



RETRACTABLE LEASHES: MORE DANGEROUS THAN YOU THINK!

There's no shortage of options when you go shopping for pet accessories—that's part of the fun! However, there is one item that you should steer clear of in any color: retractable leashes. Also called flex leashes, this style of dog leash may seem like a good idea, but not only are they dangerous to you, your pet, and others around you, they might violate leash laws.

HERE'S WHY RETRACTABLE LEASHES ARE PAW-SITIVELY NOT RECOMMENDED!

- **Too much freedom for them, not enough control for you.** The long length of a retractable leash means that not only can your dog roam almost as much as if they were off leash, but that it's also much harder (or even impossible) to quickly get control of your dog should the need arise.
- **The list of potential injuries? As long as the leash itself.** Retractable leashes pose serious risks of rope burn, falls, broken bones, and lacerations should the pet owner (or others around them) become tangled in the lengthy cord.
- **You'll put your eye out!** Turns out mom was right to be concerned. The metal clips on the ends of retractable leashes have been responsible for numerous eye injuries by unexpectedly breaking and snapping back at the person holding the leash.
- **It's dangerous for your dog, too.** Not only is your dog also at risk of rope burns or tripping, allowing them to run out the long length of the leash only to get stopped short when they hit the end of the line can lead to neck and shoulder injuries.
- **It's too long to be legal.** The leash laws of most US states not only stipulate that your dog must be on a leash, but that the leash be less than six feet in length.

When all is said and done, the most important thing about a leash is that it be safe—for you and your pet! And while retractable leashes may be in the doghouse, there's tons of other choices that are fun, functional, and not likely to create more problems than they solve.

Got questions about the best leash for your pet? Just give us a call at (425) 788-2620—we're happy to help you reign in your options!