-foot leash** is a reliable option—it provides enough freedom for your dog to sniff while keeping them close and under control.*

Retractable Leashes: Think Twice

Retractable leashes may seem convenient, but they can pose serious risks to both dogs and their owners.

Dangers for Pets

- Thin cords can cause entanglement, leading to nose, leg, or paw injuries.
- Difficult to reel in quickly if your dog darts into traffic or toward bicyclists.
- Often break under the strain of larger or stronger dogs.

Dangers for Owners

- Rope burns if the cord wraps around your hands, arms, or legs.
- Cuts and lacerations from sudden tension.
- Risk of accidents if the leash tangles around another person, pet, or object.

Safer Alternatives

Long Line Leashes

Provide freedom and safety when used correctly (often with two hands). They allow exploration while keeping better control.

- **Biothane:** Durable, waterproof, easy to clean.
- **Nylon:** Lightweight and affordable.
- **Rope:** Strong and comfortable in-hand.

Tip: Always choose a leash that fits your dog's size, strength, and activity level. The right leash keeps both you and your pet safe.