## Introducing the Walkin' Blind Dog Halo to Your Pet

It's normal for pets who are blind to become overly sensitive and reactive to touch or sounds once they've lost their sight. Blind animals' sense of smell and sound is heightened as their bodies try to make up for their loss of sight. When introducing anything new to your blind pet, it's always best to go slow and be patient.



- 1. Introduce the harness by itself before placing it directly on your pet. Your pet needs to smell and get used to the harness and the sounds that it makes when securing it before putting it on. Reward your pet with a treat; the association of a new smell with a reward works well.
- 2. Work on sound association of the buckles on the harness; sometimes sounds can really scare a blind pet since they can't see where it's coming from or what it is. Begin by sitting in front of your pet with the harness. Allow a couple of feet in between you to start. Buckle one of the harness buckles and immediately reward your pet with a treat; this associates the sound of the buckle with a positive response (not fear). As your pet becomes comfortable, you may move closer and try it. The goal is to be able to buckle the harness while you're holding it directly next to your pet and over the pet's back. It is very important to take your time with this step. For some pets, this may take days or even longer.
- 3. Practice placing the harness on and reward immediately. Remove and repeat. Remember, always let your pet smell the harness and Halo first and use slow movements when putting it on. The first few times you begin to practice this, keep it short and positive!
- 4. Begin by placing the harness and Halo on your pet. At this point, your pet should be showing no signs of fear when wearing the harness and Halo. Now you will begin to encourage walking. Remember, the Halo is designed to protect your pet from running into things. It will slightly change the way your pet has to balance when walking and standing. Use a treat or command to encourage your pet to take a few steps. Reward with a treat. Repeat. Your pet may hesitate to move at first. This is normal. Encouragement and rewards are the best way to let your pet know it's alright to walk with the Halo on. This step will take time and patience. Never rush anything or force a pet who does not want to walk, to begin walking. Once your pet has figured out how to walk with the Halo and is moving around freely, you're all set! Remember, the key to introducing anything new to a blind pet is positivity and patience. They depend on us more without the use of their sight. Take the time to introduce the Halo slowly, and you'll have better results.



THE PROVEN LEADER IN PET MOBILITY

## WALKIN'® BLIND DOG HALO Instructions



Watch instructional video online: hpets.net/blindhalo WALKINPETS.COM

(888) 253-0777 www.WalkinPets.com



## Attached to **WALKIN' LIFT COMBO HARNESS** (dogs **over** 30 lbs.)

1. Unbend the Halo to form a horseshoe shape



2. Locate three side pockets



3. Insert Halo end through Pocket 1



4. Continue to slide Halo through Pocket 2



**5.** Remove webbing from elastic, and slide Halo through Pocket 3



6. Take plastic Halo Clip (side labeled Front should face outward and point towards dog's head) and snap into place to secure the Halo.



7. Repeat steps 2 – 6 on other side



8. Adjust harness to fit snugly on dog. A 90° bend may be added to the Halo if needed.



## Attached to **WALKIN' SMALL FRONT VEST** (dogs **under** 30 lbs.)

1. Unbend the Halo to form a horseshoe shape.



2. Adjust the harness/vest to fit snugly on the dog.



3. Take the Halo side that is not attached and (after removing screws) slide the clip into the harness/vest.



**4.** Put the screws back in on each side of harness/vest clip.



Halo should still have a 90° bend



For Both Attachments: Halo should be in front of the dog, extending beyond dog's nose.



Adjust Halo so that it is parallel to the ground when on dog.



(888) 253-0777 www.WalkinPets.com messages@WalkinPets.com 105 Route 101A, Suite 18 Amherst, NH 03031