

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 – Kids & Dogs: You Can Conquer the Chaos.....	1
What Makes This Book Important	2
It's Not As Easy as It Looks	2
Your Most Important Role: Advocate.....	3
Dog Training is a Lot Like Parenting.....	4
Safety Concerns	4
Go With Your Gut	5
The Three Keys to Success	5
Relationship	6
Management.....	6
Tagging Good Behavior	7
Training	8
Finding a Good Trainer	8
About the Book.....	9
Words for the Weary	10
Chapter 2 – Best Friend or Bad Choice:	
The Right Dog for Your Family	11
Should We Get a Dog?.....	11
Perhaps a Cat?.....	12
What Breed of Dog Should We Get?	14
What to Look for in a Good Family Dog	16
So You Want a Smart Dog	17
Extroverts Only.....	18
No Resource Guarding	19
Thick or Thin?.....	20
Energy Level.....	20
Five Cheap Ways to Calm Your Crazy Dog.....	21
Time to Call in the Pros?.....	22
Little Dogs, Big Concerns.....	23
Pet Stores and Internet Puppies	23
Adult or Puppy?	24
Scavenger Hunt for Puppy Socialization	24
Temperament Testing.....	26
Spaying and Neutering Your Pet	27
Evaluating the Dog You Already Have.....	27
Assessing Your Dog	29
How a Trainer Can Help	30
Words for the Weary	30

viii – Living with Kids & Dogs . . . Without Losing Your Mind

Chapter 3 – Preventing Dog Bites: Every Parent’s Concern	33
DoggoneSafe.com’s Supervision Guidelines.....	34
The “Good Dogs” Myth	36
Body Language.....	37
Please Don’t Punish Growling!	38
Teaching Bite Inhibition.....	38
Puppies Need Their Mom’s Guidance	39
Don’t Try This at Home	40
Girls, Boys, and Bites.....	40
Faster Than Fluffy?	41
The Freeze Dance	41
Be a Tree	42
Childhood Injuries	43
Words for the Weary	44
Chapter 4 – Deal Breakers: Spotting Serious Behavior Issues	47
Growling Over Food or Objects	47
The Ways Dogs Warn	49
Teaching Trades/Drop It	50
Excessive Fear	52
How Does He Express His Fear?.....	52
How Quickly Does He Recover?.....	52
How Worried is Your Dog in New Situations?	53
Is This a Problem?	53
Chasing, Barking, or Growling at Movement.....	53
Worried About Visitors	54
Body Sensitivities and Health Concerns	54
Necessary Roughness?	55
Fight-or-Flight Issues	56
Barrier Frustration	56
Bite Thresholds	56
Trainers Can Help.....	57
Dr. Ian Dunbar’s Bite Levels	58
Housetraining	58
Cleaning Carpet Stains	61
Words for the Weary	61
Chapter 5 – Essential Equipment: Setting Yourself Up for Success	63
Things to Use With Caution.....	71
Words for the Weary	73
Chapter 6 – Babies and Toddlers: Coping with Cribs and Kibble.....	75
Don’t Get a New Dog Now.....	75
Buckle Up: You’re In for a Wild Ride!.....	76
Relationship	77
Pregnancy: Time to Prepare	78
Management.....	79
Coming Home for the First Time	79

Table of Contents – ix

The First Few Months	80
Infant Fatalities	81
Going Mobile	81
Teaching Tots to be Tender.....	83
Do You Need Help?	83
Training	84
Sit.....	84
Go to Bed	85
Leave It.....	87
Drop It	87
Four Habits to Change Before the Baby Arrives.....	88
Words for the Weary	89
Chapter 7 – Preschoolers: Someone’s Always Underfoot.....	91
Relationship	91
Learning to be Good Friends	92
Peanut Butter Kisses.....	92
Teaching What Dogs Enjoy	93
Teaching What Dogs Don’t Enjoy	94
How About a Hug?.....	95
Too Tolerant?.....	96
Being Deliberately Unkind	97
Halloween: A Scary Holiday	97
Management.....	98
Never Leave a Child Alone with a Dog	98
Food—Mine or Yours?	98
Training	99
Giving Treats.....	99
Tip the Scales in Your Child’s Favor	100
Name Game, Preschool Style.....	100
Crate Training	101
Sit-Stay	101
Hansel & Gretel Trails	102
Simple, Easy, and Fast	102
Words for the Weary	102
Chapter 8 – Elementary Schoolers: Whose Turn Is It to Feed Edzo?105	
Relationship	106
Please? Just This Once?	110
Management.....	111
At Home with the Family.....	111
Taking Your Dog Out in Public.....	113
Jumping Dogs	115
With Company	116
Three Steps for Greeting a Friendly Dog.....	117
Training	119

x – Living with Kids & Dogs . . . Without Losing Your Mind

Name Game.....	120
Rainy Day Come.....	121
Hide & Seek with Toys	122
Hunting Kibble.....	123
Two-Toy Fetch and Trading	123
Tricks	125
Boundary Ropes.....	126
Shaping New Behaviors	127
Books to Chew On.....	128
Words for the Weary	129
Chapter 9 – Teens: As If Hormones Weren’t Enough.....	131
Relationship	132
Should We Get a Dog Now?.....	132
Risky Business	133
Management.....	133
Training	134
Words for the Weary	138
Chapter 10 – Saying Goodbye: Life Without Your Dog	139
When Your Dog Dies	139
Telling Your Child What Happened.....	140
Different Ages, Different Emotions	142
Rainbow Bridge	142
Books to Chew On.....	143
When Your Dog Cannot Stay in Your Home	144
“Adoption,” Not an Option	144
Ways to Say Goodbye	145
Pet Loss and Grief Websites	145
When to Get Another Dog	146
Getting a Dog When Your Dog is Geriatric	147
Getting a Dog After Your Dog Dies.....	147
Words for the Weary	148
Appendix A – Recommended Resources.....	149
Appendix B – Dog Food Matters.....	155
Index	161