

Dachshund Spine-Safety Ramp Guide

Building a ramp is the single most important modification you can make to your home to protect your Dachshund's spine from IVDD-causing impact. Follow this guide to build a sturdy, safe, and cost-effective ramp.

Critical Specifications

- **Total Length:** 150cm
- **Total Width:** 40cm
- **Main Ramp Incline Length:** 100cm
- **Level Landing Length:** 50cm
- **Material Recommendation:** 40x40mm sturdy timber

Build Instructions

1. **Measure & Cut:** Prepare your 40x40mm timber. You will need long side beams reaching 150cm, along with cross-support ribs to span the 40cm width.
2. **Construct the Frame:** Build the ramp frame in two sections: the angled incline (100cm) and the level landing (50cm). Secure these firmly to provide a stable walking surface.
3. **Support Structure:** Add support legs and ground feet to both the incline and the landing to ensure the ramp remains rigid under the weight of your dog.
4. **Surfacing:** Use a heavy-duty staple gun to secure non-slip, ribbed marine carpet across the entire top surface. **Note:** Bare wood is dangerous and will cause your dog to slide.

Safety Pro-Tips

- **Traction is King:** If the ramp feels slippery, add additional grip strips or use a rougher-textured carpet.
- **Test the Rigidity:** Before allowing your dog to use the ramp, ensure there is zero wobble or flexing when pressure is applied.
- **Training:** Use high-value treats to train your Dachshund to use the ramp confidently. Never force them onto it.

Safety First: Always supervise your Dachshund's ramp usage. Visit linktr.ee/thesmartpetuk for more helpful resources.

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