

## Installing a Trolley System

Please consider building a fence or bringing your dog inside instead of putting your dog on a dog run. Dogs want to be able to run free. Would you want to be attached to a chain for your whole life? Neither does your dog! A trolley/dog run is still a chain. Dogs can and do hang themselves on trolleys, just as happens with fixed chains.

A one-time investment in a fence will improve your property value *and* improve your dog's life immeasurably. Learn more about fence building, and read a story about how we fixed a fence to unchain two dogs. If your dog is a fence jumper, there are alternatives other than a trolley or chain.

However a trolley/dog run is better than a fixed chain, because it does give a dog more freedom of movement. Installing a trolley system is easy. A trolley system is like a clothesline that the dog is attached to by a leash. The leash is attached to the line by a rolling trolley. The dog can run back and forth the length of the line.

You can buy dog runs from Petsmart, Walmart and other pet and discount stores. They include easy instructions. You can also buy the individual parts to a trolley (line, trolley, hooks for the posts/trees) at home improvement stores such as Home Depot or Lowe's. Ask a worker to show you what you need to put up a dog trolley.

We have found that the brand of trolley that works best is the Skyline Aerial Dog Run. This trolley's attachments are made of metal rather than plastic, so they are stronger and less likely to break.



You can attach a stronger downline (leash) to the trolley for strong dogs. You can replace the downline in the package with the Beast Tie-Out.

The trolley kit should include **stoppers** that you can put anywhere on the line to stop the trolley. For instance, if you want the dog to stop four feet from one end of the line, you can put a stopper at four feet from the end of the line. The trolley won't be able to get past the stopper.



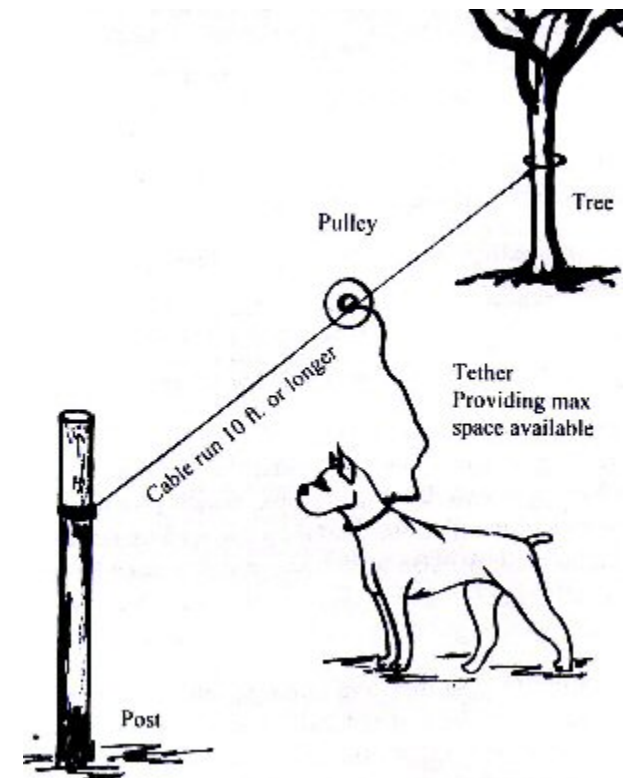
You can buy extra stoppers at home improvement stores. Ask for **rope clamps**. Be sure and pick the size that will work best for the size of your line. If the clamp is too big, it will slide around on the line.

## The Easiest Method

The easiest way to attach a trolley is to run it between two trees. It will only take you a few minutes to run the trolley between the trees. If you don't have two trees, you can easily sink posts into the ground and run the trolley between the posts. Or you can use a tree and one post.

### Important!

**Make sure to put the trolley system in a place where the dog won't get entangled in objects or be able to jump a fence. If there is a fence in place, and the dog jumps over on his leash, he could be hung.**



## Real Cases: Lady and Maggie

Here's how Lady's and Maggie's lives were improved by installing a trolley.



**Lady, before:** Lady was chained to this clothesline post. Her yard is not fenced and the owner isn't planning to install one.



**Lady, after:** We ran the trolley between the two clothesline posts that were already in place. Now, Lady has about 10 times more area to run around in. She loves running on her trolley (though she would love a fenced yard a lot more!)



**Maggie, before:** Maggie was chained next to her doghouse for six years. Her chain was about six feet long. Maggie's guardian doesn't want her to have access to the entire yard.



**Maggie after:** We ran her trolley between a tree and a post we installed. Because Maggie can jump the fence, we had to keep her from getting too close to the fence. Otherwise, she could jump over and hang herself. We put a stopper (rope clamp) on the line a few feet from the fence. The stopper keeps Maggie from getting too close to the fence. Now, Maggie has much more room, and RUNS back and forth on her line. She seems to enjoy having her choice of spots to curl up and sleep now.



# Unlawful Chaining

**Sec. 72.10. Humane treatment for companion animals.**

(a) An owner shall treat a companion animal in a humane manner and shall provide humane care for an animal. Humane care includes but is not limited to providing adequate food, adequate water, adequate shelter, adequate space, and veterinary care to maintain health and to prevent or cure diseases.

(c) Except as provided herein and in section 72.34(b) no person shall restrain a dog by means of tethering, fastening, chaining, or tying the dog to a stationary object for more than 3 hours in a 24 hour period. If a dog is tethered the owner shall use a tether that weights less than 1/8 the total weight of the dog and that is at least three times the body length of the dog from nose to the end of the body excluding the tail. A dog may be attached to a running line, pulley, or trolley system provided a choke or pinch collar is not used.

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