

in step dog training

in step dog training is a methodical approach to teaching dogs to walk closely beside their handler with precision and attention. This style of training emphasizes clear communication, consistency, and positive reinforcement to ensure that dogs respond reliably to commands while maintaining proper leash manners. Whether training a puppy or correcting the habits of an adult dog, in step dog training helps develop a strong bond between owner and pet, promoting obedience and safety during walks. This article explores the fundamental aspects of in step dog training, including key techniques, benefits, and common challenges. Additionally, it provides practical tips for implementing this training effectively to achieve lasting results.

- Understanding In Step Dog Training
- Essential Techniques for In Step Dog Training
- Benefits of In Step Dog Training
- Common Challenges and Solutions
- Tools and Equipment for Effective Training
- Maintaining Progress and Advanced Tips

Understanding In Step Dog Training

In step dog training is a specialized form of obedience training focused on teaching dogs to walk at the handler's side without pulling or lagging. This technique is rooted in the principle of heel training, where the dog learns to maintain a specific position relative to the handler during walks. The goal is to create a controlled and enjoyable walking experience for both dog and owner. Understanding the behavioral foundation behind in step dog training is essential to apply it effectively and humanely.

Definition and Purpose

The purpose of in step dog training is to instill disciplined walking behavior that allows dogs to stay close to their handlers. This reduces the risk of accidents, enhances control in public spaces, and contributes to the dog's overall obedience. The training emphasizes voluntary cooperation rather than force, relying heavily on positive reinforcement strategies to encourage the desired behavior.

Behavioral Principles Involved

In step dog training applies several behavioral principles such as classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and shaping. Dogs learn to associate walking beside the handler with positive outcomes like treats, praise, or play. Consistent cues and rewards help reinforce the behavior, while gentle corrections discourage pulling or wandering. Understanding these principles aids trainers in designing effective, humane training sessions.

Essential Techniques for In Step Dog Training

Successful in step dog training depends on employing specific techniques that guide the dog to maintain the correct position and pace. These techniques provide a structured framework that can be adapted for dogs of all ages and breeds.

Starting with Basic Commands

Before progressing to advanced in step walking, dogs must master basic obedience commands such as "sit," "stay," and "heel." These commands form the foundation of communication, allowing the handler to guide the dog effectively. Teaching these commands in a distraction-free environment facilitates faster learning.

Using Positive Reinforcement

Positive reinforcement is a cornerstone of in step dog training. Treats, verbal praise, and affection reward dogs for maintaining the proper position and following commands. Reinforcement should be timely and consistent to strengthen the association between behavior and reward.

Leash Handling Techniques

Proper leash handling is critical to encourage in step walking without causing discomfort. The leash should be held with a relaxed grip, allowing slight slack while maintaining control. Sudden jerks or tight pulling can cause confusion or anxiety, hindering progress.

Incremental Training Steps

Training should progress gradually, starting with short sessions focusing on maintaining position for a few steps. As the dog improves, session length and distractions can increase. This incremental approach prevents frustration and helps the dog build confidence.

Benefits of In Step Dog Training

Implementing in step dog training offers numerous advantages that improve the walking experience and overall relationship between dog and owner.

Enhanced Control and Safety

Dogs trained to walk in step are less likely to pull or dart into traffic, reducing the risk of injury. This control is especially important in busy urban environments or around other animals.

Improved Social Behavior

Walking calmly beside the handler promotes good manners and reduces aggressive or reactive tendencies during walks. This socialization benefit extends to interactions with other dogs and people.

Stronger Handler-Dog Bond

The communication and trust built through in step training strengthen the bond between dog and owner. The mutual understanding developed during training sessions fosters a positive and respectful relationship.

Physical and Mental Exercise

Structured walking routines provide essential physical exercise, while the mental focus required for in step walking stimulates the dog's cognitive abilities. This combination contributes to overall well-being.

Common Challenges and Solutions

While in step dog training is effective, it can present challenges that require patience and adjustments to overcome.

Pulling on the Leash

Pulling is one of the most common issues. To address this, trainers should stop walking whenever the dog pulls and resume only when the leash slackens. This teaches the dog that pulling delays progress.

Distractions and Lack of Focus

Dogs may become distracted by sights, sounds, or smells. Training in low-distraction environments initially and gradually introducing distractions helps the dog learn to maintain focus on the handler.

Inconsistent Training

Inconsistent cues or reinforcement can confuse dogs and slow progress. Maintaining a consistent routine, commands, and rewards is essential for effective in step dog training.

Tools and Equipment for Effective Training

Choosing the right tools can facilitate in step dog training by providing better control and communication.

Leashes and Collars

A standard six-foot leash paired with a well-fitted collar or harness is recommended. Avoid retractable leashes, which encourage pulling and reduce control.

Treats and Clickers

High-value treats motivate dogs, while clickers can provide a clear marker of correct behavior. These tools enhance positive reinforcement methods.

Training Aids

Additional aids such as head halters or no-pull harnesses may assist dogs struggling with pulling, but should be used under guidance to avoid discomfort.

Maintaining Progress and Advanced Tips

Long-term success in in step dog training requires ongoing practice and refinement.

Regular Practice

Consistent daily walks incorporating in step training reinforce learned behaviors and prevent regression. Incorporating training into routine activities ensures maintenance of skills.

Increasing Duration and Distractions

Gradually extending the length of walks and introducing more distractions challenges the dog to maintain focus, improving reliability in varied environments.

Advanced Commands and Variations

Once basic in step walking is mastered, handlers can introduce variations such as changing pace, turns, and stops to enhance responsiveness and engagement.

1. Begin sessions in quiet environments to build foundational skills.
2. Use consistent verbal and hand signals for commands.
3. Reward promptly to reinforce desired behavior.
4. Address pulling by halting movement until leash slackens.
5. Gradually introduce distractions and longer sessions.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is In Step Dog Training?

In Step Dog Training is a professional dog training service that uses positive reinforcement techniques to teach dogs obedience, socialization, and behavior modification.

Who founded In Step Dog Training?

In Step Dog Training was founded by a certified dog trainer with years of experience in animal behavior and training methods focusing on humane and effective techniques.

What training methods does In Step Dog Training use?

In Step Dog Training primarily uses positive reinforcement, including treats, praise, and clicker training, to encourage desired behaviors in dogs.

Are In Step Dog Training programs suitable for all dog breeds?

Yes, In Step Dog Training customizes its programs to fit the needs of all dog breeds, sizes, and temperaments to ensure effective learning and behavior improvement.

Does In Step Dog Training offer group classes or private sessions?

In Step Dog Training offers both group classes and private one-on-one sessions, allowing dog owners to choose the training style that best fits their needs.

How long does it usually take to see results with In Step Dog Training?

Results vary depending on the dog's age, temperament, and training goals, but many owners see noticeable improvements within a few weeks of consistent training.

Can In Step Dog Training help with behavioral issues like aggression or anxiety?

Yes, In Step Dog Training specializes in behavior modification and can help address issues such as aggression, separation anxiety, excessive barking, and other common problems.

How can I enroll my dog in In Step Dog Training?

You can enroll your dog by visiting the In Step Dog Training website or contacting them directly via phone or email to schedule an initial consultation and discuss your training goals.

Additional Resources

1. Training Your Dog the Step-by-Step Way

This comprehensive guide breaks down dog training into clear, manageable steps suitable for beginners and experienced trainers alike. It covers basic obedience commands, leash training, and problem-solving techniques. The book emphasizes positive reinforcement and consistency to build a strong bond

between owner and dog.

2. The Step-by-Step Puppy Training Handbook

Perfect for new puppy owners, this handbook provides a detailed approach to training young dogs from their first days at home. It includes stages of development, crate training, socialization tips, and housebreaking strategies. The stepwise instructions help ensure your puppy grows into a well-mannered adult dog.

3. Stepwise Dog Training: From Basics to Advanced

This book offers a structured training program that progresses from foundational commands to advanced skills. It covers problem behaviors like jumping, barking, and chewing, with step-by-step methods to correct them. The author advocates for patience and clear communication to achieve lasting results.

4. Positive Steps: A Guide to Gentle Dog Training

Focusing on humane and positive reinforcement methods, this book guides readers through training their dogs without punishment. Each chapter presents a specific behavior or skill with stepwise instructions and helpful tips. The approach fosters trust and cooperation between dogs and their owners.

5. Step-by-Step Agility Training for Dogs

Ideal for dog owners interested in agility sports, this book breaks down complex agility exercises into simple steps. It includes guidance on equipment introduction, building confidence, and improving speed and accuracy. The training techniques are designed to be fun and motivating for dogs of all levels.

6. Stepwise Solutions to Common Dog Behavior Problems

This practical guide addresses common behavioral issues such as separation anxiety, aggression, and excessive barking. Each problem is analyzed, and a step-by-step training plan is provided to help owners modify their dog's behavior effectively. Real-life case studies illustrate successful outcomes.

7. Step-by-Step Guide to Clicker Training Your Dog

This book introduces the clicker training method with clear, progressive steps to teach obedience and tricks. It explains how to use the clicker effectively and how to reinforce desired behaviors consistently. The guide is suitable for dogs of all ages and breeds.

8. Step-by-Step Canine Obedience Training

A classic training manual that emphasizes a systematic approach to obedience commands such as sit, stay, come, and heel. The book provides detailed explanations and exercises to practice with your dog daily. It also discusses troubleshooting techniques for common training challenges.

9. Step-by-Step Guide to Training Rescue Dogs

Specially tailored for rescue dog owners, this book addresses the unique challenges of training dogs with unknown histories or behavioral issues. It offers a patient, stepwise approach to build trust, establish routines, and

teach essential commands. The guide includes advice on socialization and managing anxiety.

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in step dog training: Dog Training Tips C.X. Cruz, Dogs are among the most popular family pets around the globe. They have been known for their sense of loyalty, compassion and most of all their ability to be trained more than any other popular pet. Dogs can be taught a myriad of tricks and behaviors ranging from very basic ones like sitting, begging and going outside to do their business to extremely complex tricks like acrobatics and scent recognition. Every dog is different so training is never a guaranteed experience but just about any canine can be trained if you have the will and the desire. In this book I'm going to explore the most basic training methods that can be used on all or most dogs, usually without fail. I'm going to emphasis positive reinforcement training as it is not only effective but much safer than alternative methods that have been used throughout the years. Due to the short nature of this book we will probably not venture into theatrical tricks or acrobatics; it's always smart to start with a good foundation and that begins with obedience training. Obedience training is a general term which can be achieved through the many various dog training techniques. Regardless of which training technique you choose to employ , your techniques should build or strengthen a healthy and appropriate relationship between you and your dog. Below are more information that you are about to get inside: · Basic Dog Training · Boxer Dog Training · Clicker Dog Training · Dog Agility Training · Dog Behavior Training · Dog House Training · Dog Kennel Training · Dog Obedience Training · Dog Puppy Training · Dog Toilet Training · And so much more... You need to start right away!

in step dog training: Dog Training in 3 Easy Steps Julie A. Bjelland, 2011-08-23 Previously published as part of Imagine Life with a Well-Behaved Dog. Do you consider your dog part of the family? Most dog guardians do. But just like children, dogs need structure. Structure to show him that he shouldn't jump on every person who enters your house, or urinate indoors, or drag you down the road when you walk him. In DOG TRAINING IN 3 EASY STEPS, Julie Bjelland offers you clear

and easy-to-follow steps to make your dog confident, secure and able to understand and follow rules. Drawing on years of experience, Julie teaches basic training, how to communicate with your dog, and how to prevent and solve behavior problems. She discusses puppies and adult dogs, even special needs dogs, and tells how to choose the right dog for your family and how to integrate him into a home with kids, other dogs, or cats.

in step dog training: Dog Training: A Step-by-step Guide to Teach Your Dog (A Beginner's Guide to Dog Training for all breeds) Moore Vernon, 2021-09-16 These are just a few of the many benefits described. In this book you can really learn the content very easily and within everyone's reach without falling into trivial but very common mistakes. Even if it seems impossible, you think you can't make it, you think it's too complicated, you ask yourself a thousand questions for anything, this book will allow you to solve all your doubts and in a short time! Here is a preview of what you'll learn... Benefits of crate training The basics of crate training Weekend crate training House training using crates How to allow your dog more freedom Word of caution How to introduce your puppy to the crate Much, much more! Have you always wanted to own either a pembroke welsh or cardigan corgi, but don't have the knowledge or experience to groom, train and raise them properly? Do you currently own a badly-behaved corgi and are frustrated by your inability to get it to obey even the simplest of instructions?

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in step dog training: 7 Steps to Success Dog Obedience Training: The Quick and Easy Guide to Having Well-Behaved Dog David Christopher, 2013-12-13 People buy dogs for many reasons. Sometimes they want a companion or perhaps they want some security. Either way, dogs make great pets and often become thought of as family members. If you have an unruly dog, then they are thought of as obnoxious but lovable family members. If anything, dogs can sometimes be a tad bit too enthusiastic and that is when obedience training comes in handy. Obedience training will help give your dog the discipline that they need to wreck less havoc in your household and will help eliminate a lot of the stress that stems from having an untrained dog. Dog training and obedience classes can be costly but they are also not necessary. It is possible to train your dog yourself, at home to follow some basic commands, such as sit, come, down, stay, heel, leave it and go to your spot. If you would like to train your dog without spending extra money for fancy classes, this is the book for you.

in step dog training: The 10-Minute Dog Training Games Kyra Sundance, 2011-10-01 In 10-Minute Dog Training Games, renowned trainer and internationally best-selling author of 101 Dog Tricks, Kyra Sundance, gives you step-by-step, photo-illustrated instructions to do 86 simple learning games with your dog using a variety of props. They will be the highlight of the day for both you and your dog! Short, fun sessions are ideal for a dog, especially when they end with success! Each 10-minute game will boost your dog's intelligence as his or her brain is challenged with new behaviors. Kyra Sundance teaches how to use positive, reward-based techniques that foster an anxiety-free environment where your dog is an eager and willing participant. Simple instructions and photos take the guesswork out of training, while tips and equipment suggestions answer your questions. Using both specialized props and things around the house, help your dog build: Confidence (Weenie Bobbing, Tunnel, Hoop Jump, Platform Jump, and more) Mental Focus (Memory Game, Treasure Hunt, Massage, Dog Yoga, and more) Coordination (Ladder Work, Seesaw, Wobble Board, Jumping Figure-8s, and more) Strength (Tug, Assisted Upright Walking, Sit High, and more)

Direction-Following Skills (Roll out the Carpet, Soap Bubble Chasing, Paintbrush Painting, and more) Enjoy special time with your dog every day with this dynamic, engaging curriculum! Also by Kyra Sundance, learn to do even more with your dog with: 101 Dog Tricks; The Dog Tricks and Training Workbook; 51 Puppy Tricks; 101 Dog Tricks, Kids Edition; Dog Training 101; The Pocket Guide to Dog Tricks; Kyra's Canine Conditioning; and The Joy of Dog Training.

in step dog training: Secrets to Dog Training: The Ultimate Guide to Dog Obedience Samantha D. Thompson, 2023-01-01 Discover the key to unlocking your dog's potential with Secrets to Dog Training: The Ultimate Guide to Dog Obedience. This comprehensive guide is designed to transform your dog's behavior and strengthen your bond, leading to a happier and more harmonious home. Inside this book, you'll find expert tips and techniques that cover every aspect of dog training, including:

- Understanding the Principles of Dog Training: Learn the fundamentals of effective training and how to establish a strong foundation for success.
- Puppy Training Basics: Set your pup up for a lifetime of good behavior with essential training tips and techniques.
- Obedience Training: Master the art of teaching your dog essential commands and manners for a well-behaved canine companion.
- Training in Different Environments: Adapt your training strategies for indoor, outdoor, and travel situations to ensure consistent progress.
- Training with Distractions: Equip your dog with the skills to maintain focus and obedience in various settings.
- Training Multiple Dogs: Manage and coordinate training sessions for multiple dogs, ensuring a harmonious pack dynamic.
- Building Confidence Through Training: Help your dog overcome fears and develop into a well-rounded, confident companion.
- Preparing for Vet Visits and Grooming: Teach your dog to tolerate handling and make grooming and vet visits stress-free.
- Dog Body Language and Communication: Learn to read your dog's cues and understand their vocalizations for a stronger connection.
- Mental Stimulation: Keep your dog's mind sharp with brain games, puzzle toys, and problem-solving activities.

From basic obedience to advanced training techniques, Secrets to Dog Training: The Ultimate Guide to Dog Obedience is the perfect resource for dog owners looking to enhance their relationship with their furry friends. Whether you're a first-time dog owner or an experienced trainer, this book is an essential addition to your library. Get ready to embark on a journey to a happier, healthier, and more obedient dog today!

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service and therapy dogs Task-specific training Socialization and public access training Common Training Mistakes and How to Avoid Them Inconsistency in training Inadequate socialization Overlooking the importance of timing Troubleshooting and Overcoming Training Challenges Identifying the root cause of problems Adapting training methods for success Knowing when to seek professional help raining in Different Environments Adapting to indoor training Outdoor training tips and tricks Training during travel and vacations Training with Distractions Introducing controlled distractions Proofing behaviors in various situations Gradually increasing difficulty levels Training Multiple Dogs Establishing a pack hierarchy Managing individual training sessions Coordinating group training exercises Building Confidence Through Training Encouraging exploration and curiosity Overcoming fears and phobias Developing a well-rounded, confident dog Preparing for Vet Visits and Grooming Teaching your dog to tolerate handling Familiarizing your dog with grooming tools Easing stress during vet visits Training for Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Certification Understanding the CGC test requirements Preparing for each test item Tips for success on test day Dog Body Language and Communication Reading canine body language cues Understanding vocalizations Interpreting play and social behaviors The Importance of Mental Stimulation Brain games for dogs Puzzle toys and interactive feeders Encouraging problem-solving skills Maintaining Training Success Reinforcing good behavior throughout your dog's life Adapting training as your dog ages Celebrating milestones and accomplishments Resources for Continued Learning Finding local dog training classes Online resources and training videos Professional organizations and certifications

in step dog training: Kristin's Meet Me with Pawsitivity: A Comprehensive Guide to Effective Dog Training Through Positive Reinforcement Kristin Leest, 2024-02-23 □ Kristin's Meet Me with Pawsitivity: A Comprehensive Guide to Effective Dog Training through Positive Reinforcement □ Get ready for an extraordinary journey into the world of dog training, where excitement and pawsitivity abound. In this comprehensive guide, I, Kristin Leest, will be your guide on this exhilarating adventure. □ Meet Kristin Leest: □ I wear many hats: a dog trainer, a wife, a mother of four, an American Kennel Club standard poodle breeder, a canine nutritional supplement creator, and a philanthropist. My love affair with dogs began as soon as I could walk and talk, but it's been my profession for the last fourteen years. In recent years, my focus shifted to breeding and genetically health-testing Standard Poodles for families, support animals, and agility competition. □ Why This Book is for You: □ If you're reading this, you're likely a passionate dog lover like me, eager to enhance the lives of your canine companions. Whether you're an experienced dog owner or just starting your journey, this book is designed for you. I understand the challenges of balancing a bustling family life with managing multiple businesses, running a non-profit, and caring for our beloved poodle crew. □ What to Expect: □ Over the past fourteen years, I've amassed a wealth of knowledge in dog training, psychology, health, and wellness. In Kristin's Meet Me with Pawsitivity, I share practical advice rooted in positive reinforcement, guiding you through step-by-step techniques for training your pup effectively. From understanding canine communication to mastering advanced commands, we cover it all. □ Your Journey Begins: □ Within these pages, you'll find: Step-by-step guides for teaching your pup exciting tricks, suitable for puppies as young as seven weeks old. Insights into socialization, house training, and behavior modification. Techniques for loose leash walking, off-leash training, and recall. Tips for creating harmonious multi-dog households. Inspirational success stories from fellow dog lovers. □ Join the Journey: □ Let's embark on this wellness journey together with pawsitivity. As you dive into these pages, you'll gain the tools and knowledge to build a strong, loving bond with your furry friend. I can't wait to hear your success stories and witness your pup barking with confidence. Enjoy the adventure!

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2024-05-16 This book presents a new and innovative concept in dealing with dogs: the human-canine synergy (HCS), characterized by a holistic nature and its differentiation from unidimensional terms expressing the affiliation of humans and dogs (Relationship, Interaction, Bonding). Related to the use and training by humans, it applies three main categories of dogs: a) the empathy/therapeutic individuals, which are dogs helping persons with empathy- or therapeutic needs; b) assisting/working dogs carrying out specific actions to aid or assist humans perform specific tasks; and c) the facilitating/inspiring dogs, which enable or improve various human activities, including classroom dogs for teaching and learning purposes in almost all educational subjects. Organized in three parts, chapters address the following needs: • The first section illuminates the concept of HCS as well as basic principles determining this synergy and consequently the process of training dogs (owners and professional trainers). Readers will understand the role of a dog's personality, behavior and especially temperament in its successful training. • In a scientifically documented way, the second part guides those who wish to engage in dog training (amateur or professional). It describes basic training forms within the HCS framework (obedience, protection, detection and classroom dog) and necessary steps for proper completion. • The third book part describes the business of dog training with multi-dimensional approach by emphasizing a good understanding and knowledge of interactions and the environment in which trainer, owner and dog typically operate. Overall, this work is a valuable read for anyone who deals with our four-legged companions for business or pleasure.

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in step dog training: Dog Training Essentials Vincent Barrton, 2020-05-24 A pet is the best friend of man, but it's also a big responsibility. They need constant love, attention, and care, just like kids. And they can become a headache just like kids who lack discipline. A potential owner of a pet can fret for them over the right breed. With their furry friends, they should mull over the right shoes, the healthiest therapies, or the most comfortable bed. While these are all important factors that need to be carefully considered, they are not all. This guide's straightforward and easy to follow content can be the compass that points you towards the right path. As long as you are consistent, you can get your pet under control in no time. You may not be a professional trainer, but you'll eventually get your pet to sit, stay, and rollover. Here's to a happy and loving relationship with your dog! Table of Contents Establishing Roles Housebreaking Socializing Obedience Training Behavioral Training and Proofing Leash Training Training Agility Dogs and Service Dogs

in step dog training: The Ultimate Guide to Dog Training: Mastering Canine Communication & Building a Lifelong Bond Philipp Hornickel, 2025-03-04 Unlock the secrets to a happy, obedient, and thriving canine companion with The Ultimate Guide to Dog Training. Whether you're a new pet parent or a seasoned dog lover, this comprehensive handbook offers proven, step-by-step techniques that will transform your dog's behavior—and deepen the bond between you. Inside, you'll discover a wealth of practical advice and real-world strategies: Foundations of Canine Communication: Learn to read your dog's body language and understand the signals they use to communicate, setting the stage for effective training. Positive Reinforcement Techniques: Embrace training methods that focus on rewards and encouragement, turning every session into an opportunity for growth and trust. Essential Commands & Daily Routines: Master key commands like "sit," "stay," "come," and "down" with clear, easy-to-follow instructions that make training fun and engaging. House and Crate Training Mastery: Establish routines that minimize accidents and create a safe, comfortable environment your dog will love. Advanced Skills & Fun

Tricks: Take your training to the next level with agility, interactive games, and entertaining tricks that keep your dog mentally sharp and physically active. Overcoming Challenges: Get expert tips on managing common training obstacles, ensuring that setbacks become stepping stones to success. Packed with actionable insights, expert advice, and inspiring real-life examples, this book empowers you to transform your training sessions into rewarding experiences that enrich both your dog's life and your own. Discover how to create a structured, loving environment where your dog not only learns but thrives, forming a deep, lasting bond with you. Don't settle for ordinary training methods—choose *The Ultimate Guide to Dog Training* and embark on a journey toward a more harmonious, joyful, and well-behaved pet today!

in step dog training: *The Dog Trainer's Complete Guide to a Happy, Well-Behaved Pet* Jolanta Benal, 2025-09-23 If you want to raise a happy dog who loves to play and cuddle--but still comes when called and doesn't chew up your favorite shoes--you need Jolanta Benal's *The Dog Trainer's Complete Guide to a Happy, Well-Behaved Pet*. Jolanta's dog-training philosophy is simple: playful, rewards-based training fosters sociable, polite behavior that is the hallmark of a likeable dog. Harsh, outdated prong collars and choke chains do not. Whether you've just welcomed a new puppy into your life, or are facing some struggles with an already beloved family member, Jolanta has sound advice on everything you want to know, including: • How to housetrain your dog for good • How to read your dog's body language • How to avoid common training mistakes and fix the ones you've already made Jolanta's warm, funny tone and encouraging conversational style will teach you to raise the most loving and best-behaved pooch on the block.

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