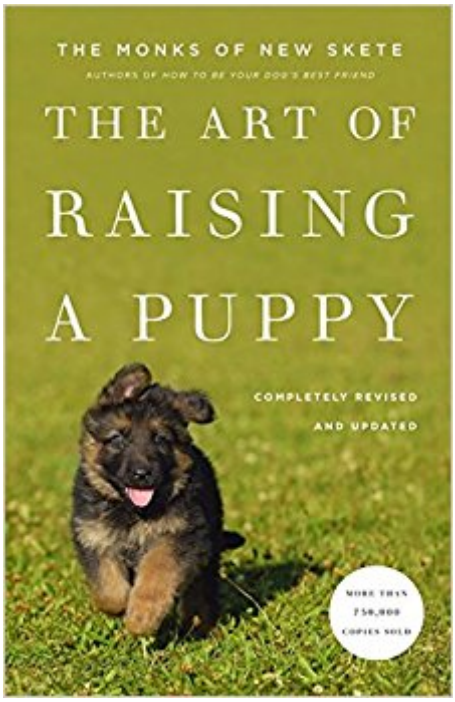
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The Art Of Raising A Puppy (Revised Edition)



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Synopsis

For more than thirty years the Monks of New Skete have been among America's most trusted authorities on dog training, canine behavior, and the animal/human bond. In their two now-classic bestsellers, How to be Your Dog's Best Friend and THE ART OF RAISING A PUPPY, the Monks draw on their experience as long-time breeders of German shepherds and as trainers of dogs of all breeds to provide--brilliantly distilled--the indispensable information and advice that every dog owner needs. This new edition of THE ART OF RAISING A PUPPY features new photographs throughout, along with updated chapters on play, crating, adopting dogs from shelters and rescue organizations, raising dogs in an urban environment, and the latest developments in canine health and canine behavioral theory.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The monks of New Skete have been breeding and training dogs at their New York monastery for more than 20 years. Their philosophy of raising dogs accentuates the essential human-canine bond, whereby owners must learn to understand a dog's instincts, needs, and behavior. Understanding a dog, the monks say, is the key to successfully training him. They first published this philosophy in their 1978 classic guide How to Be Your Dog's Best Friend. Now the monks concentrate on the first three months of a puppy's life in The Art of Raising a Puppy. The book observes a litter of monastery puppies from birth to 12 weeks. Tender photographs and dialogue reflect these precious first few weeks of life. Even at this time, the human-canine link is vital; the monks stress the importance of gentle touch to help forge this connection. Basic puppy training techniques are explored and executed, all of which puppy owners should find easy to implement. Virtually all types

of dog problems and dog training are examined in the book, always in compassionate and easily comprehensible language. The monks also look well beyond surface training techniques to analyze the roots of dogs' problems and explain how training can help. Owners are taught how to gently assert dominance over their dog, which will make for a long-lasting and fulfilling relationship. Beautiful black-and-white photographs of monastery puppies will pull at every heartstring. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The monks of New Skete in Cambridge, New York, dog trainers and breeders of German shepherds, here expand on their classic How to Be Your Dog's Best Friend . The excellent instruction begins with an in-depth examination of the puppies of one litter from birth through their eventual placements with new owners-- following their social and physical development, their needs, and clues to their emerging personalities. Proposing that the best way to forge a healthy dog-to-owner bond is to prevent problems before they occur, the authors soundly emphasize that a puppy begins its training "the day it arrives home." They teach readers how to choose an appropriate breed and a promising puppy, and how to assume the position of "pack" leader from the start. Sensitive and unimpeachably humane, this handbook places equal stress on the time-consuming responsibilities of dog ownership and on its ultimate rewards. Photos. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

It is clear the Monks of New Skete sincerely mean well, however their lack of knowledge and training skills is evident in their books. The Monks of New Skete share the same goal as other trainers, in that they want to see dogs that are well-behaved and included into their familyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s lives.Many years ago I read the 1991 book ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Art Of Raising A PuppyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• from the Monks of New Skete and at that time thought it was a great book. I recently purchased the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Completely Revised And UpdatedÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• version of ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Art Of Raising A PuppyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• in hopes that I would find a new and improved version of the 1991 book. Sadly that is not the case. Since reading the first book I have become a professional trainer and I continued to learn from exceptional individuals and now I could never recommend their books or their training.A few of the glaring problems with the books are:They state rightly that it is normal and ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“to expect some whining this first nightÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• from your new puppy when you go to bed. They recommend you ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“reach down and quiet him without a fussÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦.Do this

calmly, soothing him at first. If the whining persists, a gentle scruff shake along with a low 'No, go to sleep' may be necessary.ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• What! A scruff shake and a verbal correction for a puppy spending the first night away from his mother and littermates? And this is supposed to be coming from their new best friend?For housetraining the procedure in the book regarding covering the whole floor in newspaper will create more challenges then necessary in housetraining your puppy.The 2011 ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Completely Revised And UpdatedÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• edition on page 64 is another example of what you want to avoid when feeding puppies and the way not to handle these situations. A better course of action would be for the Monks to structure things so as to prevent unnecessary possessiveness and aggression in the puppies during this extremely sensitive time, when the effects of these experiences are permanent. The concern with The Monks of New Skete book continues in the chapter ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Discipline and Common Puppy ProblemsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. The advice on forcefully dealing with the five-month-old male German shepherd that growls at guests is another huge issue. Sadly, following their guidance can actually make the problem much worst.The book goes on to recommend training collars ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Once your puppy has been on a flat-buckle collar or a martingale collar for one to two monthsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. There is no reason for this. ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Training collarsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• are completely unnecessary for a puppy or an adult dog. They recommend a ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“snap-around nylon training collarÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (basically a nylon choke collar) and a modified prong collar. (plastic prong collar). On page 250 (2011 edition) they state they have begun introducing remote collars (shock collars) in their adult training program. Unfortunately due to a lack of knowledge and training skills the Monks have resorted to ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“training toolsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. In reality none of these ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“toolsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• are needed to train a dog, even a challenging dog to an advanced level.The other glaring issue in the book is the over emphasis on dominance and alpha. The Monks approach is to show the dog who is boss and act harshly ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“when necessaryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. Dogs, like humans, would much rather follow a leader than a boss. The Monks could learn ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“How to Be Your DogÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Best FriendÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• from knowledgeable trainers like Suzanne Clothier and John Rogerson, to name just two. Dominance is exercising the most influence or control in the context of a relationship between individuals. You donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t need to establish an authoritarian relationship to be considered the dominant one in the relationship; you need to be a leader. Styles of leadership are not limited to just two choices; permissive or harsh. Leadership doesn't require you to turn into a food container and act like a PEZ dispenser, nor do you need a ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“behavior scienceÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• degree. What is required is that you

understand dogs and the art of dog training. Then simply act like a leader not an adversary and the dogs will look like partners not prisoners. If you get your part right the dogs will be well-behaved, under control and more often cooperating rather than submitting.Many dogs with training or behavior problems that are mistaken for ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“dominantÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• are just lacking self-control and discipline, and were never taught manners nor properly trained. What many people have mistaken for ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“dominanceÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• was an independent, confident, assertive dog that would not be referred to as biddable. There are dogs with strong personalities that require a committed leader to maintain control, but the Monks training tools and harsh methods are unnecessary. Even the more challenging dogs can be trained without the harsh treatment and all the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“training collarÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• tools.A far superior book on every level is ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Dog Vinci CodeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• by John Rogerson. John Rogerson is a world renowned dog trainer and behaviorist who has been training dogs for over 40-years. For a better approach to the housetraining and feeding issues noted above read ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Dog Vinci Code - Chapter 4 ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Early Behavioural DevelopmentÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. With regards to the advice in the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Discipline and Common Puppy ProblemsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• on forcefully dealing with the five-month-old male German shepherd that growls at guests, start with chapter 42, page 247 ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Understanding AggressionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• and then move to chapter 44, page 260 ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Fear and AggressionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• for a better approach to dealing with such behavior. For more insight on dealing with a dog that growls, read page 215 in ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Bones Would Rain From The SkyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• by Suzanne Clothier. If you are still curious and are open to increasing your knowledge about living with and training dogs, get anything written by Suzanne Clothier. Read her book ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Bones Would Rain From The SkyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• chapter 17 if you want to understand how and when to apply compulsion or coercion if/when persuasion has reached its limits. Suzanne Clothier has been working with animals professionally since 1977, with a deep background of experience that includes obedience, agility, puppy testing, breeding, Search and Rescue, conformation, instructing, kennel management and canine midwifery. Suzanne is also a German Shepherd breeder and her 8 generations of Shepherds have been successful in obedience, agility, SAR, tracking, herding and therapy work.ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s my sincere hope that the Monks of New Skete will come to a new way of seeing and seek out some of the exceptional trainers whose methods result in well-trained dogs, and whose approach is based on building a strong relationship and being your dogÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s best friend. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m certain the dogs would appreciate it.

While much of the book was interesting and informative (emphasis and descriptions of the power of an individual’s relationship with his dog as well as the explanation of the puppy’s stages of development) I was distressed by the use of physical force to "teach" the dog. That kind of training can intimidate a sensitive dog, make him fearful of his leash, his trainer and his training sessions. A fearful dog can become aggressive. In the wrong hands these training techniques can backfire and turn the dog on the trainer or innocent bystanders. The monks would do well to utilize positive reinforcement as their "go to" technique rather than immediately resort to physical punishment when a dog does not respond correctly immediately. I would tell someone to read everything except the sections on training!

The absolute best, most comprehensive and practical book on puppies and puppy raising. I have had many dogs, but learned many new things from this publication. In my opinion the Monks of New Skeet should be required reading for all dog owners, new and old.

A must for any new dog owner or anyone planning ahead. Perfect for the GSD owner. Beautifully describes every stage and what to anticipate. Especially helpful in teaching leadership as a "pack leader" vs your dogs best buddy sort of books.

I have raised and trained several dogs in my life, with varying degrees of success. This book fills in what has been missing in those relationships and calls me to up my game with my next puppy. I would recommend this book to anyone who has or will be getting a puppy with which they desire companionship and not just ownership.

This is a great, informative book for a person who is new to raising a puppy and wants to end up with an obedient dog. It is full of information about every phase of a puppies life. We bought this book just prior to getting our first dog. We read and re-read the book gleaning as much information as we could, and then returned to various sections as we encountered problems with our puppy. This book, along with Don Sullivan’s Perfect Dog videos are a must have for the potential dog owner. Rather than trying to figure it out yourself, learn from those who have mastered the raising of dogs.

This is a terrific book for anyone who has a puppy or plans to get one, though it works best in tandem with the monks’ earlier work, "How to Be Your Dog’s Best Friend". That’s because "The Art"

really is more about the art of puppy raising than about specific techniques, while "How to Be Your Dog's Best Friend" is particularly strong on training specific commands. I find it very helpful to use the books together. .This book begins with a section on the development of the puppy - physically, emotionally, and socially. This is based on behavioral and genetic research over the past twenty years, and helped me understand what my puppy needed at various points in his (still brief) career. Then, the monks proceed to a thoroughgoing discussion of choosing to adopt a dog (first question: should you?) and how to go about doing so. The next section covers the earliest period of puppy training, which is essentially settling your puppy into the routines of your home, and developing an approach to training. The monks then discuss basic puppy training, playing with your puppy, puppy problems, and caring for the pup.The book focuses most on general principals of training - establish leadership, respecting your dog, building your relationship - but also has some very useful specifics. .One is the restraint hold -- works like a charm when my puppy gets nutsy, leading to rapid relaxation. Overall, however, look to "How to Be Your Dog's Best Friend" for training specifics, and to this book for the Zen of Puppy Raising.

Very helpful with the training of our new puppy!

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