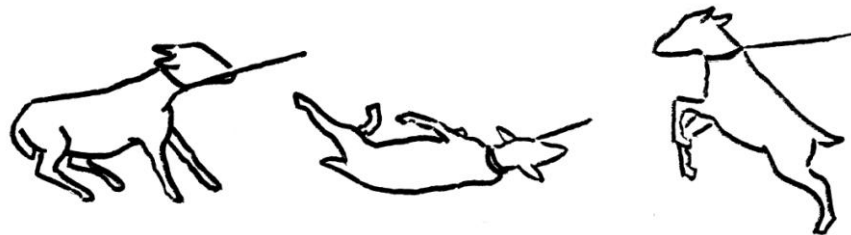


Driving the goat-cart

Teaching the goat to walk on the leash

It is a good thing when your goat has learnt to walk on the leash properly. You can teach her that right from the beginning. Remember to reward her if she does something right. Do not get mad, have patience and keep repeating.

Not like this....



...but like this...



....and this is how you teach her



How do you carry the goat lamb?

One hand under the breast, the other hand under the bottom behind the hind legs.



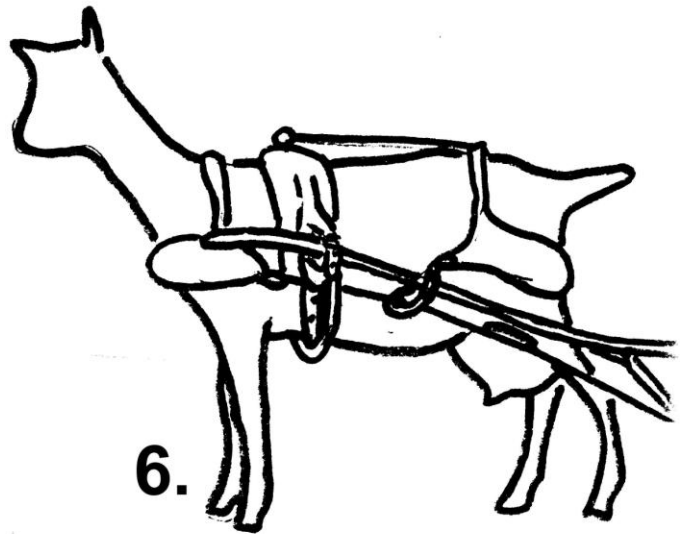
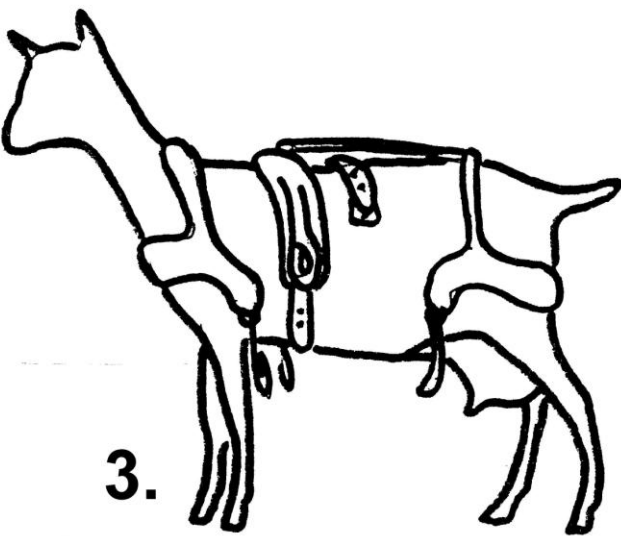
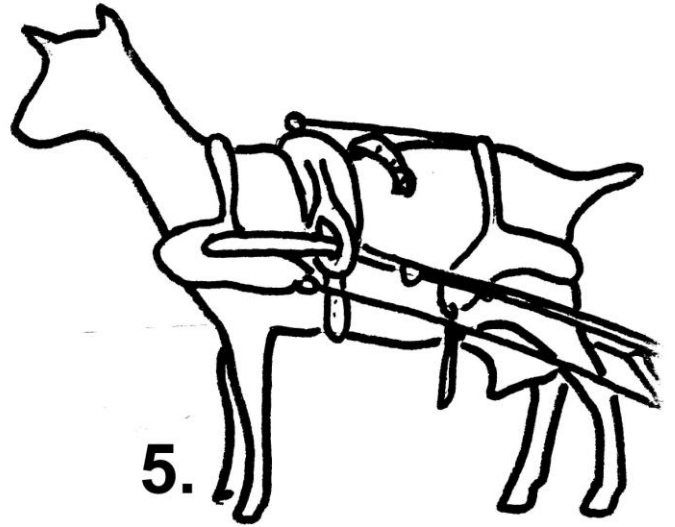
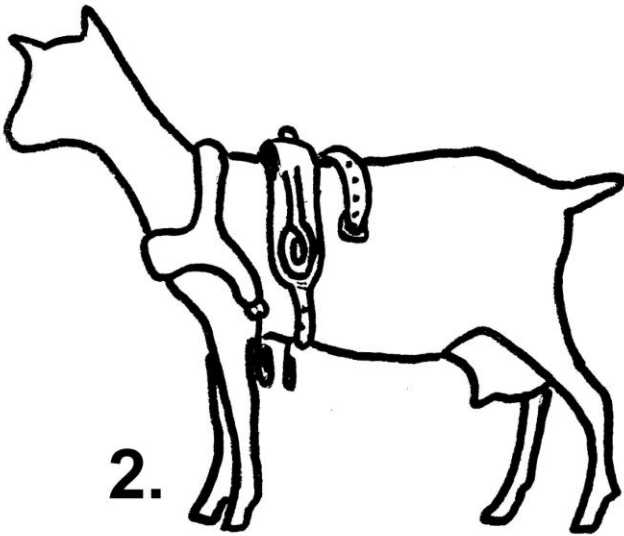
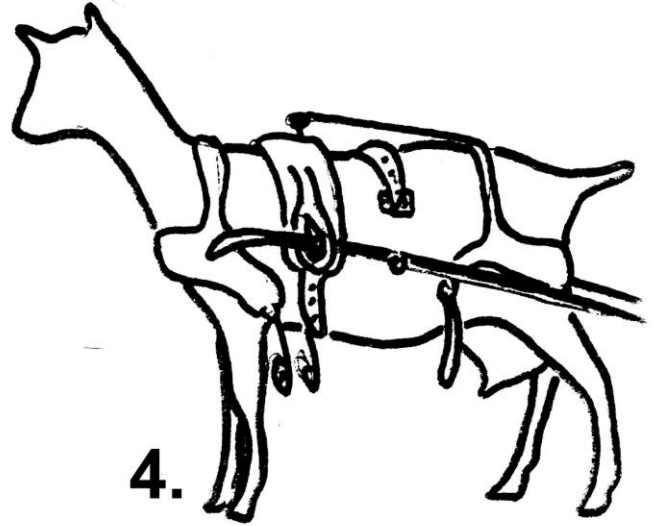
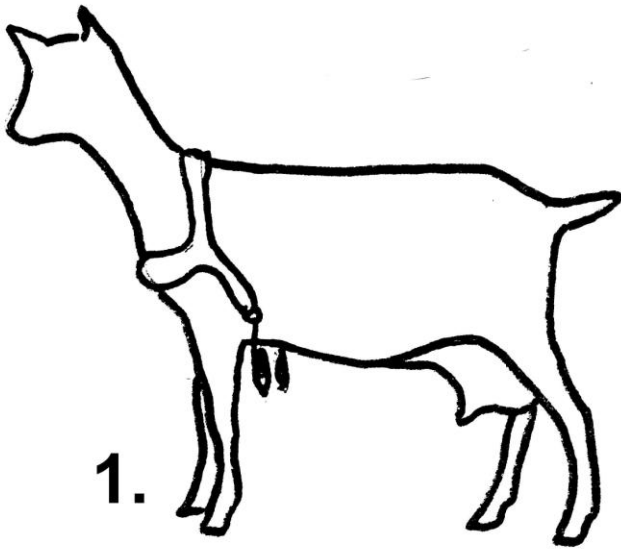
Driving the goat-cart

Throughout the ages, goats have been used to pull carts and carriages for all kinds of purposes.

Today we do this again: for fun.

Harnessing

1. First you fit on the breast plate. With this the goat has to pull the cart. Not too low, because thus it will chafe the fore legs. Not too high because the goat will not be able to pull. Roll up the pulling ropes, so that she will not step on them.
2. Put on the saddle and tighten the girth (one finger should fit in). The saddle is meant to carry the shafts of the cart. The tugs of the saddle have to be at the same level as the breast-plate so that the shafts will eventually be at the same height as well. The belly band is put on the goat's back for the time being.
3. Put on the back breeching. The back breeching functions as a brake. Not too low for there will be a risk of the animal slipping; not too high, because thus she cannot stop the cart. Attach the back breeching to the ring of the saddle.
4. Slide the shafts of the cart into the tugs of the saddle.
5. Attach the pulling ropes to the cart. Make sure that the cart is not too close to the goat and that the shafts will not glide out of the tugs when the goat will pull the cart.
6. Attach the straps of the back breeching to the poles, so that the pulling ropes are included. Otherwise they will slap against the goat. The straps should not be attached too tight, because this would hamper the movements of the goat. Finally you attach the belly band over the shafts to the left tug of the saddle. The belly band will prevent the shafts from going upwards at an abrupt stop. The best way to check is to push the cart backwards gently. If there is a light tension in the pulling ropes and in the breeches, you have done a good job.



Unharnessing

7. Unharnessing takes place exactly the other way round. First you untie the belly band and put it on the back of the animal for the time being. Then untie the back breeches. Put the straps backwards into the buckles so that they will not touch the ground. Put the straps between the shafts and the goat, so that they cannot get caught in the shafts in case the goat would walk away.
8. Untie the pulling ropes and roll them up. Suppose you would first untie the pulling ropes. The goat would, when startled, run out of the shafts and pull the cart by the back breeching, thus demolishing the harness completely. So untie the back breeching first. If the goat would then decide to walk away, she would only pull the cart with her. If you slow down the cart yourself, nothing worse will happen.
9. Slide the shafts out of the tugs of the saddle.
10. Undo the back breeching from the saddle and take it off.
11. Take off the saddle
12. Take off the breast plate.

Give the goat a titbit as a reward.

