



Cesar Millan's Short Guide to a Happy Dog: 98 Essential Tips and Techniques

By Cesar Millan

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After more than 9 seasons as TV's Dog Whisperer, Cesar Millan has a new mission: to use his unique insights about dog psychology to create stronger, happier relationships between humans and their canine companions.

Now in paperback, this inspirational and practical guide draws on thousands of training encounters around the world to present 98 essential lessons. Taken together, they will help dog owners create the most fulfilling life possible with their dogs.

In these pages, Cesar delves into crucial themes that go beyond obedience-school basics to reveal the hearts and minds of our beloved pets. In short, practical takes, he explores:

- The basics of dog psychology
- Instinctual behaviors
- Creating balance and boundaries
- Managing common misbehaviors
- Choosing the right dog for your family
- Helping your dog adjust to life transitions

Throughout the book, inspiring stories from Cesar's case files -- and from his TV show, *Leader of the Pack* -- provide moving real-world applications and surprising life lessons.

Smart, easy to use, and packed with Cesar's remarkable insights into human and canine behavior, *A Short Guide to A Happy Dog* is an inspiring tool for anyone looking to live a better life with a beloved member of the family.

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Cesar Millan's Short Guide to a Happy Dog: 98 Essential Tips and Techniques By Cesar Millan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #12044 in Books
- Brand: Random House
- Model: RA-13281
- Published on: 2014-02-04
- Released on: 2014-02-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.30" h x .60" w x 5.60" l, .46 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 208 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"I recommend this guide to all dog owners. Whether you just adopted your first dog or you've been a long-time owner, this is a wonderful 'tips and technique' book which helps you to better understand your furry best friend." --*LATF The Magazine*

"A strong distillation of Cesar's unique insights about dog psychology to create stronger, happier relationships between humans and their canine companions." --examiner.com

About the Author

Star of the National Geographic Channel's celebrated *Dog Whisperer* and Nat Geo WILD's *Leader of the Pack*, CESAR MILLAN is the most sought-after dog behaviorist in the world, recognized for his particular expertise in canine psychology. He is author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Cesar's Way*, *Be the Pack Leader*, *A Member of the Family*, and *How to Raise the Perfect Dog*, as well as the founder of the Dog Psychology Center in Los Angeles. In addition to his educational seminars, Cesar has established the Millan Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping shelters and rescue groups

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Stimulate the Brain, Early and Often:

I am often asked if dog owners can do anything to make their dogs smarter. If you look on the super-market shelves, you'll see numerous dog foods that claim to aid in intelligence. I don't know if diet can increase intelligence, and dogs cannot take IQ tests to prove this one way or the other. However, I do believe "stimulating" a dog during early puppyhood can result in a stronger, more balanced brain.

A puppy's brain is like a sponge—soaking up all the smells and sights and experiences in the world as fast as it can. A well-stimulated pup will grow up to have a larger brain with more cells, bigger cells, and more interconnections between them. Hearing loud noises, getting regular exercise, meeting new dogs and people, traveling to new places, and even going through agility course training for a few minutes each day make for a stronger brain. We can influence the development of a puppy's brain by providing him with the best environment possible when he is a newborn pup.

Likewise, a dog that is deprived of stimulation or that doesn't have interactions with other dogs or humans is more likely to have a smaller brain and be less balanced. I have seen many situations in which an understimulated dog is not only an unhappy dog but also a dull, almost lifeless animal.

But, conversely, too much of a good thing can be harmful. I have also seen situations in which overstimulating a dog can lead to behavior problems and aggression. Signs of overstimulation can be seen in a dog who enters a room or approaches another dog face-to-face, with his tongue hanging out, gasping for breath, and pulling on the leash or barking. A lot of dog owners misinterpret these signs as those of a "happy" dog, but in reality, such dogs are out of control. When you see these signs, your dog needs calm, deliberate handling, and it's best to move him away from whatever is overstimulating him until he has calmed down.

Challenging Your Dog's Mind:

Keeping your dogs mentally challenged and constantly exposing them to new things are just as important as

taking them for walks and exercising them. Bored dogs develop destructive behaviors and take their negative energy out on things like your furniture. Here are some creative ways to stimulate your dog's mind:

1. Work on a new trick. Every time you engage your dog in a training session, you are providing him with a mental challenge. Search around for new tricks to learn and practice. If you're ready to move past the basic commands of "sit," "stay," and "come" . . . try linking commands together like "retrieve and sit."
2. Play with interactive games or toys. Dog toys have evolved beyond rubber squeaky toys and cloth squirrels. I like to use canine puzzles that allow you to hide treats and objects inside the puzzle, which engage your dog in figuring out how to work them out. If you don't have a puzzle, you can hold a treat in one hand and let your dog figure out which hand is hiding the treat. Because dogs have such a powerful sense of smell, your dog will guess right 100 percent of the time.
3. Change your walk routine. Try a different street or park just to keep it interesting for your dog.
4. Give your dog a job to do. Dogs are bred to complete tasks like hunting and herding. Engage your dog in a game of Frisbee. Get him involved in a sport like agility or flyball. Find jobs that fulfill your dog's breed.
5. Socialize your dog. Dogs are social animals, and you should nurture the need for social activity by planning playdates with other compatible dogs.

Users Review

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Catherine Poppe:

The book Cesar Millan's Short Guide to a Happy Dog: 98 Essential Tips and Techniques can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Exactly why must we leave the good thing like a book Cesar Millan's Short Guide to a Happy Dog: 98 Essential Tips and Techniques? A few of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim in which book can give many information for us. It is absolutely proper. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you can give for each other; you may share all of these. Book Cesar Millan's Short Guide to a Happy Dog: 98 Essential Tips and Techniques has simple shape but the truth is know: it has great and big function for you. You can seem the enormous world by available and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

Katrina White:

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