After more than nine seasons as television’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. Both inspirational and practical, A Short Guide to a Happy Dog draws on thousands of training encounters around the world to present 98 essential lessons. Taken together, they will help owners apply the key aspects of Cesar’s celebrated philosophy to 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, and helping your dog adjust to life transitions. Throughout the book, inspiring stories from Cesar’s case files—and from his new 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. Cesar Millan, star of the TV series Dog Whisperer, is the most sought-after dog behaviorist in the world. A New York Times best-selling author, he is the founder of the Dog Psychology Center in Los Angeles and of a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping shelters and rescue groups.

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Customer Reviews
I purchased a few of Cesar Millan’s other books and noticed they all said the same thing. The issue
is for those of us who watch every episode of his we learn nothing new. Now with this book it basically combines everything from his other books in to one. I would recommend this book if you are a new puppy owner and if you have never read his other books before then this would be a great add on.

This book will guide you to a better understanding of yourself as well as your dog, and all dogs in general. It is easy to read, with clear and to the point explanations and solutions to dog behavior problems. It explains the why’s when’s and how’s of exercise, discipline and affection; rules, boundaries and limitations, and gives you the tools you need to become pack leader. I am only part way through this book, but already I’ve had so many “aha” moments, and have been given a lot of food for thought. Once finished, I will keep this book in an easy to reach place (on my bookshelf and in my iPad) as I know I’ll be referring back to it many times in the years to come.

I bought this book to learn useful information about how to train my puppy. The book did not get me much closer to that goal. The majority of the book focuses on Cesar’s training philosophy without providing anything concrete to actually put into practice. I did learn about his beliefs, such as the importance of being the pack leader, and how great his fulfillment formula can be for training dogs and for bettering humans as well. The problem is I didn’t learn anything about how to actually do it!! It’s frustrating because I do believe that his techniques work, they just aren’t provided in this book. I have actually learned more on his website than I did reading this book. I think the majority of pet owners, especially new pet owners are like me and looking for real, practical knowledge. This book is not for them.

We got this book along with his video on mastering leadership. Both are great. We’ve always had dogs, but they were mostly spoiled and undisciplined (which was totally our fault). We just got a new young dog from a rescue group and wanted to do things differently this time. We’ve only had her for two weeks, but we are so happy with the way things are going. Using his methods have greatly reduced the normal puppy stress on us and on her. I just keep remembering "calm, assertive". It makes all the difference. We are enjoying our new companion and she is settling in nicely. This is the sort of book you can read and re-read as needed. I didn’t know Cesar’s personal story until I read this book. It just makes all that he does even more amazing. He is truly dedicated to making life better for dogs and their owners.
This book does not add much if you have already watched many of the dog whisperer episodes, and are somewhat knowledgeable about dogs and dog training. The book provides, in many cases, vague and sometimes unrealistic advice. For example, you’re often instructed to wait for the dog to be calm and submissive before (x, y, or z). Just that simple, right? For anyone that’s tried that, it can be stressful for the human to just wait (we are often impatient), and often the dog springs right back into excitement the moment you do something. I am of course not saying that waiting for calm submissive energy is bad advice, of course it is, but it would be nice to get some more details on the best way to reinforce calm behavior in a dog, and how to handle the human aspect of it. Reactivity to other animals is not specifically covered. The only thing close is to break a dog of fixation by jerking the leash. Yes, it can work, but it would be great to get more details on the intricacies of timing, distance, strength of correction, repetitions etc. Those details are no where to be found in this book, yet they are critical to properly use the technique. (Yes, I know we are supposed to consult a professional before doing anything recommended in this book). I do like what Cesar has to say about energy and the importance of it in the human/dog relationship. For that, I think this book is worth reading. This book will be of limited use to someone trying to solve a specific issue with their dog.

Too much story and why can’t he express things any better than talking about "Energy?" This book told me many things I already knew, and I found it had way too much "story" and not enough useful information. If you know nothing about dogs and like to read stories, this book is for you.

I learned a lot from this book. I strongly recommend that you read it BEFORE you adopt a dog!! I actually have tickets to go meet him tomorrow and I’m going to have him autograph!!

Remember...DON'T BREED OR BUY WHILE HOMELESS DOGS DIE! ADOPT A SHELTER DOG!!

I sold it at a garage sale we had. It is also much more about how to pick out a puppy than training. I like Cesar, I thought this was redundant to his other books or if you watch the show. It may be good if you don’t know what kind of puppy you want to buy and if you have not seen any of his shows.

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