

Adjustment Instructions

#### Welcome

You received these adjustment instructions with the purchase of the MAX Harness. Please read them carefully and observe them, especially the warning and safety instructions.

The special feature of this MAX harness system is that it can be individually adjusted to your needs. Your patience, which you invest at the beginning, is the essential things of a good fit. A quick adjustment does not necessarily lead to the desired fit. Please take this time – it is worth it.

*Tip:* If necessary, ask for help, then the adjustment can be made partly directly on the body.

### A first orientation

In this manual you will find a supplement with a sketch of a person with instructions for fitting, a numbered sketch of the harness system and a sketch of the slider. Please refer to this.

At delivery the harness is not adjusted to an exact size, even if it seems to fit.

You have received the harness with the belly belt 6 closed. Take the rhombus 1 in one hand so that the MAX logo can be read horizontally, then all belts hang down. Open the belly belt 6 by unhooking the carabiner 7. The shoulder belts 5 point forward and down, the waist belt 4 sags down and the belly belt 6 hangs down at the side. Now grab the shoulder belts 5 and tighten the harness like your jacket or rucksack. Close the waist belt 4 by hooking the carabiner 7 back into the ring on the left.

Insert your thumbs into the rings on both sides and pull the system slightly forwards and downwards in order to orientate yourself and check whether and where something needs to be adjusted.

The adjustment is correct when under thumb pull

- the waist belt 4 is positioned on the back above the waist and the rings are located laterally at points X and Y on the line H
- ♦ the shoulder belts 5 are adjusted short enough so that the rings 3 are at the height of points X and Y on the line H
- the rhombus 1 is between the shoulder blades
- ♦ the belly belt 6 is slightly tight, in fact above the navel.

# Operating the sliders

The length of the individual belts can be adjusted using the sliders 2. A forced pull is sluggish and unnecessary. Remove the harness or have someone help you.

Slide the loose belt end a little below the top edge and over the middle bar up, then the belt is loosened and the slider can be moved more easily.

**Wrong:** Pull the belt end out from under the top edge of the slider and push the slider on the double belt towards the ring. This way you do not adjust anything and often the slider lands up directly near the ring and leaves no more room for manoeuvre.

Correct: To lengthen a belt, pull out the belt that is loosened above the middle bar a few centimetres below the lower edge. Then pull a little on the ring to make the adjusted belt tighter. Slide the end of the belt back up under the top edge.

Correct: To shorten a belt, pull the belt a little forward out of the ring and push it up under the lower edge of the slider above the middle bar. Then you can push through the loosened belt end under the top edge and tighten it again.

Now proceed according to the instructions. Always work with only a few centimetres of change. The pivotal point for a size-adjusted first adjustment is the intersection of the lines H and R - the points X and Y.

# Adjusting the harness system

#### Waist belt 4

The length of the waist belt 4 is first adjusted by means of the slider 2 so that the rings 3 on the body side are on line H. Test the length by pulling the waist belt 4 slightly forward with your thumbs in the rings. The position on the back, at which height the waist belt sits, changes with the adjustment of the shoulder belts 5.

Shorten or lengthen the waist belt by a few centimetres, depending on where the rings are located after the thumb test.

If the waist belt 4 hangs too loosely below the waist, then only the area under the rhombus 1 is loaded. You may wish to do this in order to deliberately relieve the lower back completely. This is possible, but does not correspond to the concept and is left to you. Otherwise shorten the waist belt 4 by a few centimetres.

#### **Shoulder belts** 5

The length of the shoulder belts 5 is adjusted by means of the sliders 2 so that the rings 3 are located on the lower rib arc and laterally at points X and Y. Test the lengths by pulling the shoulder belts 5 down slightly with your thumbs in the rings.

Shorten or lengthen the shoulder belts 5 by a few centimetres until the lengths are correct.

Does the waist belt hang at the hip? This is wrong, because it does not serve the body's protection function. Shorten the waist belt accordingly.

It is possible to compensate for any irregular body shape (e.g. shoulders of different heights) by varying the length of the shoulder belts.

After adjustment, hook the thumbs into the side rings again and pull the harness a little forward and down, all belts should fit well, the position of the rings should now correspond to the illustrations and under no circumstances be below the points drawn.

#### Rhombus 1

The connection of the shoulder belts 5 through the rhombus 1 on the upper back is changeable in its position and must be adjusted if necessary. After adjustment, the rhombus 1 should be positioned with the tip between the shoulder blades. Pull your shoulders forward, bend your back slightly, look in the mirror and feel the seat of the rhombus 1.

To adjust the position of the rhombus 1, remove the harness, take the rhombus 1 in one hand, and pull the belt length a little out of the rhombus at the top or bottom.

If the rhombus 1 is too low on the back and needs to be pushed higher, pull out some belt at the bottom, if it needs to be pushed away from the neck between the shoulder blades, pull out some belt at the top.

You can determine the even length of the downward hanging belts by holding the rhombus 1 in one hand and taking the rings of the two lower belts between thumb and forefinger and pulling slightly. Are the rings at the same height? If necessary, correct the length of one of the belts again.

#### Belly belt 6

When closed, the belly belt 6 should lie above the navel. Adjust the length with the metal slider 9. To do this, press the loose end of the belly belt 6 up above the middle bar and push it out completely, then the metal slider 9 can be pushed on the double-layered belt. If you want to lengthen, push the metal slider 9 towards the end of the belt, if you want to shorten, pull the metal slider 9 towards the middle of the body. Then close the belly belt 6 again.

An apparently too short belly belt 6 (despite the corresponding size indications) can still be influenced by slightly lengthening the waist belt 4. In this case the lateral rings lie slightly in front of the line H on the body, which does not disturb the function.

# Checking the previous adjustment

Check the settings you have made by doing the thumb test again and looking in the mirror if necessary. It would be an advantage if someone could pull the belly belt strongly forwards down and back and forth a little, or if you could attach your dog and, if possible, encourage it to pull.

Can you feel the load distribution on your back? The pulling weight should be absorbed equally by the shoulder belts and the waist belt.

**Caution:** If, after the first pull test, you feel the pulling load first on your lower back, correct the waist belt by extending it 1 to 3 cm - to protect the lumbar spine.

# Leashing the dog

If you have an appropriate carabiner on your leash or if you ordered the double carabiner (for 1 dog leash), then hook it into the existing D-ring 8.

If you have ordered a swivel carabiner, this is probably already attached. If not, open the belly belt 6 on the metal slider 9 and pull off the carabiner 7 and the metal slider 9, slip the large swivel carabiner (or panic hook) over the belly belt and close it again.

You will find corresponding instructions for use on our website under "Accessories" on the page "Articles and Prices".

**Caution:** Only leash your dog to the belly belt, not to the side rings of the harness, these are not intended for this purpose. If your dog is attached to the side, especially heavy dogs, the entire harness will become twisted.

Now you can make your first excursion with dog. In doing so please check if a fine adjustment is still missing.

## Readjustment

There is no reason to accept unpleasant perceptions, everything can be optimally regulated according to your wishes. Proceed centimetre by centimetre! Remove the harness or have someone help you who can make the adjustment directly on your body.

- Do the rings on the side of the ribs bother you? Then shorten or lengthen the belt lengths by a few centimetres to change their position.
- Do the sliders on the body bother you, e.g. with thinner clothing? You can push them further up or down. To do this, press the double belt up from one side over the bar of the slider - as much as you want to move the slider in one direction or the other - and then pull out the double belt under the other edge of the slider.
- If you have the feeling that the shoulder belts are interfering with the movement of the upper arms, extend the waist belt and shoulder belts by another 1 to 3 cm, then the shoulder belts come to lie a little more on the chest (or next to the breasts).
- If you have the feeling that the shoulder belts are too close to the neck, you can change the exit angle at the rhombus. Grab both belts at the upper rhombus tip and pull them apart. Do the same at the lower rhombus tip. This makes the angle wider at the top and bottom.
- If, on the contrary, the exit angle is too wide (sloping shoulders, very narrow build), turn the blunt rhombus tip at the side upwards and pull the belts apart at both rhombus tips. This makes the exit angle narrower at the top and bottom.
- With very smooth jackets or sloping shoulders, the shoulder belts tend to slip off the shoulders. If changing the angle is not enough, shoulder pads with a non-slip underside from the accessories, which can be put on later, help.

You actually do not really feel the pull in the rhombus area, but still too much on the lower back, despite correctly adjusted shoulder belt length? Then extend the waist belt by a few centimetres.

*Tip:* If there is too much belt left after adjustment (you need at least 15 cm for securing and possibly thicker clothing), push the slider on the double belt towards the shoulder (or on the waist belt towards the other side of the body) as described above. Then no belt hangs down.

**Tip:** To ensure that the belt belts lie perfectly side by side in the ring, the loop of the sewn-on belt belt ends has already been pressed inwards at the factory. With the "open" webbing ends, which are adjusted by the slider, this can only be done after the final adjustment. To do this, please press the "open" loop inwards with thumb and index finger.

*Important:* To secure the adjustment, please pull the ends of the belts under the lower edge of the slider to prevent unintentional shifting during use.

## Ready

If you have problems despite careful adjustment, please describe the problem in a mail: info@max-gurtsystem.de

#### Care

Stainless steel is sensitive to scratches. Please store the MAX Harness carefully. Only wash the harness system by hand with a mild detergent. Make sure that the belts can also dry well in the area of the rhombus. To do this, temporarily pull the belts out to one side so that the area also dries.

## Warning

The belt ends are laser fused at the factory.

If you want to shorten belts, you may have to sew the ends around. It must be ensured that there is enough belt length left to be able to change to thicker clothing. Fusing the edge with the lighter is dangerous. You can burn yourself on the hot material. This procedure is not guaranteed for your health or the harness.

*Important:* Please do not lend MAX. Remember that you may have to make your individual adjustment again. You should consider this carefully because you have taken the trouble to adjust it to your body in order to take advantage of the body-friendly functionality.

## Warnings and Safety Instructions

The device serves to relieve your physical strain, not to relieve you of the dog handler's duty to surveillance the dogs attentively and according to the situation. Especially in dangerous situations the dog leash should be held in the hand additionally. See also the explanation of the panic hook in the accessories. Foresight and responsibility when leading one or more dogs lies solely at the dog handler. The handling of the dog when using the MAX Harness does not differ from other responsible dog handling.

This applies to all the following instructions.

- The device may only be used for its intended purpose. It must be adjusted to the dog handler's body measurements for safe use.
- The device is designed for the leashing of 1 to 2 dogs. Anything beyond this is your private matter and is not covered by the MAX-Harness warranty.
- Jerky and unexpected movements of the dog are transmitted directly to the dog handler and can result in injury or the dog handler falling. This applies particularly to drag and flex lines, as they allow the dog to make a longer and possibly unattended run.
- Depending on the length of the lines and the number and movement of the dogs, there is an increased risk of tripping.
- The accessories include panic hooks for increased safety requirements. These allow the dog handler of heavy dogs to detach himself from the dog particularly quickly in unpredictable, tricky situations. Releasing by operating the panic hook corresponds to releasing the dog leash in an emergency.

**Note:** Check regularly that the harness system is in good condition and correctly fitted, especially if you have changed the settings of the harness system in the meantime for thicker clothing.

No warranty or liability will be accepted for damage caused by improper use, improper and negligent handling, gross negligence, failure to follow the adjustment instructions, repair attempts made by yourself and installation of parts not corresponding to the originals, despite the warnings.

#### Accessories

In the webshop you will find various pads as well as various carabiners and adapters, which you can use according to your wishes and circumstances.

#### Short instruction

This will only be sufficient in very few cases. Please make sure to read the complete manual. It is essential that you read the above warning and safety instructions.

- Grab the harness by the rhombus 1 so that the MAX logo can be read horizontally and open the belly belt 6, all belts hang down. Tighten the harness system like a rucksack.
- The rhombus\* 1 on the back should be in the lower half between the shoulder blades.
- ♦ The sliders 2 are used to adjust the belt lengths.
- ♦ The rings 3 are part of the harness and are used, among other things, to hold the belly belt 6 and not to hold dog leashes.
- Adjust the waist belt\* 4 so that the rings are on the line H (an imaginary lateral trouser seam).
- Adjust the shoulder belts\* 5 so that the rings are on the lower ribs, i.e. on points X and Y on the H line.
- The belly belt\* 6 is used to attach your dog leash by means of a D-ring or an appropriate carabiner.
- ◆ The carabiner 7 is used to close the belly belt.
- ♦ The D-ring 8 is used to attach a carabiner.
- ♦ The metal slider 9 is used to adjust the length of the belly belt.
- Pull the ends of the belts under the lower edge of the slider to secure the adjustment.



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<sup>\*</sup> These parts can be individually adjusted to suit your physique.







