

# K9 HipLign™



The K9 HipLign™ is the first wearable therapy for canine hip dysplasia.

This therapeutic garment is designed to promote improved posture and dynamic stability around the hip joints, which can lead to decreased pain and better mobility.



## HOW TO PUT THE GARMENT ON YOUR DOG

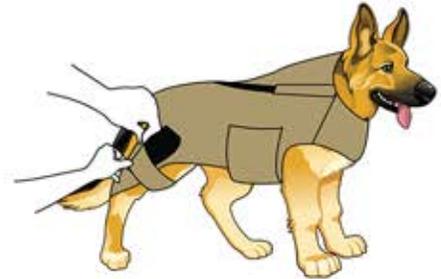
**Step 1:** Slip the garment over your dog's head through the neck hole.



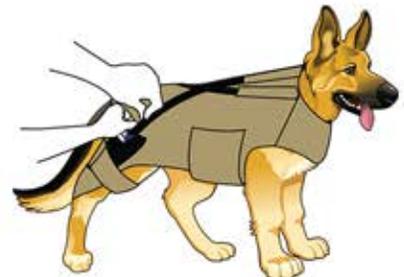
**Step 2:** Secure the side flaps around your dog's midsection by attaching the yellow velcro flaps to the velcro receptive patches, marked with yellow flags, on the garment. The fit should be snug, but not so tight that it will restrict the dog's breathing.



**Step 3:** Wrap the pant leg, one at a time, around the dog's hind leg (from the outside, around the back of the leg to the inside and around the front) and secure it with the velcro. Make sure it is a snug fit without being too tight.



**Step 4:** Attach the elastic straps, with the blue tips, originating from the dog's back diagonally to the velcro receptive patches at the hip area (on the opposite side) of the garment, where the blue flags are. Check that it is a nice stretch of the elastic without being too tight.



**Step 5:** Attach the elastic straps, also with the blue velcro tips, originating from the dog's chest diagonally to the velcro receptive patches at the hip area of the garment, where the blue flags are. Check that it is a nice stretch of the elastic without being too tight.

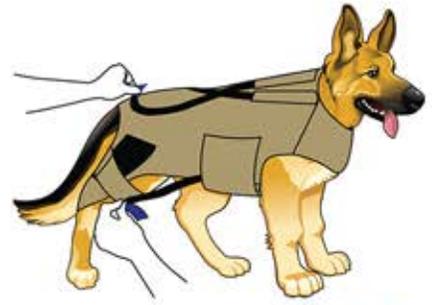


## HOW TO CHECK THAT THE FIT IS CORRECT

- ▶ You should be able to fit your fingertips between the dog's neck and the garment around the neck hole.
- ▶ The leg flaps should be able to reach around the dog's thigh without being excessively tight.
- ▶ There should be little to no wrinkling/bagging in the body of the garment.
- ▶ The back edge of the garment should sit near the base of the dog's tail, and the back part of the garment should sit over the hips.
- ▶ The chest piece that comes up to the rib cage should not be excessively tight.

## HOW TO REMOVE THE GARMENT FROM YOUR DOG

**Step 1:** Peel the elastic straps back from the velcro receptive patches. We recommend folding the velcro back on itself so it will not stick to other straps or the garment material.



**Step 2:** Undo the side flaps as well as the pant legs.



**Step 3:** Slip the garment over the head of the dog.



**Step 4:** Hang the garment on any hanger or on the back of a chair while it is not in use.



## HOW TO CARE FOR THE GARMENT

**Step 1:** Remove any dog hair trapped in the velcro tips or velcro receptive patches on the garment. You can use a fine tooth comb or flea comb to do so. Duct tape also works.

**Step 2:** Hand wash garment in cold water with a mild detergent.

**Step 3:** Gently wring water out of garment and air dry flat or hang dry.

**Do not machine wash, dry clean, machine dry, bleach, or iron. Any such application can destroy or significantly deteriorate the garment.**

Please contact us at 213.927.6663 or [contact@k9align.com](mailto:contact@k9align.com) with any issues before returning this product.

## USAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

When you first try this garment on your dog, observe his or her reaction to the product. Allow the dog to adapt to the garment for a few minutes around the house or in familiar surroundings. Then take your dog out on its usual walk with the garment on, again observing for any signs of resistance (does he/she bite, scratch, or chew on it, or refuse to move with it on?), in small increments of time, building from 5 to 30 minutes per walk or activity.

If your dog is resistant to moving in the garment, bring his/her favorite toy or treat and encourage the dog to take a few steps then reward it with the toy/treats to make wearing the garment a positive experience. Most dogs accept the garment readily, but occasionally it will take a few times of putting it on and having them wear it before they are not distracted by the garment, so be patient. Since there are elastic straps and Velcro parts to our garment, which can get snagged on other objects, we always suggest that you supervise your dog while the garment is on. Once your dog has worn the garment several times and is comfortable with it on, you may choose to leave it on during the day when you are not home, but use proper judgment as some dogs are prone to chewing objects, and be aware of any potential objects in the house/yard that could get caught in the garment.

Once you observe that your dog tolerates the garment during his/her usual walks, we recommend usage as below:

**First 2-4 days:** 30-minutes wear in the morning, then a second 30-minutes wear in the afternoon.

**Days 4-6:** 45-minutes wear in the morning, then a second 45-minutes wear in the afternoon.

**Days 6-10:** 60 minutes wear in the morning, then a second 60-minutes wear in the afternoon.

After day 10, continue to add 20-30 minutes of time to each use, as long as your dog is not showing any negative signs (refusal to move, excess panting, slower movement during walks, wanting to sit down more, or increased scuffing of hind feet during walks). If you see marked improvement in your dog's mobility with consistent use of the garment, it is possible to work up the tolerance level to the point of having the dog wear the garment from morning till bedtime. Remove the garment in the evening once your pet is settled in for the night.

**We do not recommend leaving the garment on 24/7. Please be sure to consult with your veterinarian or physical/rehabilitation therapist if you have any questions about using our garment in conjunction with any rehabilitation program currently provided by your practitioner.**

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## IMPROVEMENTS SEEN FROM CONTINUOUS USE OF OUR GARMENT

- Dog is faster getting up from lying to standing or sitting to standing.
- Dog has easier time climbing stairs/ramps.
- Dog has easier time getting in and out of a vehicle.
- Dog is able to walk farther with less fatigue or panting.
- Dog has more overall endurance and vitality.
- Dog has improvement in hip range of motion.
- Dog may have improvement in high/thigh musculature.

Please note that these results usually take 3-6 weeks of use to achieve.

**If you have followed these directions but see that your dog seems to be struggling more, stumbling/scuffing in hind limbs, having more difficulty on walks, or seems to be in more pain, discontinue use and discuss these symptoms with your veterinarian.**



Supervision is recommended while garment is on your dog.



Consult a veterinarian or canine rehabilitation practitioner to see if this product is suitable for your dog's condition.

Visit [K9Align.com](https://www.k9align.com) to view instructional videos.