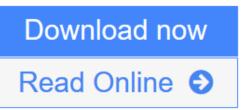


The Dog's Mind: Understanding Your Dog's Behavior (Howell reference books)

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"Quite simply this is an excellent book. It is well-written, with snatches of dry humour. It should be mandatory reading for anybody who keeps a dog or has intentions of so doing."

-R. W. F. Poole, Daily Telegraph

How do dogs perceive the world about them? How do they see, hear, learn, relate to their owners? How large are their brains, what is their emotional makeup? Why do they suffer from stress and how can it be coped with? Over the last few years a substantial body of knowledge has been built up about the psychology of dog behavior. Combining more than twenty years of practical experience as a veterinary clinician with a personal knowledge and understanding of the latest international research, Dr. Bruce Fogle has written the most inclusive and relevant book on how the canine mind works.

The Dog's Mind: Understanding Your Dog's Behavior (Howell reference books) Details

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Abby says

Not immensely interesting. So much research on canine behavior and psychology has been done since this book was published that it reads as somewhat obsolete. Fogle still seems like an excellent veterinarian and his emphasis on serious science is refreshing and helpful. But I'd recommend Bradshaw's *Dog Sense* for a more updated and relevant look at the dog's mind.

Alison Dygnas says

Fas

I learned a lot from reading this book. I now understand how my dogs think and what precipitates their behaviour. I have learned how I can modify their behaviour with reward based training. I am looking forward to putting what I have learned into practice. This book is quite technical in places for example when he talks about the brain, but it is very readable and extremely interesting.

Stacy says

- "The more sensory information that the dog's brain receives, the more developed his mind will become. Anatomically speaking, sensory stimulation causes nerve cells in the brain to actually grow and make new synaptic connections with other nerve cells. The network expands to accommodate and assimilate new information. This is why it is so important to provide a pup with a stimulating environment."
- "...by perpetuating juvenile behavior into adulthood, we have increased the frequency of crying and whining especially in certain breeds. What you will rarely ever see is an adult dog whining at another dog. This is really a learned response. This form of communication can be controlled and diminished as long as we don't reward it with either interest, affection, or food."

"Dogs don't expect to live in equality with other dogs or with us for that matter. Democracy is a misplaced ideology in the canine world."

Lon Walker says

Loved this book! A must read to further understand dog psychology!

Evan says

This book is a bit like a textbook. It is a slightly dated compendium of facts about dogs stressing pack dynamics. There is a lot of information about the impact of the environment on the dog's mind during the first few months of life. Most of us come into our dog's life toward the end of this period so we have little control over their early experiences. I regret that the author showed little affection for dogs. His approach was rather clinical. It was an OK book about dog development and behavior.

Stefennie says

read this as part of a college course was quite informative

Anna says

Cesar Milan referred to this book in one of his books. My dog came with issues and this book was a big help. (Along with a trainer, three seasons of Dog Whisperer and two of Milan's books!) someone at the park commented it's too bad my first dog had issues. Au contraire...I was forced to be on top of things. I didn't have the luxury of allowing her to be poorly behaved as so many dogs are who don't have aggression problems. Koko is a different dog now and I am a dog walking SNOB! It's all about the walk! One important lesson I got from the book....when you have a setback, back up to where you were successful and start over!

Sylvia FitzSimons says

As a canine psychologist, this book gave me loads of insight. Quite technical, with many details and diagrams of how the different parts of the (dog's) brain works. I still use it as a reference book. However, the average dog owner might find it a bit too in-depth in this respect.

Rhubarb says

It probably goes without saying, but I really wouldn't recommend this book to anyone other than dog owners looking to understand a bit more about the thought process of their pet.

Despite there being high levels of repetition throughout the book, and despite some of the research being outdated (it's been over 25 years since it was first published), I found this quite approachable and a somewhat enjoyable read. The sections about how we can inadvertently create conflict in behaviours via our discrepancies in training vs behaviour outside of training scenarios and the sections about our erroneous application of democracy in how we treat different dogs were particularly interesting.

Diane says

Good for understanding dog's nature, a little dated as far as training methods are concerned.

Denise says

I believe this is a must read for anyone interested in dog training and working with dogs in any way. It gives you insight into how dogs think, why they do certain things and act certain ways.

Yankey says

The most comprehensive, yet condensed, resource I've found to better understand a dog's behavior. If you want to learn more specifics on any of the chapters, you are pointed where to find additional resources.

In addition to educational, the writing is entertaining and given layman scenarios to assist the reader.

If you own dogs, this is cool. If you train or work with dogs, this is a must read.

Patricia says

Informative

I deal with dogs for a living and I found this book quite useful in understanding why dogs have certain issues.

Alice Harbin says

Although this book gets into great detail about physiology at times, it is written in an easy to understand way. There is a lot of information here and I wish I could have read it before we selected our breed and our puppy, but we knew that this would be a high energy dog.

I learned about raising a female dog, about which I was totally ignorant.

There are many good management tips and training instructions. Though the book was published in 1990, I do not find anything greatly outdated.

Christine says

Even if you don't own a dog, this is very interesting to read, especially if you are one of those people addicted to information. This book gave me a deeper understanding of how dogs work, and what makes them work. The part about dog psychology, is even more interesting than human psychology, and far less depressing. Dogs are complex creatures.

This book might be a little much but if you are REALLY interested in the topic, pick up this book. Even if you only to learn about certain things, I still recommend this book since it will only draw you in..

If you have a dog, plan on having a dog, do something where you are around dogs, I highly recommend this. Once you learn about what makes a dog tick, you can use that information to get the dog to do what you want.

I personally liked how it read more like a textbook. Most books on dogs tend to read like self help books. This book is a little outdated, but you won't find most of this information anywhere else.