# CAR TRAVEL SAFETY for dogs

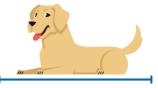
**MEASURING FOR A DOG CRATE:** 

We recommend that your dog/s are securely fastened via a **harness** in the **back seat** of your car (preferably passenger side) or placed securely in a **crate** in the **boot** of your car



Dog's sitting height







Dog's length

Then add 5 – 10cm to ensure their crate allows them enough room to travel comfortably

A dog guard on the boot is <u>not enough</u>; your dog should **also be secured** with a harness or pet carrier to provide optimum comfort and safety

# THIS WILL PREVENT A FEW POSSIBLE DANGERS:



Your dog being knocked around if any sharp bends or sudden stops

Your dog being **thrown from the car** if an accident occurs

In the event of an accident, confused or afraid **dogs may run** into traffic, other dogs or wildlife if they're **not properly restrained** 



### **RULE 57 OF THE HIGHWAY CODE**

'When in a vehicle make sure dogs or other animals are suitably restrained so they cannot distract you while you are driving or injure you, or themselves, if you stop quickly. A seat belt harness, pet carrier, dog cage or dog guard are ways of restraining animals in cars.'

# FOLLOWING THIS RULE PREVENTS A FEW POSSIBLE DANGERS:

Your dog
distracting you
whilst driving
and causing an
accident



Your dog seriously injuring themselves, or you, in the invent of an accident or a sudden stop



Possibility of your insurance becoming invalid due to your dog not being suitably restrained



We **do not advise** allowing your **dog to travel in the front seat** of a vehicle, even if restrained, because of the **potential distraction** this can cause you when driving, however, if you are going to do this please **ensure the passenger air bag is deactivated** 



Turn on child locks for the rear seats' windows and door handles



Neck collars with a lead are not advised, as sudden stop can cause irreversible harm, and even death



In the unlikely event your dog becomes free of their harness, it will **protect them from accidentally opening doors or activating electric windows** that may put them in danger



Harnesses spread the support across the entire upper torso, limiting the likelihood of injury



www.nawt.org.uk/advice

# Add

# TOP TRAVEL TIPS FOR DOGS

# **NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG IN A HOT CAR**

At 22 degrees outside, a car can heat to an unbearable 47 degrees within an hour leaving a dog unable to reduce their body temperature by panting

# HEATSTROKE CAN BE FATAL





# AVOID LEAVING YOUR DOG ALONE IN A CAR WHATEVER THE TEMPERATURE

Reports of **dog theft** have soared in 2020, so leaving your dog alone in a vehicle could make you a target of this heartbreaking crime

### **VEHICLE ACCLIMATISATION**



We recommend training your dog to get used to vehicles from the **earliest possible age** with vehicle acclimatisation and **short journeys initially** 

Some dogs are unable to, or are uncomfortable with, jumping into a car. In those situations a **dog ramp** can help your beloved pet climb safely and comfortably into your vehicle



# PREPARING THE CAR FOR YOUR DOG



Window shades (like the kind bought for babies) can be used to protect your dog from excessive sunshine and heat Back seat protection or a double-sided boot mat can save your car from both damage and dirt

Ensure the area in which your dog will be travelling is set to a comfortable temperature

## **BEFORE TRAVELING**

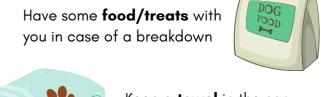


Where possible **exercise** the dog **before** travel to tire them out



Take a **favourite toy or bedding** to help the dog feel relaxed





Check your emergency breakdown cover to

find out how your dog would travel in the event



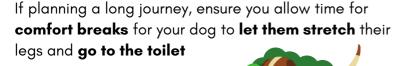
Avoid feeding your dog within the two hours before a long journey to avoid travel sickness



of a vehicle recovery

Keep a **towel** in the car for wiping **muddy paws** 

# WHILST TRAVELING





Either provide your dog access to water throughout the journey with a non-spill water bowl, or ensure you have enough water to offer them at every comfort break

