Gentle leaders are a very useful tool when trying to teach your pet not to pull on the leash.

When you first purchase a Gentle Leader it is important to teach your pet that it is not a bad thing. Start out showing them what it is and familiarize them with it by letting them look at it and sniff it. Once they show interest in it reward them with a small training treat and continue to do this for a few days before moving to the next step of wearing it.

If you have a pet that tugs excessively when on a walk, you may find it useful to give them a favorite toy or ball to carry when you first put it on them. Allow them to get comfortable with this for a few days before attempting to walk with it. This will redirect their focus to the toy instead of the Gentle Leader and help them relax.

Once your dog is used to wearing the Gentle Leader it is time to start walking them with it. Carry training treats and praise them continually with each positive interaction. Patience is key as it may take time for your pet to get accustomed to it. What makes the Gentle Leader such an effective tool is it gives you full control of the front of your pet’s body, mainly their head, which helps to redirect them when they start to pull.

If you have any concerns or issues with starting training your dog with a gentle leader please seek out help from a Professional Positive Dog Trainer. Find one in your area from one of the links below:

https://www.ccpdt.org/dog-owners/certified-dog-trainer-directory/