



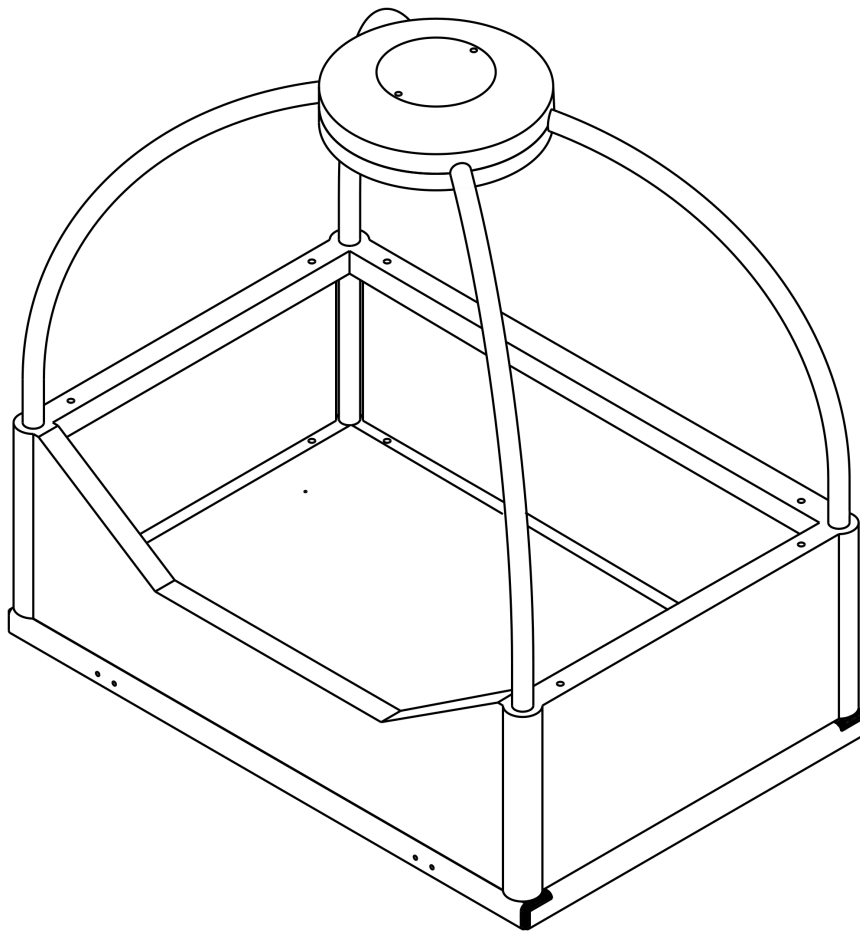
# Pillion Pooch<sup>®</sup>

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## Motorcycle Dog Carrier

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### User Guide



Distributed by:

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# Welcome

Welcome to your new Pillion Pooch. I'm sure you are as excited about receiving this product as we have been in developing and producing it. However, it is most important that you read through this guide for the safety of yourself, any human pillion, your dog(s) and other road users. So please read over the entire document and keep it handy as a reference.

This guide serves as a set of instructions for the use of the Pillion Pooch. For details on the Installation please refer to the separate Installation Manual.



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# Legal

Pillion Pooch is a registered trademark for Pillion Pooch Ltd (UK00003319346).

The Pillion Pooch logo is a registered trademark for Pillion Pooch Ltd (UK00003319350).

## Safety

1. Check, check and check again. If ever in doubt if your dog is attached always stop to check.
2. The Pillion Pooch is to be restricted to 60MPH (100km/hr).
3. Your bike is most vulnerable to sudden movements at slow speed, while new to riding with an uncooperative pillion (your dog) it is essential to maintain a safe distance on either side from other vehicles. It is best to assume that you will need to power out of a potential bike drop every time you come to a stop.
4. Lane splitting or filtering is not recommended while riding with a dog.
5. Never leave your dog unsecured in the Pillion Pooch. Get in the habit of attaching your dog's harness to the chain as soon as the dog is on the motorbike. If you undo the chain from your dog then take your dog off the bike. This is to make sure you never accidentally ride off without a secured dog.
6. Regularly check the mounting hardware, 4 Roll Bar securing Screws and all 10 Apex Screws to ensure they remain tight. This is particularly important if you do a lot of offroad riding because screws can more easily become loose.
7. NEVER intentionally conduct a wheelie while riding with the Pillion Pooch.
8. Adjust the Cover to suit the weather. If it's a hot day then ride with the front door rolled up and the rear ventilation pocket open. If it's very cold, wet or snowing, close the cover to keep our dog out of the cold and wet.
9. NEVER attach your dog using a collar.
10. Enjoy responsibly.

## Pet Protective Equipment (PPE)

It is essential that your dog wears a properly fitted harness designed for use in a vehicle. We highly recommend using a crash tested harness such as the Kurgo Enhanced Strength Tru-Fit Dog Car Harness. Problems to be aware of when selecting a harness:

- Can your dog get out of the harness easily or by reversing?
- Is the harness comfortable?
- Are the clips and connections of the harness strong? Metal is better than plastic.
- Will the harness cause chaffing or sore points?

You should also consider using the following PPE for your dog making sure it is the correct fit for your dog(s):

1. Eye protection
2. Hearing protection
3. Riding Jacket
4. Helmet

# Training

## For your dog(s)

Dogs can develop anxiety towards any unnatural activity. It is therefore essential to introduce your dog(s) slowly and calmly to the Pillion Pooch. For best results follow the progression below and at each stage let your dog(s) enjoy their dinner or a really good treat and don't move on to the next step until they are comfortable.

1. Prior to installation
  - a. Start by using the Base Assembly of the Pillion Pooch as a bed
  - b. Introduce the Roll Bars without the Cover
  - c. Place the Cover over the frame and fasten in place
2. After the Pillion Pooch has been installed on your motorcycle and fully assembled with Roll Bars and Cover
  - a. Have the bike turned off in a steady upright position
  - b. Start the engine
  - c. Go for a short ride no more than a mile
  - d. Go for a Longer ride of about 20 minutes

## For the rider

Have you ever ridden with a pillion who's never ridden before? Someone who fidgets and throws their weight around and thinks that when pulling up to traffic lights is the best time to readjust? Well even they become predictable after a while, a dog can be much less so. Fortunately they have a lot less weight to throw around but it is still something you need to be very conscious of.

Any forward momentum you have will reduce the likelihood of dropping your bike. When pulling up behind another vehicle or to a junction leave space either side and in front, use the space in front to accelerate out of trouble if your dog(s) lurches to the side and destabilises the bike. Practise this manoeuvre as much as possible.

On your first outing, don't set yourself up to fail. The first time you go riding with your dog(s), have your bike ready and facing the right direction, don't have yourself backing out of your garage and down a steep drive while trying to deal with an uncooperative pillion for the first time.

The Pillion Pooch will alter the stability of your bike and will take some getting used to. The centre of gravity will have raised and moved rearwards. So while undergoing heavy acceleration, particularly from a standstill, there is a higher likelihood for the front of the bike to raise.

NEVER intentionally conduct a wheelie while riding with the Pillion Pooch whether legal in your country or not.

# Day to day use

## Setup

The Harness Securing Chain can be adjusted by changing the position of the third Removable Link such that it connects different chain links. A larger dog will require a shorter chain while a smaller dog will be comfortable with a longer chain. It is important to adjust the chain for safety and comfort. In all cases, ensure the length of the chain keeps your dog inside the Pillion Pooch.

## Pre-Flight Checks

- Check that your dog(s) is/are correctly secured by checking the Grivel Rotor Screw Gate is correctly attached with screw gate closed and secured.
- Check the 2 removable chain links are secured.
- Check the 4 screws securing the Swivel Eye Plate are tight and the plate is secured.
- Check the 6 outer screws securing the Apex are tight and secured.
- Check the 4 Roll Bar screws are not loose.
- Check the mounting hardware from the underside by feeling each bolt/u-bolt and ensuring they are not loose.

Note: The removable links have been secured with thread locker at the factory and should not come loose. However, if they do, tighten with a spanner and at the next opportunity, undo the nut and apply thread locking glue to the thread before tightening again.

## Dogs Comfort

In inclement weather, consider riding with the front door zipped closed. If riding with this door open ensure that your dog(s) is/are suitably dressed for the conditions.

For the comfort of your dog(s) and your own piece of mind it is a good idea to walk your dog before going for a ride to allow them to go to the toilet. While riding you should take regular breaks and get your dog(s) down for the purpose of toileting and stretching their legs. It may sound counter productive, but it is also essential that your dog(s) remains well hydrated while riding since the wind has a dehydrating effect and constant exposure without access to water can be dangerous.

Riding can also use a lot of energy. Dogs do a lot of sleeping when they are at home but put them on a motorcycle for an outing and it's highly unlikely they'll curl up for a sleep, they are going to have their head out and looking around enjoying the ride just as much as you. So the extra hours awake and alert means they will need more energy. Keep treats handy or bring along a food bowl with some extra food to keep their energy levels up.

## Cleaning and Maintenance

All parts of the Pillion Pooch (including the Cover) can be washed with soap and water.

It is good practice to regularly check the state of the mounting hardware, especially after the first ride after install/reinstall or after riding on rugged roads. Vibrations have the potential to loosen nuts, bolts and screws. Locking hardware such as spring washers, nyloc nuts and loctite is used throughout to eliminate this effect but it still remains good practice to conduct regular checks.

## Removing the Cover and Roll Bars

1. Turn the Twist Fasteners on the front of the Pillion Pooch 90° in either direction and slide the eyelets off the fastener.
2. Slide the cover rearwards to remove.
3. Loosen the 6 outer Screws and 4 Harness Securing Point Screws on the Apex.
4. Undo the 4 Roll Bar securing Screws on the underside of the Pillion Pooch in each corner.
5. The Roll Bars will now slide up and out.

To replace the Cover and Roll Bars simply reverse the above steps.

Note: You may need some silicone lubricant to help the roll bars slide through the upper opening of the Pillion Pooch Base Assembly. If you are regularly removing the Roll Bars you may consider opening up these holes with a drill.

## Add-ons

Various inserts have been included for future product add-ons or for use with third-party accessories. These inserts are M6 size with a depth of 14mm. The inserts in the Base Assembly can be used to screw bags or netting to the sides or rear of the carrier for storage. The inserts on the top of the Apex will require altering the cover which may lead to water ingress if not done properly. A rubber washer under and metal washer should provide a watertight seal. These inserts can be used to mount action cameras, aerials, a flag or any other similar items which can be secured via an M6 screw.

If you place anything in the Pillion Pooch with your dog make sure it has no sharp edges or points that could harm the dog moving around inside or under impact. And make sure the items are secured so they don't move around inside and upset or even scare your dog.

## Contact

If you have any questions about anything you have read in this guide or about the Pillion Pooch in general please do not hesitate to contact us via our contact form on our website or through our Facebook p