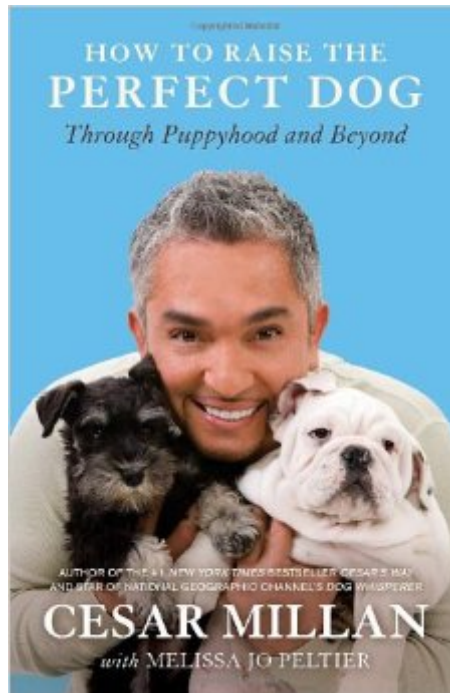


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# How To Raise The Perfect Dog: Through Puppyhood And Beyond



## Synopsis

From the bestselling author and star of National Geographic Channel's Dog Whisperer, the only resource you'll need for raising a happy, healthy dog. For the millions of people every year who consider bringing a puppy into their lives—as well as those who have already brought a dog home—Cesar Millan, the preeminent dog behavior expert, says, "Yes, you can raise the perfect dog!" It all starts with the proper foundation in the early years. Here, Cesar tells you everything you need to know to create the best environment for a well-balanced dog in order to avoid behavior issues in the future, and shows you how to correct the most common behavior issues for young dogs. Based on Cesar's own detailed experiences raising individual puppies from some of the most popular breeds, *How to Raise the Perfect Dog* is like having Cesar right beside you, as your own personal expert, coaching you and your dog from the first day of your life together. Packed with new information aimed specifically at the particular needs of puppies and adolescents, and written in Cesar's friendly, accessible style, *How to Raise the Perfect Dog* answers all the most commonly asked questions and guides you towards a loving, satisfying life-long relationship with your best friend. #1 New York Times bestselling author, Cesar Millan shows you how to raise the perfect dog and prevent behavior issues before they start, including:

- what to expect from each stage of your puppy's development
- quick and easy housebreaking
- the essentials of proper nutrition
- the importance of vaccinating—and of not over-vaccinating
- creating perfect obedience from day one through rules, boundaries, and calm-assertive leadership
- how to avoid the most common mistakes owners make raising puppies and young dogs
- how to correct any issue before it becomes a problem
- unique exercises and play to bring out the best in every breed

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is great--very informative, positive, and practical. I would recommend this book to anyone who is thinking about getting a puppy. As an experienced animal handler, I feel that this book is a great guide for the beginner and experienced alike. Among the things that I find particularly useful are the careful, step-by-step instructions, specific examples from puppies that Millan raised while working on this book, discussions from experienced breeders and dog trainers, and an extensive appendix of suggestions for further reading. The only thing not in the book that I would have loved would be a more thorough discussion of integrating the new puppy into a home that has older dogs already. While there is some discussion of this, it is not enough to provide the guidance I really would like. While some dog trainers will denounce Millan's methods as archaic and harsh, I would encourage readers to keep an open mind. While Millan does not employ a positive-reinforcement-only approach--which is what many of his detractors prefer--his methods are gentle and concerned only with the well-being of the dog. His methods have made a huge difference in my life and in my dog's life. She is happier and more balanced when I follow Millan's formula. Everyone who meets her comments on how well-behaved she is and takes great pleasure in petting and playing with her--even people who are typically frightened of dogs or just uncomfortable around them. As a high-energy, alpha-type dog, I don't believe that would be the case if I had not followed Millan's methods; for my strong-willed dog, positive reinforcement is only sometimes a strong enough motivation to encourage the behaviors I want, but discipline coupled with positive reinforcement is exactly what she needs.

Years ago I found the Monks of New Skete's books and videos. I also read as many dog training books as I could find. In every book, I learned something new and even moved on to teach dog obedience training. When I found Cesar for the first time, his concepts about energy, claiming, "nose-eyes-ears," and pack leadership filled in the gaps of my dog knowledge. I wish I'd know this in the past with my other dogs, but as Cesar says, "Live in the moment." Luckily I found about him when my Standard Schnauzer was about eight months old. Cesar has changed my life with my dogs. This new book about puppies is not too late for me even though my Schnauzer is now four years. It gave me a nice reminiscence of my dog as a puppy and reminded me to rehabilitate him as a dog, but also to find things to do that he will enjoy because of his breed. IMO, if owners use Cesar's new book along with the Monks of New Skete's "The Art of Raising a Puppy," there will be fewer surrenders to shelters during their dog's adolescent stage. They're a dynamic duo!  
Peggy Rochester, NY

I bought this book hoping it would be a good instruction / how-to guide. Unfortunately the book is not really laid out for this purpose. It's very heavy on personal reflection, anecdotes and story telling. This may be good for fans of the show or people that prefer learning through stories. It gets the book to 320 pages, but that's quite a bit to wade through. I am now looking for a more traditional how-to style book....

I read some of the negative reviews before I purchased three of Cesar Millan's books at the same time and I thought: this is the dog whisperer! He knows dogs and I watch his shows which are fantastic so it must be just disgruntled book/dog owners for some reason, maybe because he is unorthodox from conventional dog trainers. After buying three of Cesar's books and keeping a very open mind and trying really, really hard to get "Zen" with his whole "energy" concept I found myself extremely frustrated and extremely p-ed off, not because I wasted the money on the books but because I have never read so much BS in a book. For example, Potty training: Cesar proceeds to relate a couple stories from breeders who essentially disparage the rest of us mere idiots on house training. "What's all the fuss he writes comes from one breeder?" I can house train any dog in three days he boasts. Then he goes on to say he has a puppy mill dog that still messes years later (what happened to any dog I ask?) He then goes on to say that older dogs in his "pack" really do all the house training by example. If everyone had an older dog doing all the training then we wouldn't need to buy the book! The same is true for the professional breeders who boast about how great they are and how stupid the rest of us are, they just happen to have the parent around to do the potty training. The books are filled with so many contradictions it is ridiculous. Too many to write about all of them! In one part he disparages veterinarians and canine health professionals (which I am not) and describes how they don't let nature run its course and nature knows best and he and his breeder pals outsmart all the canine doctors. In the next section he then goes on to say even his breeder friends have to outsmart nature and nature has to be controlled with certain tricks because it isn't always perfect. One is left shaking their head with a WTF look? I generally wouldn't waste my time with all this reviewing but this one just really got me fired up. I read "How to raise the perfect Dog", "Cesar's rules" and "Cesar's way" my advice: save your money or buy the book from the Monks of New Skete that breed German Sheppard's. It was decent but not great. My advice to Cesar (which I'm certain he could care less but it makes me feel better to get it off my chest) stop writing about how great you are and how "Zen" you are with doggieland and how much Junior does your job for you and try to understand there are people out here truly suffering with dog issues. We

need simple, comprehensive, effective steps on how to manage dog problems and few of us have a "daddy" or "junior" to assist us - it's just us. Many of us are not the neurotic confused people attempting to transform our dogs into pseudo-humans that we oftentimes see on the show. We are just average, everyday working folks that love our animals and truly want to teach our animals their role, discipline, exercise and then love them, However, some have issues and standing there with all the "energy" transference in the world isn't stopping fido from crapping in the house. Months later update: I'm an avid shopper and I trust the reviews because they are generally very insightful and accurate, especially when there are more than 5 or so reviews for a particular product. I find it interesting to note some people give a negative response to a review if they simply don't like to hear the real truth or at least opinion of the reviewer. Sad for them because consumer protection is only guarded by consumers and if we only tell rosy tales and never provide sincere, critical feedback then we might as well all go by what the professional reviewers like "Consumer Reports" provide (which are worthless and a fraud IMO and paid by advertisers). I like the Dog Whisperer, I just think this book is poor and he could have done a much better job with the content.

The book was not what I expected. Thought it would be more step by step. Rambled on too much about his life and his dogs.

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