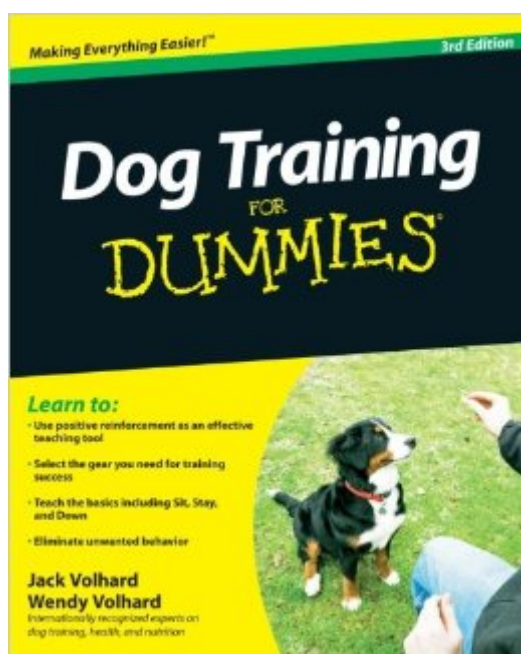


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Dog Training For Dummies



Synopsis

Make training fun and effective This friendly guide shows you how to select the right training method for your dog, based on his unique personality, to reach your desired goals. Whether you want to teach Buddy to sit or master retrieving, you'll get expert training tips and techniques for you and your dog to ensure a mutually respectful relationship with your four-legged friend. Concentrate on canines to discover why your dog acts the way she does, understand her nutritional needs, and ready yourself for the task of training your dog Prep for your pup to prepare your home for your puppy's arrival, discover the importance of socialization, and get started on housetraining Put your best paw forward to teach basic commands like Sit, Stay, and Down, and get the scoop on how to deal with doggie don'ts like chewing, digging, and excessive barking Take training to the next level to get involved in organized dog activities and competitions, where you'll both show off impressive tricks like retrieving, figure 8s, and much more Open the book and find: Step-by-step instructions for teaching your dog basic commands Helpful advice on crate training Safe ways to address aggression and separation anxiety Tips for teaching Buddy to behave himself around people and other dogs Techniques to keep your senior dog feeling young Health issues that can interfere with training Experts to turn to for training help Learn to: Use positive reinforcement as an effective teaching tool Select the gear you need for training success Teach the basics including Sit, Stay, and Down Eliminate unwanted behavior

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Customer Reviews

I thought the parts of this book that talked about training were, for the most part, quite good. The authors give clear instructions and reasons for their practices. For example, don't say "no" to your dog; tell him what you want him to do instead. If he's jumping, say sit, for example. Be consistent. Reinforce commands. Say commands only once. I could give more examples, but you get the idea: sound, sane, and humane advice. The advanced training sections started to lose me a bit. I found them tedious after a while. Although the authors are very experienced with all aspects of caring for dogs, I thought they were reaching a bit with their nutritional and medical advice. They talked about homeopathic remedies as though they're proven treatments. They're not. Anecdotal evidence is not the same as statistically significant results from controlled studies. Their opinion on vaccines seemed dangerous and unbalanced. They have too much confidence in their alternative nutrition and treatment methods -- maybe they have some effect, but they're not perfect. A well-fed dog could still get fleas and infections and communicable diseases. After a while, they sounded like shills for the company that makes the supplements they use. Finally -- and I hope you'll excuse the e-shouting, but I cannot emphasize this enough -- **DO NOT FEED YOUR DOG RAISINS, EVEN FOR A TREAT!** Scientists haven't yet identified what it is about grapes and raisins, but they've been implicated in acute toxicity and even death in some dogs. And as someone who makes a living from the written word, I have to say it seemed to me that the copy editor gave up on this book around Page 200. The text in the last half of the book is full of typos, errors, and repetitive writing -- not repetitive as in emphasizing a point, but repetitive as in restating the content of one paragraph in the next. Ugh. The training advice was sound. Read this book for that, and disregard the rest.

This book gets put down a lot because it has a couple of flaws. However, overall, it is a great book on Dog Training, and it contains a lot of information the person trying to train their dog really needs to know. This book helps you get inside your dog's head and understand why he does and does not listen. It puts the world as your dog sees it in perspective and shows you how to communicate on his level so you can help him understand exactly what is expected of him. If you read this book you will become someone who can control their dog and have a happy, obedient canine companion.

This book was both useful and interesting for old hat dog owners and new ones as well. I initially found it at a friend's house and while flipping through the chapters I decided I needed one for myself. Though I am very familiar with dogs, the behavioural sections helped me get a handle on my new puppies' quirks and demands, particularly the section on typing your dog's profile. They were a new breed for me, and rescues, so I appreciated the explanation of behaviours I was not familiar

with. I liked this book enough to send it on to my parents when they recently got a new dog as well. I did not find the homeopathic information very helpful at all, however I don't think the inclusion of that information outweighed the potential benefit of owning the book.

Dog Training for Dummies, is an absolutely wonderful book, its structure and explanations make it easy to read and understand. It begins and constantly emphasizes the relationship between you & your dog. It establishes early on how important it is to know your dog and yourself in order to quickly start training, even if you have never trained a dog before. Dog training for Dummies covers the puppy stage of training, even though many people mistakenly believe dogs cannot be trained until adolescence. There are many pictures and detailed step-by-step instructions throughout the book but the ones in the fundamentals section especially helped me to better understand what I should be doing and what results I could expect from my dog. The simplistic yet varied methods incorporated in the training allowed me to get rid of those awful dog behaviors (i.e. jumping up or begging for food) which were easy to duplicate and all built around previous training sessions throughout the book. Dog Training for Dummies also incorporated a section for those who wished to take their training to the next level. There they outline training for fun, competition as well as other skills such as retrieving. The book exudes a confidence about its training methods that only years of experience could provide. The book's layout makes it easy to find relative information quickly and painlessly. This is a great book that makes training very easy and understandable. I would highly recommend this book to Everyone!

Like another reviewer, I am also a veterinary technician and I strongly disagree with her dismissal of many things in this book on the basis that the authors aren't "medically trained". These authors are very experienced and respected people in the dog training/health fields. Their advice on rabies vaccination timing and commercial dog foods are, I believe, valid. The veterinary field (vets and technicians) is not a monolithic block. I personally know many licensed veterinarians who agree wholeheartedly with the health issues in this book. As someone who has a degree in veterinary technology (plus human physical therapy) I am dismayed by the attitude of many of my colleagues that vettech/vet school is the only place to receive valid training and information. There is minimal training in behavior and nutrition. I have found that the Volhard's training methods work quite well, and they are also followed and respected by many canine breeding/training professionals.

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