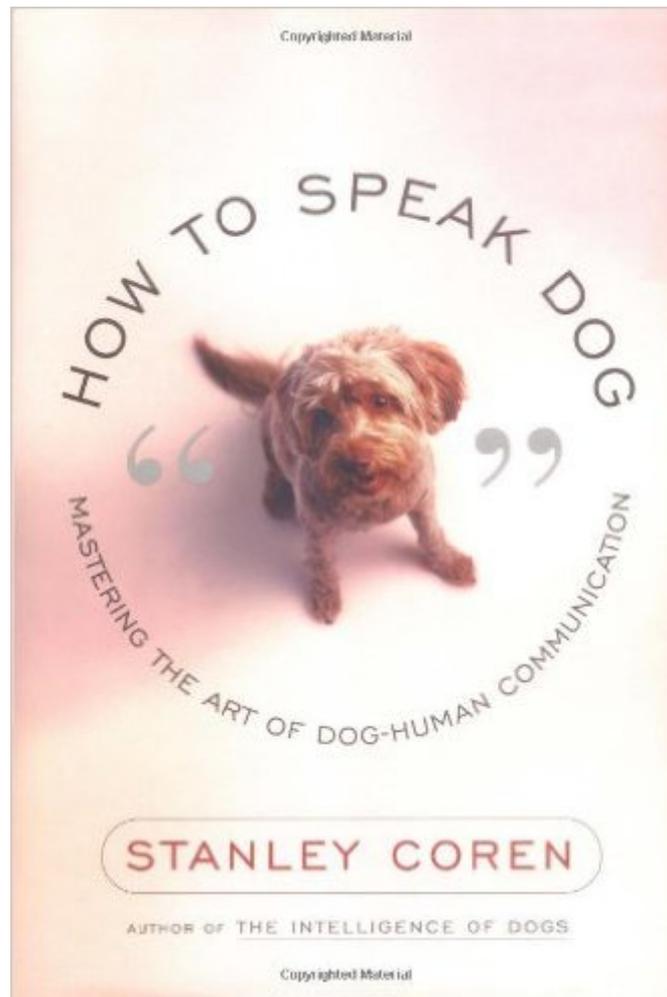


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# How To Speak Dog: Mastering The Art Of Dog-Human Communication



## Synopsis

A guide to improving relations with your pet. This book demonstrates that the average house dog can differentiate up to 140 words, and explores the limits of a dog's language while charting the possibilities.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (210 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #483,568 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Care & Health](#) #57 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Dogs & Wolves](#) #432 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Mammals](#)

## Customer Reviews

As a lover of dogs for over 50 years, I own dozens of books about canine care and behavior, but Stanley Coren's 'How to Speak Dog' is definitely my favorite. I originally found this informative dog communication book in my local library after adopting a lovable but fearful mixed breed from my local humane society five years ago. Since then, I have bought at least six copies of this same book online, just to have on hand to give to friends and family who decide to bring a dog into their life or who don't understand the behavior of a dog already living with them. I especially like the book's detailed descriptions of a dog's specific body language (ears, eyes, mouth, tail) and what each means--as well as its guide to the messages a dog is sending when he barks or whines in a particular way. Not unlike a driver's training manual which must be read by those who wish to become licensed drivers, 'How to Speak Dog' should be required reading for every person who decides to share his or her life with a dog.

I frequently review dog books and interview authors--so, I was fortunate enough to be able to review an advance proof of this book last month, as well as interview Dr. Coren. If you have even the

slightest interest in dog behavior (including aggression), training, or simply want to better understand your pet and its interactions with humans, dogs, and other species, this book is a \*must\* read. In the book, Dr. Coren relates to readers an enormous amount of information on the communication skills of dogs, and manages to do this in a very entertaining and humorous manner.

Reading this book was like receiving a canine translator - now I can not only understand but also communicate more effectively with my own dog as well as other dogs. It has enabled me to interpret how dogs are reacting to their environment, anticipate their actions, and take appropriate steps to stave off aggression. This book overcomes the shortcomings and dispels the myths of many rote "praise-and-correction" training books regarding what dogs are capable of understanding and how best to make them understand and do what you want. I highly recommend this to any dog owner looking for a better way of communicating with their dog than snapping a collar.

I had my doubts about this book. I am a professional dog trainer, and a animal behaviorist. I would not recommend this book for your average reader. However it covers the basics of canine behavior very well and I would recommend it to anyone who trains dogs, or works with groups of dogs and wants a deeper understanding of their social interactions. Reads a bit on the scientific side, so if your reading for entertainment you will probably be bored. If your reading to learn and increase your knowledge, you will probably enjoy.

Having bought this book when it first came out, and having bought many others since then with similar content but slightly different approaches, I came back to HOW TO SPEAK DOG when I was choosing a book to give to a young teen who had just adopted a German Shepherd from a Rescue Organization. Why? Quite simply, this book has wonderful drawings that give direct visual clues to the student of Dog-Speak which is essentially a marriage of vocalization and body language. In many cases, it is the placement of the Dog's ears, his posture and more that helps to communicate his needs and the simple yet charming illustrations give concrete examples of what your doggie should look like when he is saying "I wanna play" or "I'm scared and might bite." Added to this enormous wealth of visual information is Coren's charming storytelling abilities. In each chapter, he draws on his own experiences with his dogs with obvious affection. This tenderness lends credibility to his explanations and also underscores the importance of understanding your dog's needs and motivations when assessing the meaning of the communication in question. Coren also brings considerable experience in human affairs to the mix...being a practising Psychiatrist. He masterfully

explains not just the rudimentary basics of learning to communicate with Fido and goes further to explore virtually ALL of the possible means by which Dogs communicate with us. Especially touching is his description towards the end of the book of the personal significance the sound of his own dogs' breathing in the quiet night has to him. Mixed in with the discussions of the various woofs, howls and ear positions are some very charming anecdotes. Coren begins the book with a very amusing Russian "myth" about how Dog came to live with Adam and Eve after they were expelled from the Garden of Eden. I have retold that story to others and always gotten a laugh. In relating this story, Coren illustrates just how timeless and precious is the relationship between mankind and Dogs. This book is an excellent Doggie Dictionary for both beginning Dog Caregivers and experienced Dog lovers everywhere. You may find it necessary to keep extra copies on hand, since you may find yourself, as I have, constantly recommending this book and being further compelled to give your own copy away!

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