

Long, Short or Retractable...

-Leash Length Matters!

You are walking your dog, holding a cup of coffee, your phone rings and your dog suddenly decides to chase after a bird. It is moments like this when the type of leash that you use really comes into play. The right leash could save the situation.

Short Leashes (usually 4-6 feet):

~~**Pros:** Short leashes are usually used for closer control and are good for keeping your dog by your side in crowded areas. These leashes are usually used for training purposes. They make everyday walks easier.
~~**Cons:** These leashes give your dog limited freedom. A feeling of being confined can cause a dog to pull, turning walks into a tug-of-war.

Long Leashes (usually 10-30 feet):

~~**Pros:** Long leashes give dogs more space to roam and explore. They are ideal for open areas like fields, beaches or hiking trails. The added freedom can make walks more enjoyable, especially if you have a high energy dog.
~~**Cons:** Longer leashes are more material to handle, it is easier to get them tangled under your or your dogs feet. It will also be more difficult to control your dog in crowded situations and if there is a distraction could produce a risky situation. A long leash also requires practice and training.

Retractable Leashes:

~~**Pros:** Adjustable leashes offer a versatile option that give your dog more freedom while also allowing you to rein them in when needed. These leashes allow switching between short and long leashes to adjust for the different situations you may encounter on a walk.
~~**Cons:** These leashes require you to pay full attention to your dog at all times. If these leashes are not handled carefully, they can extend or contract at times that could put you and your dog in a risky situation. The cord on the leash can also cause burns or get tangled.

Recap:

The best leash for your dog depends on their personality, where you walk and what you do. Shorter leashes are good for control in busy areas, while longer leashes give more freedom. Whichever leash you choose will make walks more enjoyable for both you and your dog.