



# 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.*

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## 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.
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## 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.*