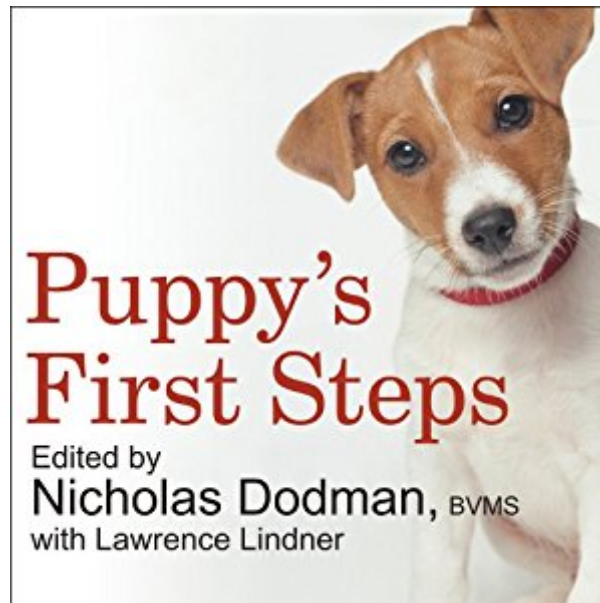




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# Puppy's First Steps: Raising A Happy, Healthy, Well-Behaved Puppy



## Synopsis

The faculty of the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University presents *Puppy's First Steps: The Whole-Dog Approach to Raising a Happy, Healthy, Well-Behaved Puppy*, edited by Nicholas H. Dodman, BVMS, MRCVS, with Lawrence Lindner. This is a book for enlightened dog owners - a groundbreaking, "whole-dog" approach to raising a puppy, from the halls of one of the most prestigious and pioneering veterinary schools in the world. Nowhere else will readers find this whole-dog approach, a unique combination of training, behavior, and health care. Covering everything from how to pick a puppy, what to feed him, and how to house train, to why puppies behave the way they do and what to do in a host of medical situations, *Puppy's First Steps* is the only book a puppy owner will need.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 10 hours and 1 minute

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Tantor Audio

Audible.com Release Date: June 18, 2007

Language: English

ASIN: B000SAGZ0G

Best Sellers Rank: #66 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Care & Health #171 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Lifestyle & Home > Animal Care & Pets #1219 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Training

## Customer Reviews

This is the perfect book for any one considering adopting a puppy. It covers everything one needs to know about the various aspects of choosing a breed or rescue, whether or not your household is ready for a dog and then once you have made the choice, how to end up with the best dog ever. As most of us dog lovers know, it's really about training the owners to understand canine behavior so that the bond can be only positive.

If you have never experienced puppy-parenting before, this useful resource gives you all the basics. Nicely written and full of tips, from puppy selection to dogs' sensory capabilities, with nice emphasis on critical/sensitive periods and on ensuring positive experiences during these times - the key to a

well-mannered, well-adjusted dog. I gave the book 4 stars rather than 5, however, because it didn't meet my expectations. I hoped for many "insider" tips that surely veterinarians have at their disposal for things like clipping black toenails, what those dog food labels \*really\* mean (I was VERY disappointed in this chapter - all ingredients are NOT created equal; they didn't even mention which ingredients are the top allergens), and balancing health precautions with socialization (they promote the largely-impractical "puppy party" method, with no alternatives). If you are well-read, this book won't offer a single new insight. But if you are starting out with your very first puppy, or if your last puppy was long ago (back when you didn't train puppies until they were 6 months old so that they could handle heavy-handed punished-focused "training" methods), you will get everything you need here. If you know the basics of vaccinations schedules, grooming needs, etc. and want a book focused more on manners, etc., I highly recommend Trish King's *Parenting Your Dog*.

*Puppy's First Steps* provides comprehensive, up-to-date information on everything a new puppy owner should know--development, nutrition, health, house training, behavior and training. The information reflects the best in veterinary medicine and knowledge and understanding of dog behavior and training. Dr. Dodman is internationally respected veterinary behaviorist and the book provides excellent information and recommendation regarding raising a happy, healthy puppy that will grow up to be a great family dog. I found the sections on development and dog senses (smell, hearing, sight) really helpful and interesting.

I heard the author speak on NPR and thought it was worth reading his book, since I am buying a new puppy. Being a first time owner, I really wanted to know what I was getting into. The book is quite comprehensive starting from the very first day and extending far beyond. I have been able to fly through it and it is not boring like you might think a manual might be. Chapters are well organized so you can skip over non applicable items and move forward... Really gives you a good idea of all the work, time, and effort that goes into good pet ownership.

I took this book out of the library and loved its no-nonsense approach to training your dog. It also clearly explains the stages of being a puppy and what to expect. We got a new puppy six weeks ago and I wanted to buy a copy for myself. When I saw I could get a new copy for very little money on , I jumped at the chance to get it.

A wonderfully interesting read. Great information and tips on physical and psychological needs of

dogs and their owners;.

Plenty of details and descriptions to start puppy owners on the right track, and all those questions about whether you are using proper commands appropriate for particular behaviors... so as not to confuse your pup, and help him to understand what you want. Easy reading!

This is a must read for anyone that has a puppy. You will learn so much from this book. A must read.

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