pedal tractor pulling sled plans

pedal tractor pulling sled plans are essential for enthusiasts and hobbyists
interested in building their own sleds for pedal tractor pulling
competitions. These plans provide detailed guidelines and specifications that
ensure the sled is both functional and safe to use. Pedal tractor pulling is
a competitive sport where children or adults pedal tractors that pull
weighted sleds, testing strength and endurance. Designing and constructing a
pulling sled requires an understanding of mechanics, materials, and weight
distribution. This article explores various aspects of pedal tractor pulling
sled plans, including the basic design principles, materials needed,
construction steps, and safety considerations. Additionally, it discusses
tips for optimizing sled performance to gain a competitive edge. The
following sections will delve into these topics in detail, providing a
comprehensive resource for anyone interested in building or improving a pedal
tractor pulling sled.

- Understanding Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds
- Essential Components of Pulling Sled Plans
- Materials and Tools Required
- Step-by-Step Construction Guide
- Safety and Maintenance Tips
- Performance Optimization Techniques

Understanding Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds

Pedal tractor pulling sleds are specialized equipment designed to create resistance for pedal-powered tractors during pulling competitions. The sled uses weight transfer mechanisms to increase the drag force as the tractor moves forward, challenging the puller's strength and stamina. Understanding how these sleds work is fundamental to creating effective pedal tractor pulling sled plans. The sled typically includes a weighted box that moves forward along a track or rails, shifting the center of gravity and increasing the downward force on the sled's skid plate.

Basic Principles of Operation

The key principle behind the sled's resistance is the transfer of weight from the sled's rear wheels to the front skid plate. As the pedal tractor pulls

the sled forward, the weighted box slides toward the front, increasing the frictional force against the ground. This progressive resistance makes it increasingly difficult to pull the sled further. The design must balance weight, friction, and smooth movement of the weight box to ensure consistent and fair resistance during competitions.

Types of Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds

There are several common types of sleds used in pedal tractor pulling, each with unique characteristics:

- Weight Transfer Sleds: Use a sliding weight box to progressively increase resistance.
- Friction Sleds: Rely on a fixed weight and friction plate to create drag.
- **Hybrid Sleds:** Combine elements of weight transfer and friction for adjustable resistance.

Essential Components of Pulling Sled Plans

Comprehensive pedal tractor pulling sled plans must detail all critical components and their specifications. This ensures the sled performs reliably and meets competition standards. Key components include the frame, weight box, skid plate, rails, and hitch mechanism. Each part must be designed for durability and optimal functionality.

Frame Structure

The frame forms the sled's foundation and must be sturdy enough to support the weight and forces during operation. Typically constructed from steel or heavy-duty aluminum, the frame includes a base platform and support beams. Proper welding and reinforcement are essential to prevent structural failure.

Weight Box and Sliding Mechanism

The weight box holds the ballast—usually heavy metal plates or sandbags—and slides along rails toward the front skid plate. The sliding mechanism should operate smoothly to ensure gradual resistance increase. Bearings, rollers, or low-friction materials are often used to facilitate sliding.

Skid Plate

The skid plate contacts the ground and generates frictional resistance. It is commonly made from steel or reinforced plastic and must have a flat, durable surface to withstand wear. Some plans include adjustable skid plates to modify resistance levels based on competition rules or surface conditions.

Hitch Assembly

The hitch connects the sled to the pedal tractor. It must allow for easy attachment and detachment while maintaining a secure link during pulling. Adjustable hitch heights and pivot points can improve alignment and pulling efficiency.

Materials and Tools Required

Selecting appropriate materials and tools is vital for building a reliable pedal tractor pulling sled. The materials must provide strength, durability, and resistance to wear. The tools should enable precise cutting, welding, and assembly.

Materials List

- Steel tubing or angle iron for the frame
- Steel or aluminum sheet metal for skid plate and weight box
- Heavy weights such as metal plates or sandbags
- Bearings or rollers for sliding mechanism
- Welding rods or wire for frame assembly
- Bolts, nuts, and washers for securing components
- Paint or protective coating to prevent rust

Required Tools

- Welder (MIG or TIG)
- Angle grinder with cutting and grinding discs

- Drill and drill bits
- Measuring tape and square
- Wrenches and socket set
- Clamps and vices for holding components
- Safety gear including gloves, goggles, and welding helmet

Step-by-Step Construction Guide

Following a systematic construction process ensures the pedal tractor pulling sled is built efficiently and correctly. Detailed sled plans typically provide step-by-step instructions; this section outlines the general procedure.

Frame Fabrication

Begin by cutting steel tubing or angle iron to the required lengths for the sled frame. Assemble the base and vertical supports, ensuring all angles are square. Weld the sections securely, reinforcing joints to withstand stress during pulling.

Weight Box Assembly

Construct the weight box from sheet metal, ensuring it can hold the desired ballast securely. Attach rollers or bearing assemblies to the bottom of the box to enable smooth sliding along the rails. Test movement to confirm minimal friction and ease of sliding.

Installing Rails and Skid Plate

Mount rails on the sled frame to guide the weight box's movement. Attach the skid plate at the front of the sled frame, ensuring it contacts the ground evenly. Adjust the skid plate height as needed to optimize friction and resistance.

Hitch Attachment

Fabricate and install the hitch mechanism at the rear of the sled frame. Ensure it aligns with the pedal tractor's hitch point and allows for secure connection. Incorporate adjustable features if specified in the plans.

Finishing Touches

Grind all sharp edges and weld splatter for safety. Apply rust-resistant paint or protective coating to extend the sled's lifespan. Conduct a thorough inspection and test the sled under controlled conditions before competition use.

Safety and Maintenance Tips

Safety is paramount when designing and operating pedal tractor pulling sleds. Proper maintenance extends the sled's usability and ensures consistent performance.

Safety Considerations

Ensure all welds and structural components are free of defects to prevent failure during pulling. The hitch should be securely fastened with no excessive play. Clear all sharp edges and protrusions to prevent injuries. Always use personal protective equipment during construction and operation.

Regular Maintenance

Inspect the sled before and after each use for signs of wear or damage. Lubricate sliding mechanisms to maintain smooth movement. Check bolts and fasteners for tightness and retorque as necessary. Replace worn skid plates and bearings promptly to maintain optimal resistance and safety.

Performance Optimization Techniques

Optimizing pedal tractor pulling sled plans enhances competitive performance by improving resistance consistency and reducing mechanical inefficiencies.

Weight Distribution Adjustments

Fine-tuning the weight box's ballast placement can influence the sled's resistance curve. Distributing weight evenly and using adjustable ballast allows customization for different tractor strengths and competition rules.

Friction Surface Modifications

Altering the skid plate's surface material or texture affects friction levels. Experimenting with different materials or coatings can help achieve desired resistance characteristics on varying track surfaces.

Sliding Mechanism Enhancements

Using high-quality bearings or low-friction rollers reduces unwanted resistance in the sliding weight box. Regular maintenance ensures these components operate smoothly, allowing the sled to perform as intended.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are pedal tractor pulling sled plans?

Pedal tractor pulling sled plans are detailed designs and instructions used to build a sled specifically for pedal tractor pulling competitions, where children or adults pedal a miniature tractor to pull a weighted sled over a defined distance.

Where can I find free pedal tractor pulling sled plans?

Free pedal tractor pulling sled plans can often be found on DIY websites, tractor pulling enthusiast forums, and YouTube channels dedicated to tractor pulling or woodworking projects. Some community groups and clubs also share plans online for free.

What materials are typically required to build a pedal tractor pulling sled?

Typical materials include steel for the frame, wood or metal for the weight box, bearings, wheels, a chain or cable system for weight transfer, and hardware like bolts and nuts. The plans will specify exact material types and sizes.

How do I adjust the weight on a pedal tractor pulling sled?

Weight adjustment is usually done by adding or removing weights in the sled's weight box or moving the weights forward or backward to change the leverage. Most sled plans include a mechanism for sliding weights to increase or decrease the load during a pull.

Are there safety considerations when building a pedal tractor pulling sled?

Yes, safety is crucial. Plans often include recommendations for smooth edges, secure fastening of parts, and proper weight limits to prevent tipping. Additionally, ensuring the sled has reliable brakes and a safe release mechanism is important to protect the rider and spectators.

Additional Resources

- 1. Designing the Ultimate Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled
 This book offers detailed plans and engineering insights for building a highperformance pedal tractor pulling sled. It covers materials selection, weight
 distribution, and sled mechanics to maximize pulling power. Ideal for
 hobbyists and competition enthusiasts looking to enhance their sled designs.
- 2. Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled Plans: From Concept to Construction
 A comprehensive guide that walks readers through every step of designing and building a pedal tractor pulling sled. It includes blueprints, tool lists, and safety tips, making it perfect for beginners and experienced builders alike. The book also discusses customization options to fit different tractor models.
- 3. Mastering Weight Transfer in Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds
 Focusing on the critical aspect of weight transfer in sleds, this book
 explains how proper weight distribution can improve traction and pulling
 efficiency. It provides mathematical models and practical examples to help
 builders optimize their sleds. Readers will learn how to adjust sled
 components for varying track conditions.
- 4. The Pedal Tractor Pulling Handbook: Sled Building and Maintenance
 This handbook covers both the construction and ongoing maintenance of pedal
 tractor pulling sleds. It includes troubleshooting tips, repair techniques,
 and seasonal maintenance schedules to keep sleds in top condition. The book
 is a valuable resource for anyone serious about competitive pedal tractor
 pulling.
- 5. Custom Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds: Innovative Plans and Techniques Showcasing unique and creative sled designs, this book encourages builders to think outside the box. It features detailed plans for custom sleds with advanced features like adjustable weights and aerodynamic enhancements. Stepby-step instructions make it accessible for builders aiming to stand out in competitions.
- 6. Building Durable Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds on a Budget
 This practical guide focuses on cost-effective methods for constructing
 sturdy and reliable sleds without compromising performance. It suggests
 affordable materials and tools, recycling options, and smart design choices
 to reduce expenses. Perfect for young builders or those new to the sport.
- 7. Advanced Mechanics of Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds
 Delving into the physics and engineering principles behind sled performance, this book is suited for readers with a technical background. It explains forces, friction, and mechanical systems in detail, helping builders understand how to optimize every aspect of their sleds. The book also includes case studies of competitive sled designs.
- 8. Step-by-Step Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled Blueprints
 With clear, easy-to-follow blueprints, this book breaks down the sled-

building process into manageable stages. Each chapter focuses on a specific component, providing measurements, assembly tips, and quality checks. Ideal for visual learners and those who prefer detailed illustrations.

9. Pedal Tractor Pulling for Kids: Fun Sled Plans and Safety Tips
Designed specifically for young enthusiasts, this book offers simple sled
plans that prioritize safety and ease of construction. It includes colorful
diagrams, child-friendly language, and advice on safe practices during
building and pulling events. A great introduction to the sport for families
and youth groups.

Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled Plans

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Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled Plans

Ebook Title: Building the Ultimate Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled: A Comprehensive Guide

Ebook Outline:

Introduction: The Allure of Pedal Tractor Pulling & Project Overview

Chapter 1: Sled Design & Considerations: Weight, Size, Construction Materials, and Safety Features

Chapter 2: Detailed Plans & Diagrams: Step-by-step construction with illustrated plans (PDF

downloadable plans included in ebook)

Chapter 3: Material Sourcing & Cost Estimation: Where to find materials, budgeting, and cost-saving tips

Chapter 4: Construction Techniques & Tools: Essential tools, techniques for cutting, assembling, and finishing

Chapter 5: Safety Precautions & Best Practices: Ensuring a safe and enjoyable pulling experience

Chapter 6: Customization & Personalization: Adding features, paint jobs, and branding

Chapter 7: Troubleshooting & Maintenance: Common problems and how to solve them, maintaining your sled for longevity

Conclusion: Your Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled: A Legacy of Fun

Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled Plans: A Comprehensive Guide

Introduction: The Allure of Pedal Tractor Pulling & Project Overview

Pedal tractor pulling, a beloved childhood pastime, provides a unique blend of physical activity, engineering ingenuity, and friendly competition. Building your own pulling sled elevates the experience, transforming it from simple participation to a rewarding DIY project. This ebook provides a comprehensive guide to designing, building, and customizing your very own pedal tractor pulling sled. Whether you're a seasoned builder or a novice DIY enthusiast, this guide will walk you through every step of the process, ensuring a successful and safe project. We'll cover everything from selecting the right materials and tools to understanding the crucial design elements for a sturdy and reliable sled. This isn't just about building a sled; it's about crafting a lasting piece of childhood memory.

Chapter 1: Sled Design & Considerations: Weight, Size, Construction Materials, and Safety Features

The design of your pedal tractor pulling sled directly impacts its performance and safety. Careful consideration of weight, size, and materials is crucial.

Weight: The weight of the sled determines the challenge level. A heavier sled demands more power from the pedal tractor, providing a greater challenge for the participants. However, excessively heavy sleds can become dangerous or impractical. A good starting point is to aim for a weight that provides a reasonable challenge without being overwhelming.

Size: The size of the sled dictates the space it will occupy and the type of terrain it can navigate. Larger sleds might offer more stability but are less maneuverable. Consider the available space for both construction and use when determining the sled's dimensions.

Construction Materials: Durability and safety are paramount. Robust materials like treated lumber (resistant to rot and decay) or heavy-duty steel are recommended. Avoid using materials that could splinter or break easily under stress. Consider using plywood for the base for increased strength and stability.

Safety Features: Safety should be the top priority. Ensure all edges are smooth and free of sharp protrusions. Use appropriate fasteners to secure all parts of the sled, preventing any potential detachments during use. Clearly visible and bright paint can increase visibility, enhancing safety, especially in low-light conditions. Consider adding reflective tape for added visibility.

Chapter 2: Detailed Plans & Diagrams: Step-by-step construction with illustrated plans (PDF downloadable plans included in ebook)

(Note: This section would include detailed, illustrated plans in the actual ebook. This is where the downloadable PDF would be linked. The text below describes the content that would be in those plans.)

This chapter provides detailed, step-by-step instructions accompanied by clear diagrams and illustrations. These plans cover:

Cutting the Wood: Precise measurements for cutting the lumber to the specified dimensions, using appropriate tools like saws (circular saw, hand saw) and measuring instruments.

Assembling the Frame: Detailed instructions for constructing the sled's frame, including techniques for joining the lumber securely using screws, bolts, or other suitable fasteners. This will often involve pre-drilling holes to prevent wood splitting.

Adding the Runners: Instructions on attaching runners (the bottom part of the sled that makes contact with the ground). The material and construction of the runners will directly impact the sled's

ability to glide smoothly.

Finishing Touches: Guidance on sanding and smoothing rough edges and surfaces for safety and aesthetics. This includes suggestions for applying paint or sealant to protect the wood from the elements.

Chapter 3: Material Sourcing & Cost Estimation: Where to find materials, budgeting, and cost-saving tips

This chapter helps you navigate the process of sourcing materials while remaining within your budget.

Lumber Yards: Local lumber yards offer a wide selection of wood, allowing for personalized choices based on budget and preference.

Hardware Stores: Hardware stores are crucial for obtaining fasteners (screws, bolts, nuts), paint, sealant, and other essential components.

Recycling & Salvage: Consider using reclaimed wood or other recycled materials to reduce costs and promote sustainability.

Budgeting & Cost-Saving Tips: This section provides a sample budget breakdown, offering strategies for cost optimization without compromising quality or safety. This might involve opting for less expensive wood types or utilizing readily available materials.

Chapter 4: Construction Techniques & Tools: Essential tools, techniques for cutting, assembling, and finishing

This section covers the practical aspects of building your sled, including a list of necessary tools and construction techniques.

Essential Tools: A comprehensive list of tools required, including measuring tools (tape measure, square), cutting tools (saw, jigsaw), fastening tools (screwdriver, drill), and sanding tools (sandpaper, sander).

Cutting Techniques: Safe and accurate methods for cutting the wood to the specified dimensions, including tips for minimizing waste and ensuring clean cuts.

Assembly Techniques: Detailed instructions on assembling the frame and attaching the runners securely, focusing on safety and durability.

Finishing Techniques: Guidance on applying paint or sealant, smoothing surfaces, and adding any desired customizations.

Chapter 5: Safety Precautions & Best Practices: Ensuring a safe and enjoyable pulling experience

Safety is paramount. This chapter highlights crucial safety considerations:

Adult Supervision: Constant adult supervision is necessary during the construction and use of the sled.

Protective Gear: Appropriate protective gear like safety glasses and gloves should be worn during the construction process.

Safe Operating Procedures: Guidelines for safe use of the sled, including avoiding unsafe terrain and ensuring proper weight distribution.

Regular Inspections: Before each use, inspect the sled for any signs of damage or wear and tear.

Chapter 6: Customization & Personalization: Adding features, paint jobs, and branding

This chapter encourages creativity and personalization.

Adding Features: Suggestions for customizing the sled, such as adding handles, decorative elements, or custom paint jobs.

Paint Jobs: Ideas for creating unique and visually appealing paint schemes, including using stencils or other artistic techniques.

Branding: Personalizing the sled by adding names, logos, or other branding elements.

Chapter 7: Troubleshooting & Maintenance: Common problems and how to solve them, maintaining your sled for longevity

This chapter addresses common issues and maintenance strategies.

Common Problems: A list of common problems encountered during construction or use, along with solutions and troubleshooting tips.

Maintenance: Regular maintenance procedures to extend the lifespan of the sled, such as inspecting for damage, tightening fasteners, and applying a fresh coat of sealant as needed.

Conclusion: Your Pedal Tractor Pulling Sled: A Legacy of Fun

Building your own pedal tractor pulling sled is a rewarding experience that fosters creativity, problem-solving skills, and provides hours of outdoor fun. This ebook has equipped you with the knowledge and skills necessary to construct a safe, durable, and personalized sled. Enjoy the process and the lasting memories created through this unique project!

FAQs:

- 1. What type of wood is best for building a pedal tractor pulling sled? Treated lumber is ideal due to its rot resistance.
- 2. How much weight should my sled be? The weight should provide a challenge but remain safe and manageable for the tractor.
- 3. What tools do I need to build the sled? Saws, drills, measuring tools, and sandpaper are essential.
- 4. How can I make my sled more visually appealing? Use paint, stencils, and other decorative elements.
- 5. What safety precautions should I take during construction? Wear protective gear and ensure all edges are smooth.
- 6. What are some common problems encountered during construction? Wood splitting and loose fasteners are common.

- 7. How do I maintain my sled? Regularly inspect, tighten fasteners, and apply sealant.
- 8. Can I customize my sled's design? Absolutely! Personalization is encouraged.
- 9. Where can I find the downloadable plans? The plans are included as a PDF within the ebook.

Related Articles:

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- 3. Safety Guidelines for Pedal Tractor Pulling Events: Ensuring a safe and fun competition.
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- 9. Materials Science for Pedal Tractor Pulling Sleds: A deeper dive into material selection for optimal performance and longevity.

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pedal tractor pulling sled plans: Model T Ford Service Ford Motor Company, 2013-08 Henry Ford's Model T forever changed the world. The car made for the great multitude (as Ford put it) first debuted in 1908 and proved so affordable and so popular that fifteen million were sold through 1927. The Tin Lizzie was the first automobile to be mass-produced on moving assembly lines, and built using interchangeable parts. It proved tough and reliable in everyday use, and cheap enough to spawn the automobile revolution: the car cost \$850 in 1909 but amazingly by the 1920s, the price had dropped to a mere \$260 due to the perfection of production techniques and economy of scale. Designed by a team that included Childe Harold Willis, Joseph Galamb and Eugene Farkas, the Model T had a front-mounted four-cylinder engine that produced 20 hp and had a top speed of 45 mph. It was a rear-wheel drive vehicle with wooden wheels, and featured a two-speed transmission plus a reverse gear. Although models varied - and many revisions took place over two decades of production - the original version weighed about 1200 pounds. Created in the 1920s and featuring information about the original Model T and the New Model T of 1925, this maintenance manual is an invaluable resource. It was originally intended to educate the men tasked with assembling, repairing and maintaining the Model T, and offers a plethora of information about the car, its design and operation. The text includes chapters on how to take apart and put together the car, how to overhaul the engine and transmission, valve grinding and carbon removal, rod bearings, fitting pistons and rings, correcting noisy timing gears, installation of camshaft bearings, cleaning oil lines, oil leaks, transmission band installation, axle overhauls, refurbishing and replacing springs, radiator repair, starting motor overhaul, and more. It also includes troubleshooting and general servicing information. A must have for any Model T owner, this book is also a terrific reference for the docent, historian, or anyone who ever wondered, how did that work?

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into twenty-three languages, it is one of the world's most widely read books on design. In this edition, Victor Papanek examines the attempts by designers to combat the tawdry, the unsafe, the frivolous, the useless product, once again providing a blueprint for sensible, responsible design in this world which is deficient in resources and energy.

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pedal tractor pulling sled plans: Blue Sky Dream David Beers, 2012-05-02 In Blue Sky Dream: A Memoir of America's Fall from Grace, award-winner David Beers offers a powerful, personal vision of the rise and fall of the American middle class. Here is a dazzling literary chronicle of a family, a people, and a nation: the "blue sky tribe" of ever-optimistic middle-class Americans who believed in something called the American Dream, then woke up one day to discover it was gone. Blue Sky Dream is a book incredibly rich in ideas, in ways of seeing the recent past with stunning clarity. David Beers explores issues that define our times—downsizing, middle-class anxiety, the profound anger with government, the sense that something has gone awry with the United States—with such skill, personal immediacy, and compassion that readers will see their own histories in his prose. Blue Sky Dream can rightly be called a communal memoir, because in telling his family's tale—growing tensions and disillusionment in their suburban paradise, a son rejecting his parents' values, one sudden and inexplicable moment of violence—Beers tells the story of his people, the blue sky tribe "who imagined ourselves to be living the inevitable future, and are very surprised today to discover we were but a strange and aberrant moment that is now receding into history."

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book identifies and discusses key generic safety principles and their applications and includes decision-making criteria, examples and remedies. It

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policymakers and concerned citizens will find many of its provocative ideas and approaches of considerable value as they engage in the processes of understanding and changing transportation towards greater sustainability.

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visits. The way his family lived, how they made Alaska their home and even participated in Peter's explorations, is as much a part of this story as Peter's own travels. All in all, Jenkins delivers a warm, funny, awe-inspiring, and memorable diary of discovery-both of this place that captures all of our imaginations, and of himself, all over again.

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considerations, including quick exits, Eskimo Rolls, swift water-rescue techniques, and more. • Safely paddling with kids, to make sure everyone has fun. • Clothing and equipment, including how to choose and care for a personal flotation device. • Paddling techniques and how they evolved through the years. • Planning a trip and choosing an outfitter or guide. • Building your own canoe or kayak.

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David Hanscom, a spine surgeon and fellow sufferer, shares with you what finally pulled him out of the abyss of chronic pain after 15 years--without surgery or addictive medications. Instead, his approach to treatment focuses on an aspect of chronic pain that the medical world has largely overlooked: you must calm your nervous system in order to get better. More than any other book about pain, Back in Control reveals how to quiet a turbocharged central nervous system, relieve the anxiety and depression that often accompany chronic pain, and make a full recovery. Back in Control offers a self-directed healing approach that has evolved from Dr. Hanscom's personal experience, as well what he has learned from successfully treating hundreds of patients. The book: Provides a proven solution to end chronic pain - Dr. Hanscom's treatment model has helped hundreds of patients move from managing pain to becoming pain free. Doesn't require surgery or meds - The approach presented in Back in Control helps you eliminate chronic pain without the risk of surgery or side effects of medications. Puts you in control - Back in Control provides tools for eliminating pain that you can use on your own or as part of an ongoing treatment plan, to take back control of your care and your life. Applies to any type of chronic pain - The principles in Back in Control apply to any chronic pain condition, for example back pain, neck pain, hip pain, joint pain, fibromyalgia and sciatica, to name a few.

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