



Measuring your Dog for a Weight-Pull Harness

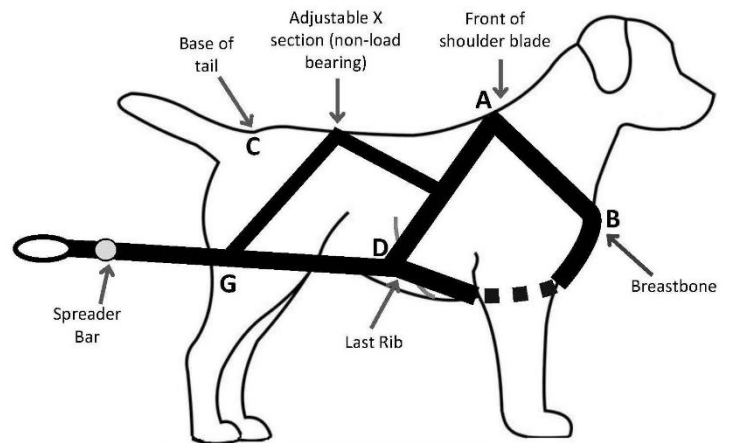
When measuring a dog for any type of harness, the tape measure must be held tight against the dog's skin - this is where the harness sits when the dog is pulling. Measuring a dog for a weight-pull harness is more difficult than for a racing harness as some of the points being measured are not well defined. Take the measurements a few times until you are getting consistent results.

The weight-pull harness is designed so that, when leaning into the harness, the weight of the load being pulled is transferred through to the neck and chest area of the dog. The A-D and B-E sections are therefore load-bearing and will be tight when the dog is pulling.

The adjustable F-G section over the topline at the loin is non-load bearing and should be adjusted so that it remains fairly loose and does not place pressure on the back when the dog is pulling. This section is incorporated in the harness to assist with keeping the harness sitting straight on the dog and to assist with handling the dog. Your dog must be in the standing position when he/she is measured, and the dog must be standing straight - you'll get some pretty strange measurements from a dog who has twisted around to see what you are doing!

Neck fit is critical - take neck measurements on both sides of the dog until they are equal (if they are not equal your dog was not looking straight ahead).

Do not swap harnesses between dogs unless they are exactly the same size and shape. Each dog has different measurements and what is comfortable for one dog may rub or even contribute to injury in another.



What to Measure: You will need to take several measurements:

Measurement	Description	Details
1. A-B	Base of neck (centre front of shoulder blades) to breastbone.	From centre front of the dog's shoulder blades at the base of the neck (A) to the point just above the breastbone (B). Measure one side only, do not measure all the way around.
2. B-G	Breastbone to Hindleg	From the point just above the breastbone (B), between the front legs to back of hind leg (G). <i>Note: this measurement follows the line of the harness (see dotted lines) - do NOT measure in a direct line between the 2 points.</i>
3. A-C	Base of neck (centre front of shoulder blades) to base of tail	From the front of the dog's shoulder blades (A) to the base of the dog's tail. To find the base of the tail hold your dogs tail up vertically. This gives us an idea of the shape of your dog.
4. A-D	Base of neck (centre front of shoulder blade) to last rib (at intercept of B-G line)	From the front of the dog's shoulder blades (A) to the point on the breastbone-to hind leg line (B - G) in line with the last rib (D)
5. B-D	Breastbone to last rib (along B-G line)	From the top of the breastbone (B), between the front legs and along the B-G line to the point in line with the last rib (D). <i>Note: this measurement follows the line of the harness (see dotted lines) - do NOT measure in a direct line between the 2 points.</i>
6. G-G	Width across hindlegs	Width for the spreader bar from point G on the left of the dog to point G on the right of the dog. Allow a bit extra so the spreader bar is slightly wider than the rear of your dog to accommodate the normal spread of the dog's hindlegs during pulling.
7.	G to Spreader bar (allow for full hind-leg extension)	We generally allow 12-20 cm (5-8 inches) depending on the size of the harness, however we can make the harness with extra length if required.

Remember:

- Hold the tape measure as tight against the skin as possible
- Measure in a direct line between the 2 points unless otherwise specified
- MEASURE YOUR DOG'S STRUCTURE - DO NOT MEASURE FUR!
- The fit of the harness is only as good as the measurements you provide.

Sample Weight Pull Harness Measurements As a rough guide, some fairly average measurements are as follows:

Measurement		Alaskan Malamute		Siberian Husky		American Bulldog		Am Staff	
		inches	cm	inches	cm	inches	cm	inches	cm
1	A-B:	11 - 13	28 - 33	9 - 11	23 - 28	11 - 14	28 - 36	10 - 12	25 - 33
2	B-G:	25 - 30	63 - 76	23 - 28	58 - 71	24 - 29	61 - 74	20 - 26	51 - 66
3	A-C:	22 - 26	56 - 66	18 - 24	46 - 61	20 - 26	51 - 66	18 - 24	46 - 61
4	A-D:	15 - 18	38 - 46	13 - 18	33 - 46	14 - 19	36 - 48	13 - 16	33 - 41
5	B-D:	16 - 21	41 - 53	15 - 21	38 - 53	16 - 22	41 - 56	14 - 17	36 - 43
6	G-G:	11 - 13	28 - 33	9 - 11	23 - 28	11 - 13	28 - 33	10 - 13	25 - 33

Remember: THIS IS A ROUGH GUIDE ONLY. If your dog is larger or smaller than the average adult Malamute, Husky, Am Staff or American Bulldog, or if your dog is a different breed, your measurements may be outside the ranges indicated above.

If your measurements are considerably different from these, please measure again.