USING A DRAG LINE

Drag Line, Drop Line, Drag Leash, by any name, it puts you in control. If there is a new dog in your household, whether foster, pet sit, adopted, or visiting family, having the dog drag a leash can be a good idea.

It can keep them from bolting out the front door when someone opens it, unaware that the dog is loose. It gives you a handle to grab if the puppy decides to wander into the next room to potty in private. It makes it easy to step on to stop them from jumping up on people, furniture, or kitchen counters.

It gives you a handle that is easier and safer to grab than trying to grab the dog by the collar, which can initially freak some dogs out (thinking of fostered and newly adopted dogs).

It can also be a nice tool the first time or two that any company visits. Someone can have a hold of the dog until folks are settled and ready to meet the dog and apply all the necessary scratches and belly rubs.

The drag line should be lightweight. The tiny noose leash from your vet's office with a carabiner attached (not looped as a noose around the dog's neck) is a good size. It doesn't need to be six feet long. You don't want it to be so long or so heavy that it gets tangled in everything around the house. When wearing it, they should be under supervision, inside or outside.

As the dog's manners improve, the drag leash can fade away, but it is always an option!