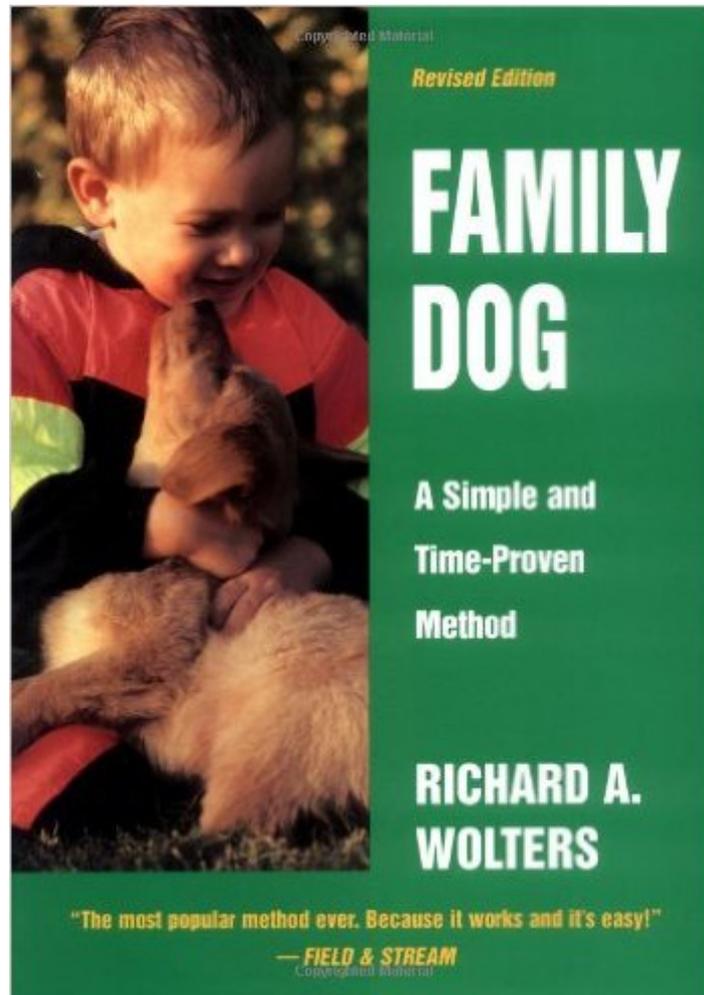


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# Family Dog: A Simple And Time-Proven Method



## Synopsis

This time-proven guide by legendary trainer Richard A. Wolters offers a step-by-step method for completely training your dog, regardless of breed or age - in just sixteen weeks. Whether you're six or sixty, you can learn to train your dog quickly and effectively - taking only minutes a day. In *Family Dog*, you'll discover:--How to choose the right dog for your family and lifestyle--The fundamentals of training - from housebreaking to basic commands to teaching tricks--The key to your dog's healthy mental development--The benefits of play and relaxation--How to guide your dog through his first critical growth periods--Talking with your dog-- it's not what you say but how you say it--Children and dogs-- learning to take responsibility--Tips on grooming--The best dog diet in the world--First-aid and medical advice And much more. Fully illustrated with more than 200 all-new photographs that take you systematically through every phase of training, *Family Dog* will take the frustration out - and put the fun back in - to give you the pet you've always wanted.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 163 pages

Publisher: Dutton; Revised edition (February 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525944729

ISBN-13: 978-0525944720

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 0.6 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (134 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #19,965 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Training

## Customer Reviews

We got a golden retriever puppy 6 years ago. My neighbor (whose dogs are beautifully trained) recommended this book, which I immediately bought and used. Many people comment on how well-behaved my dog is, and it is because I followed this book to the letter. I have been asked what training I took Ellie to, and have replied "She's home-schooled!" I have loaned out my copy many times and am happy to see it is updated, although the original was fine. I would highly recommend it for anyone getting a puppy or a new dog.

I used the author's "Water Dog" to train my lab 12 years ago and will use the same techniques now

with my new puppy. The focus of this book is most certainly NOT to "whip the dog into shape" but rather to produce a civilized member of the family. Wolters was not Dr. Spock, but to suggest that he was a bad trainer, "lazy and undisciplined" is to do him a gross injustice. I saw the man and his dogs in action: he clearly loved them, and they loved him. Wolters urges his readers to praise their puppy at every opportunity. Only when they deliberately misbehave, and then only when they are of an age (2) to know they are misbehaving, does he suggest a swat on the bottom. In today's politically correct society, that surely amounts to bestiality, but dogs don't read The New York Times or enroll in PETA, so you're safe. As an aside, using Wolters' books as training guides I ended up with a wonderful, obedient dog whom I never had to hit, not once, in 12 years. I (and my dog) owe Wolters a debt of gratitude.

This book was recommended to us by the breeder we bought our lab from and it turned out to be one of the best books we have read on dog training. Wolters does a great job of spelling out week by week and situation by situation what to do. It is also great because it tells how to incorporate your child into the training - and not many labs like to listen to children. It was great. Our dogs are so well behaved because we followed the routine set in this book. Some are turned off because he does talk of physical punishment -but it really isn't necessary if you follow the steps from the beginning. If you don't agree with that part, don't do it like we didn't. But the rest of the book is definitely well worth it.

We have used the entire Wolters series (Family Dog, Gun Dog, Water Dog, etc.) to train our labrador. We recommend this book to ANYONE with any type of dog but especially for labs!

I have found tremendous joy in training and raising my Lab pup! I have read Water Dog and Family Dog (and watched the Gun Dog Video) and have found all to be excellent training manuals. What is most interesting to me is that really, the trainer is the one doing the most learning... the learning comes natural to the dog. So essentially, the books are teaching YOU how to most effectively work with your companion. Most everyone will ask me when I'll take my pup to school... I tell them that I most likely will not have to because Wolters' books (and many other resources) have taught me that training is simply a matter of devotion to the dog. It does take time and effort but no more than that which is necessary (recommended in this book 10-15 minutes a day, gradually increasing time as the pup grows older) to have a disciplined, happy member of the family. Oh yes, and the training done in this book is by Wolters' 6 year old daughter which illustrates his point in just how elementary

the training can be.

I have been extremely pleased with the results with my 20 week old Black Lab "Anna Kate" a grand daughter of Galileo (Ducks Unlimited Model T-Shirt Chocolate Lab). I purchased this book in the nick of time when Anna was 9 wks old. I began immediately in following the training principles of Mr. Wolters. I would have not have had the confidence to start disciplining my pup at 12-16wks if I hadn't read the book. Now Anna responds excellently to Sit, Down, Come, Stay, and others such as Shake, High 5, Belly Up and Get Busy. I have never had a dog Stay while I ran away. Anna will even drop down from a dead sprint at the Stay command. Now, the only negative thing I have to do is just say "NO" in a deep voice and she responds immediately. I have impressed several of my friends and I always talk about this book!!!! Before you buy your next puppy, I strongly recommend purchasing this book!!! You will be glad you did!!!

I think it would be helpful to point out that the author strongly believes that this training should take place during a specific time period early in the dog's life. I was hoping for help with my one-year-old dog, so this was a disappointing discovery for me. One pleasant surprise was that it also focuses on training your child to train the dog, with plenty of clear photos. The book is a quick and rather enjoyable read, and the method seems simple and practical. I am going to try it on my dog, even though the author says that missing the critical age for training will mean I'll need a healthy measure of luck to succeed.

I bought this book many years ago. It has clear wording and thought it an extremely helpful guide to training our yellow lab. I knew she would be big and I don't like large dogs with bad manners. She turned out to be very obedient. I loaned it out so many times, I can't keep track. I never got my copy back. I have to get another one, as we are getting a new dog soon. I can't say enough about this book. I recommend it to anyone getting a dog who is serious about training it right.

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