

Cart Acclimation and Use

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW OR RENTED CART!

Instructions for setting up your new cart.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9XbE_DdbSQ

For instructions on how to load your pet into a rear wheel cart please watch the following video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2zre1x6wP0>

For instructions on how to load your pet into a quad cart/4-wheel cart please watch the following video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aCZZvmpNKI>

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Allow your pet to use the Cart for 10-15 minutes at a time with 2 hours break between sessions for the first 2 days. All cart sessions should be fun and rewarding! Find ways to motivate your pet to take steps in their cart. Sometimes it is helpful to stand a few feet in front of your pet while they are in the cart and call them to you. Treats may help, but usually a high pitched, excited praise works best. You might also try going outside if your pet seems distracted indoors with the cart. It is better to have short, good experiences than push your pet to stay in the cart too long, which often leads them to not want to be in the cart. Again, each session should be fun and rewarding once your pet starts to take some steps.

After each cart session, massage the arm pits, hind limbs and belly to stimulate blood flow back into these tissues after being compressed by body weight in the harness. Monitor for pressure sores where the straps and harness components cover his skin. If no pressure sores develop after 2 days, you can begin to gradually increase the time in the cart by 15 minutes each session every 2-3 days, with a max time in the cart of 30-45min each session. Continually monitor for pressure sores. If any are noticed, reduce time in the cart in a single session.

General Walkin'Wheel Cart video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eK1uTTOInF0>

Recheck

We always recommend a complimentary cart fitting recheck after 1-4 weeks of cart use. The harnesses begin to get softer and stretch a bit which can alter the fit. We're happy to take a look again to fine tune the fit.

We are open Sundays through Thursdays. Please call the VSC Rehabilitation & Integrative Care department and make additional appointments at **847.459.7535 ext: *2997 (you must dial the “**”)**