

Car Travel and Vehicle Behaviour

Separate travel comfort, safe restraint and entry or exit skills.

ABOUT CANINE UK

Canine UK starts with audit before assumptions. We look at the individual dog, their health, behaviour, environment and everyday life, alongside the needs and capabilities of their owner. Our approach puts safety, welfare, practical progress and owner understanding first.

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Find the difficult stage. Check health. Build comfort gradually.



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Car Travel and Vehicle Behaviour

Separate travel comfort, safe restraint and entry or exit skills.

Look at each part of the journey rather than treating every travel problem as excitement or disobedience.

Split the journey into stages

Observe approaching, getting in, restraint, the engine, movement, passing sights, arrival and getting out. Record the first change and what helps recovery.

Consider nausea and pain

Drooling, repeated swallowing, lip licking, retching or vomiting can accompany motion sickness. Difficulty entering can also need a health check. Ask the vet rather than training through nausea.

Make restraint and exits safe

Use correctly fitted, appropriate restraint and follow its instructions. Plan controlled entry and exit before opening a door near traffic. Keep the driver focused on driving.

Build comfort one change at a time

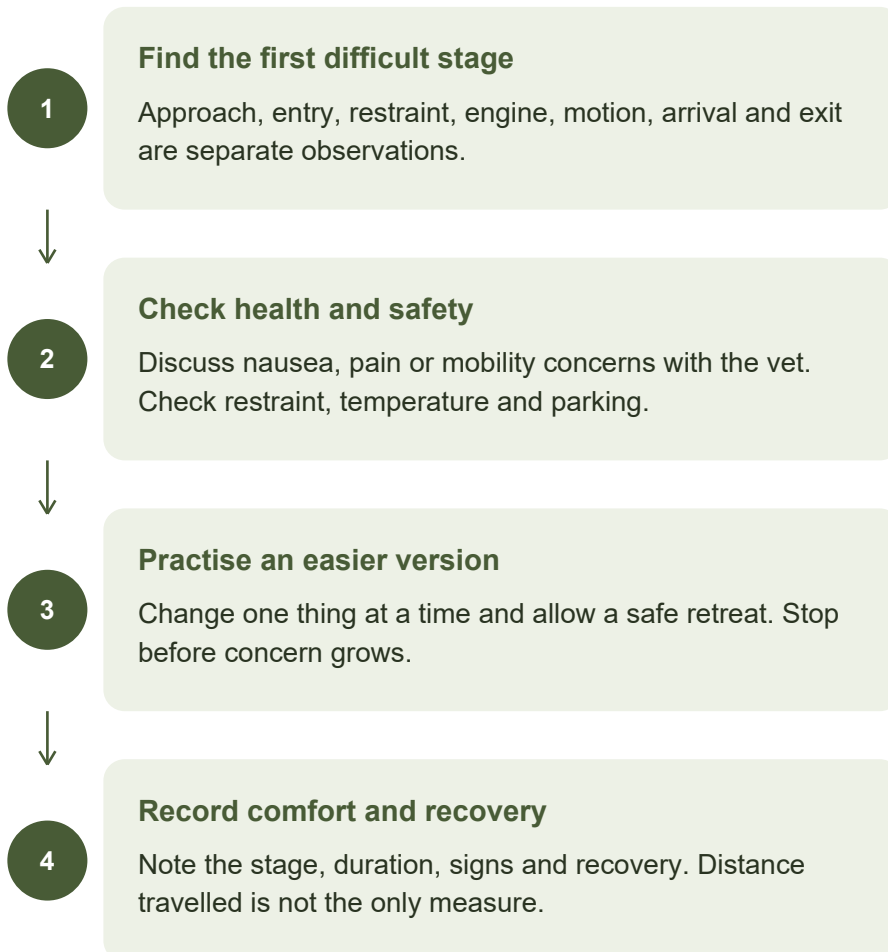
Start at a stage the dog can manage. Practise comfortable entry and resting before adding door closure, engine noise or movement. Do not drag or force the dog inside.

Stop safely and seek advice

If the dog becomes unwell or dangerously distressed, stop somewhere safe and seek veterinary advice. Never release the dog into traffic. Do not improvise medication or leave a dog unattended in a parked car.

A journey is a sequence, not one test

Find the first stage that changes the dog, then make that stage easier.



Comfort and control are different

A dog may stay physically contained while still feeling unwell or distressed. Check both safe travel and the dog's experience.

Protect the exit

Plan containment before any door opens. A reliable wait in one setting does not prove the dog is comfortable travelling.

My travel comfort and safety sheet

Record one journey or practice stage. Do not ask the driver to observe or write while the vehicle is moving.

Dog and date: Which vehicle and route were used?

First difficult stage: Approach, entry, restraint, engine, motion, arrival or exit?

Observed signs: What changed, and when did it begin?

Health check: Any nausea, vomiting, pain or mobility concern to discuss with the vet?

Safety setup: Restraint, fitting, temperature, ventilation and parking plan?

Easier starting step: What can the dog manage comfortably?

Recovery and next step: What helped, and what will change next time?

Need help with your own dog?

This resource is a starting point, not a substitute for an individual assessment.

A Canine UK audit helps us understand your dog, your concerns and your circumstances before recommending an appropriate pathway.

Request an audit

ask@canineuk.com

canineuk.com/contact-us/