

Dog Ramp Selection Guide

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Pet ramps can be an invaluable tool in assisting a pet into a vehicle, up a short flight of stairs, onto a bed, or any area your pet has difficulty accessing because of weight, age, or illness. Dog ramps also help your pet to maintain his quality of life if suffering from dog arthritis. Veterinarians, K-9 officers, and pet owners alike appreciate the strain it takes off them when handling a pet. But not all pet ramps are created equal.

For maximum value, look for these features:

1. **Easy handling** - Remember, you'll be toting the dog ramp before setting it up. It needs to be lightweight enough for you to work with easily. Also, make sure it has a handle. It may seem like a simple feature, but it ensures single-hand, convenient carrying.
2. **Strength** - Look at the dog ramp's weight capacity. Make sure it's rated for your pet's size.
3. **Safety** - Safety features are an absolute must, for you and your pet. Look for front and rear stabilizer lips or non-skid feet to keep both the dog ramp in place and your pet secure. Look for side railings to stabilize the ramp and prevent falls.
4. **Traction** - When loading a pet into a vehicle in wet or icy conditions, the dog ramp must have adequate surface traction to prevent your pet from slipping. This ensures confidence when your pet uses the ramp. Keep in mind, if he begins to slip he'll be reluctant to cooperate.

5. **Compact Storage** - A telescoping or folding model is ideal. They slide open easily without hardware and fold back just as readily for space-saving storage in the cargo area of your vehicle or in a small closet in your home.

SOME RAMP CHOICES



Bifold Ramp



Deluxe Telescoping
Pet Ramp



Pet Gear Large
Free-Standing Step



Travel Lite Tri-Fold
Pet Ramp