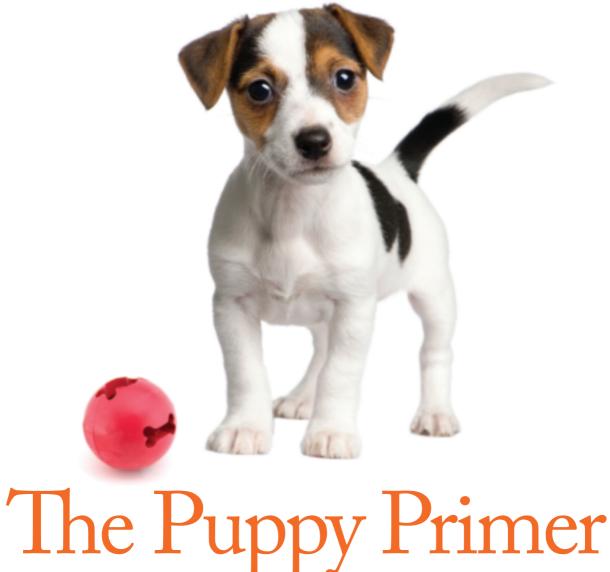
Patricia B. McConnell, Ph.D. and Brenda Scidmore



SECOND EDITION

PMC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	
CHAPTER 1 First Things First Special Topic: Socialization	
Positive Reinforcement New Exercises: Attention	
Teaching SitSit and Down Together; Puppy Push Ups!	8 9
HousetrainingSummary	10 1 <i>7</i>
CHAPTER 2 Next Steps	
Special Topic: Play Biting	10
New Éxercises:	
Coming When Called	23
Teaching Stand Practice Makes Perfect:	26
Sit and Down Revisited	27
Vary the Reinforcements	
Special Topic: Crate Training	30
Summary	34
CHAPTER 3 Please Stop Doing That! (Do This, Instead!)	
Special Topics:	
How to Stop Unwanted Behavior	35
Praise and Reinforcement	42
The Name Game	
No Jumping Up	47
Walking by Your Side Practice Makes Perfect:	4/
Sit-Down-Stand Revisited	52
Come Revisited	
Summary	56
CHAPTER 4 PLAY! PLAY! PLAY!	
Special Topic: Play	59

New Exercises:	
Take It and Drop It	60
Fetch	
Catch	64
Flying Discs and Puppies	65
Where's John?	65
Find the Toy	
Belly Up (Play Dead) and Roll Over	67
Handling Exercises	68
Backyard Agility	
Tug	/0
When Play Backfires	/I
StealingPractice Makes Perfect:	/4
Down Revisited	76
Come Revisited	
No Jumping Up: Phase Two	78
Walking By Your Side: Next Steps	78
Summary	
CHAPTER 5 Raising Happy Confident Puppies	
Special Topics:	
Helping Your Puppy Conquer His Fears	21
Children and Puppies	85
New Exercises:	
The "Puppy Pause"	87
Practice Makes Perfect:	
No Jumping Up Revisited	88
Take It/Drop It: Phase 2	89
Walking By Your Side: Making Progress	90
Summary	91
CHAPTER 6 Adolescence and Other Quandaries	
Special Topics:	
Ah Adolescence!	
Barking at Visitors	95
Other Dogs Have Started Growling at My Pup	
My Puppy Urinates During Greetings	98
What About My Other Dogs?	99
Home AloneMy Puppy Gets Car Sick	101
I Know My Pup Needs Exercise, But How Much?	104
Barking: The Good, the Bad and the Loud	106
Practice Makes Perfect:	100
Turning Puppy Pauses into Stays	109
Walking By Your Side on Cue	110
What's Next?	111
A Puppy Primer Summary	112
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	
RECOMMENDED READING	
BIOGRAPHIES	117

INTRODUCTION

Good Puppy Owner! Goooood Puppy Owner! How clever of you to start now on your puppy's education! You should feel good because you are caring and committed enough to take responsibility for your new dog's welfare. As you know, there's more to your puppy's well-being than physical health; your dog's behavior will influence the quality of life of everyone in the family for years to come, whether they have two legs or four.

The Puppy Primer is designed as a six-week training program to start you and your puppy off on the right paw. Each chapter includes *Special Topics* (Housetraining and Crate Training for example), *New Exercises* (like the steps of Come, Sit and Down training) and *Practice Makes Perfect*, (the second or third steps of an exercise, so that your pup can begin to master the behavior.)

Inside this book you'll learn how to humanely and effectively teach your pup how to pay attention, to follow the "house rules" and to be a joy to live with. You'll learn how positive reinforcement makes training fast and fun. Along the way you'll expand your ability to teach your dog good habits (rather than just correcting bad ones), and manage the home environment such that it's easy for your puppy to do the right thing.

While your pup is maturing, remember, Lassies are made, not born. Your dog didn't come into the world with the ability to understand English or to know the social conventions of our culture. By the same token, you were not born instinctively knowing how to train a dog.

Dog training involves skills that anyone can learn, if they are willing to invest the time and energy. The person who trained the television star Lassie had to master those abilities just like the rest of us! We all start from the same place.

We are delighted that you chose to begin this journey with us! We hope that raising your pup involves the whole family—dog training works best if everyone is consistent in what is communicated. You'll get the most out of this book by reading it one chapter at a time and working for one week on the exercises in each chapter before moving on. However, don't hesitate to use the book in the way that works best for you—perhaps looking into a "special topic" that you'd like to know more about right away. Ideally, go through an exercise when you can get up right away and practice what you've read. Most importantly, have fun! Training can and should be equally fun for you and your dog—isn't that why you got a dog in the first place, to add happiness and joy to your life? So read on, and look forward to creating a great relationship with your new best friend.

[Note: Rather than calling your puppy an "it," or using the awkward "s/he," we have elected to alternate between "he" and "she" in the text. We are grateful that there are only two sexes!]