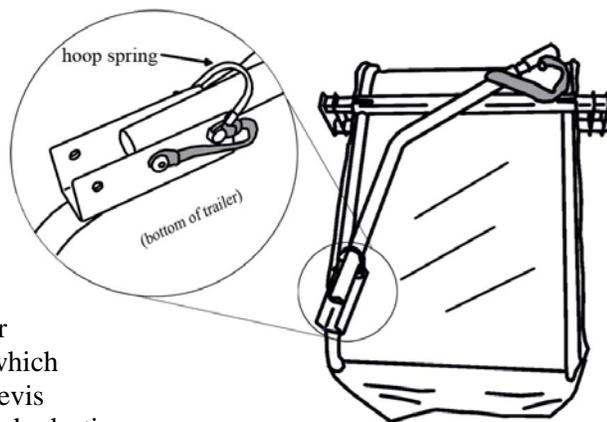


SOLVIT™
PRODUCTS
Houndabout™ Pet Bicycle Trailer
Care & Use Guide

Congratulations on your purchase of the Solvit Houndabout Pet Bicycle Trailer. Allow about thirty minutes for assembly – a Phillips screwdriver and 11mm wrench or adjustable wrench is needed. The trailer can also be converted to a stroller with the addition of the HoundAbout Strolling Kit, sold separately.

Unpack the trailer and check that the following parts are included (see images of parts on last page):

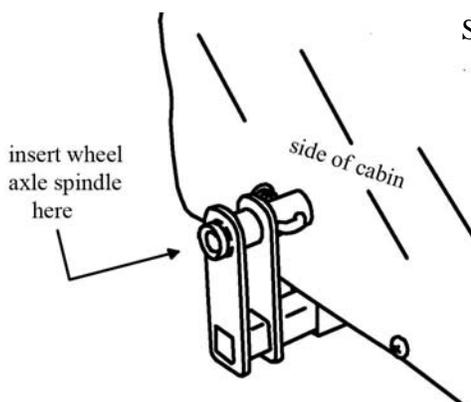
Two wheels with integrated axle spindle – 20” size for Large trailer; 16” size for Medium trailer
 Wheel mounting bracket kit with 2 wheel mounting brackets, bolts, 11mm nuts and hex wrench (in polybag)
 Roof Support rod; two star knobs for support rod (in polybag)
 Bicycle tow bar
 Two red reflectors + Phillips screws for mounting (in polybag)
 Safety Leash (attached to D-ring inside cabin)
 Bicycle hitch (inserted into end of tow arm)
 Cushion
 Axle protectors (2) – for packing only, please discard



Assemble on a clean flat surface:

Step 1: Attach the bicycle tow bar:

After all parts have been removed, position the main cabin of the trailer with the bottom side facing up. Locate the tow bar mounting bracket which is welded to the frame; remove the pre-installed nut and bolt and the clevis pin (which is connected to the bolt with a black cord), but leave the black plastic spacer in place in the bracket. Position the tow arm so the end with two holes fits into the plastic spacer and the hole at the end of the tow arm aligns with the middle hole in the plastic spacer and the metal bracket. Re-install the bolt and nut through these holes taking care to keep the black cord from the clevis pin connected to the bolt. Lock the tow bar into the “stowed” position by inserting the clevis pin through the mounting bracket, plastic spacer, and tow bar and snap the hoop spring in place on the end of the clevis pin. [see image] Turn the cabin over before moving to the next step.



Step 2: Attach the wheel mounting brackets and wheels:

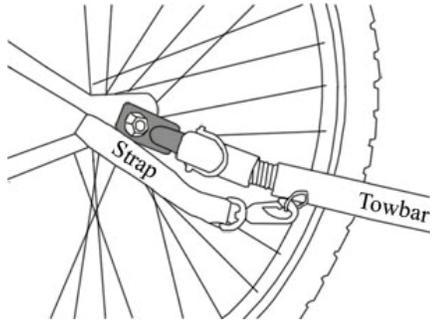
- Insert the square tube section of one wheel mounting bracket into either end of the square tube which runs under the trailer, making sure the bracket extends above the bottom of the cabin. Align the hole in the bracket with the hole in the square tube; insert the bolt & nut and tighten using the hex wrench provided and an adjustable wrench. Repeat with remaining wheel mounting bracket.

Insert the axle spindle of one wheel into the axle tube on the wheel mounting bracket. Press the wheel inward until the spring lock engages and a “click” is heard. The wheels can be removed by pushing the button on the spring lock mechanism while pulling the wheel outward.

Step 3: Erecting the cabin:

The sides of the cabin frame are held in place by means of a roof support rod and two black plastic “star knobs”. With the wheels resting on the ground, rotate one side panel into a vertical orientation. Position the support rod inside the trailer so one star knob can be inserted through the hole in the fabric cover and frame tube on the side of the trailer and into the threads on the end of the support rod. Repeat with the other star knob on the other side of the

trailer, and fully tighten both star knobs. Install the rectangular cushion in the floor of the cabin and attach the safety leash to one of the D-rings in the cabin. Finally, using a Phillips screwdriver, attach the two red reflectors to the lower rear panel of the trailer at the holes provided in the fabric shell.

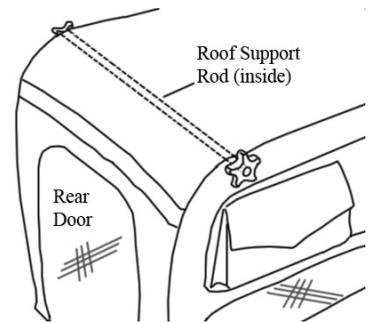


Step 4: Connecting to bicycle:

The tow bar connects to the bicycle via the included quick-connect hitch.

Attach the hitch to the left side of the rear bicycle wheel by removing the axle nut, positioning the hitch on the axle, and re-tightening the axle nut.

If your bicycle has a quick-release wheel, remove the quick-release pin from the axle, insert it through the hitch, then re-assemble through the axle. The hitch should be installed with the male connector piece facing back and angling away from the bicycle.



To move the tow bar from “stowed” position to “tow” position, remove the clevis pin from the mounting bracket, swing the tow bar until it faces forward from the trailer, then reinsert the clevis pin in the forward holes in the mounting bracket. Position the trailer behind the bicycle so that the female connector on the tow arm can slide over the male connector on the hitch. Lock these connectors in place with the clevis pin provided. Loop the black safety strap around the bike frame and attach the snap swivel to the D-ring on the tow bar.

WARNING: Never tow the trailer without the hitch and hitch safety strap correctly connected! Always make sure the rear door is closed fully before towing the trailer.

Step 5: Loading and unloading pets:

Load and unload pets only through the rear door, with the front door closed and the trailer attached to the bicycle. Have someone hold the bicycle firmly in an upright position, or lay the bicycle on its side. With the pet inside the trailer, snap one end of the (included) safety leash to the pet’s collar and the other end to the D-ring located inside the trailer. Adjust the length of this leash so the pet cannot exit through the front window when it is open. Always close the rear door before riding.

Storing the trailer: Put the tow arm into “stowed” position as described above. Unscrew the two star knobs and remove the support rod. Remove the wheels by pushing the buttons on the spring locks. The wheels can be stored inside the cabin if desired. Fold down the two sides of the cabin.

Additional Features:

While loading your dog or accessing the interior of the cabin, the rear door can be kept in the open position by connecting the hook-tape strip on the inside of the door to the loop-tape strips located on the sun roof, above the rear pocket. Always keep this door closed while riding.

The trailer has two front doors: a vinyl windscreen door, and a breathable mesh door. The trailer can be used with one, both or none of these doors open. To ride with the vinyl door open and the mesh door closed, roll up the vinyl door into a tube shape so the loop-tape on the inside of the door connects to the hook-tape on the top of the cabin. To ride with both windows open, roll them up together into a tube shape and connect the hook-and-loop tapes. Make sure the safety leash is adjusted so the pet cannot exit through the front door opening.

The trailer is equipped with a general storage pocket on the left side, a bottle pocket on the right side and a pocket on the upper rear panel for holding sunglasses, cell phone, MP3 player, etc.

Cleaning - The cloth cabin and windscreen can be cleaned with a damp cloth or sponge. The interior cushion is machine washable and can be dried at low heat.

Safety

- The trailer is equipped with reflectors at the rear of the cabin and on each wheel. There are also reflective strips across the top rear and lower front of the cabin. Solvit suggests using a battery-powered light when riding in low light conditions.
- The trailer is intended to carry pets only. No human passengers!
- Always ride with the rear door closed. When riding, your dog should always be secured with the safety leash adjusted to the correct length.
- Do not exceed the recommended weight capacity. Check tire inflation before every ride.
- Carefully check the connection of the trailer to the bike before riding.
- Be aware that riding with the trailer increases your braking distance and may affect your ability to control the bicycle. Thoroughly practice in a safe area before riding with the trailer in high-traffic areas.
- Always wear a helmet when riding

Extra Parts Available: To expand the versatility of the HoundAbout, extra leashes and bicycle hitches are available. Contact Solvit or your retailer for more information.

Parts guide (parts pictured not to scale)



Wheel mounting bracket



Roof support rod



Two star knobs



Two red reflectors



Bicycle tow bar



Bicycle hitch



Safety leash



Axle protector
(please discard)

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