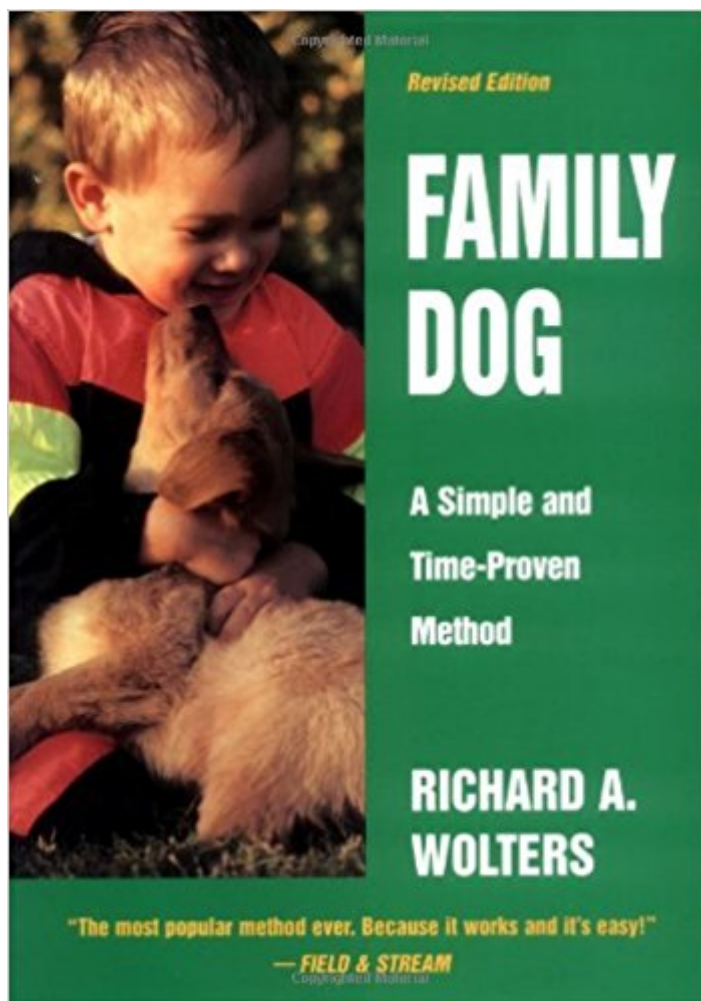


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# Family Dog: A Simple And Time-Proven Method



## Synopsis

The bestselling dog training manual that will give you the perfect family pet—from the author of *Water Dog*. This time-proven guide by legendary trainer Richard A. Wolters offers a step-by-step method for completely training your dog, regardless of breed or age—in just sixteen weeks. Whether you're six or sixty, you can learn to train your dog quickly and effectively—taking only minutes a day. In *Family Dog*, you'll discover:

- How to choose the right dog for your family and lifestyle
- The fundamentals of training—from housebreaking to basic commands to teaching tricks
- The key to your dog's healthy mental development
- The benefits of play and relaxation
- How to guide your dog through his first critical growth periods
- Talking with your dog—it's not what you say but how you say it
- Children and dogs—learning to take responsibility
- Tips on grooming
- The best dog diet in the world
- First-aid and medical advice
- And much more...

Fully illustrated with more than 200 photographs that take you systematically through every phase of training, *Family Dog* will take the frustration out of dog training to give you the pet you've always wanted.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for Richard A. Wolters: "The most popular method ever. Because it works and it's easy!" —*Field & Stream* on *Family Dog* "Gun Dog" is one of the most valuable, probably THE most valuable, training tools the average amateur could

have. *Sports Afield* "Water Dog" is a classic definitely the place to start with your new retriever. David G. Meisner, Editor and Publisher, *Gun Dog* magazine "Anyone who wants to try turning his dog into a well-mannered retriever will do well with *Water Dog*." *The New York Times* "Wolters has produced a solid book that will be of great help to anyone training his retriever to work. He is an acknowledged master in the field and an excellent instructor." *Dog Fancy* on *Game Dog*

RICHARD A. WOLTERS was a leader in applying the scientific discoveries of animal behaviorists to dog training. His books on training *Game Dog*, *Water Dog*, *Gun Dog*, *Family Dog*, and *Home Dog* are recognized as classics in their fields. His historical book, *The Labrador Retriever: The History...The People*, was chosen as Best Dog Book of the Year by the Dog Writers Association of America. In 1984 the DWAA honored Mr. Wolters as both Writer of the Year for *Game Dog* and Columnist of the Year for his popular column "Gun Dog" in *Gun Dog* magazine. Well-known for his lectures and seminars on retriever training, Mr. Wolters also was a president of the Westchester, New York, Retriever Club, as well as a vice president and director of the North American Hunting Retriever Association, which he was influential in founding. A veritable Renaissance man, Mr. Wolters worked as an atomic scientist, fine-arts teacher, photographer, and as picture editor at *Sports Illustrated*. His sporting interests included hunting, angling, bobsledding, ballooning, and soaring in sailplanes, in which he held the highest rating.

I was so excited when I got my first dog in 10 years that I bought about 20 books. I have read most or all of them all. With that said I will tell you that if you could only buy one book when you get a new puppy I would recommend this one. This is why: Richard Wolters writes simple, concise, easy to read and follow instructions for training your newest family member. There is not a lot of fluff, psychology, page filling stuff in here. What he writes you will read and it will be helpful. A lot of the other training books (even the good ones) are filled with fluff to make them fat, but you end up just skipping around. This has what it needs to without the filler, which makes it easier to use. Note: It is written for you to supervise your child training the dog, but all the above is true if you train the puppy yourself. \*\*Disclaimer: This book was written in the 60's. Some of his methods are outdated, ie. a little rough. You can just ignore that part. Everything else holds true. I am a positive trainer, using minimal to zero physical discipline, and with your own common sense you can adjust this book to be consistent with current positive training models.

We are trying to train our lab puppy from home and Water Dog came highly recommended. Since our pup is a family dog vs a hunting dog, I thought I'd give this one a try. The only thing is, it starts the training from a much earlier age than our puppy was when we got the book. This was disappointing because some of the early work would have been extremely useful and likely would have led to easier/more successful training now. I have read other books and done some research on-line but Wolters methods are practical and useful. I've learned so much and our puppy is already a well behaved dog after working 2 weeks with Wolters methods. It's ideal for anyone with children who are willing to take an active role in training.

While this was a good read, it was expensive and the material covered was just not enough. I was really hoping for more information about lab training. This book spent a lot of time on house training (potty training) which we had already done. It also spent a lot of time discussing how to train your young son to train the dog. While this was a good read, it was expensive and it did not go into much detail on topics I could use. We have two lab pups, we bought to be our family pets and for protection. The author was recommended to me, and he is old school, which is fine. I just wish the book was thicker with more information; like techniques to get your pup to "walk heel" (walk loose on the leash at my side and "sit heel" and to retrieve, I work with them daily and it's super hard hard work. On the good side, he covered topics like when is a good time to train. i.e. before a meal not after as every meal is like Thanksgiving for a puppy - they need a nice long nap. We have good days and difficult days. If only he would have covered more topics. I want to try one of his other books however for the money I'm concerned it will be too much about duck hunting rather than family oriented as I'm not looking to go hunting with them. That said, it would be nice if he covered which side is best to walk your dog, in case you do want to take them hunting.

Book arrived on time and in great condition, as expected. This book came highly recommended from a friend who has had very well-trained dogs over the years. It teaches you how to start training your puppy as early as 8 weeks. Included a feeding chart for the specific sizes and ages of your dog. Includes pictures and diagrams of how to properly train your dog. Teaches you about subtle cues from your dog like a tail facing down means the dog is finished learning for the day. Great stuff to know if you're a new pet owner! I didn't give it 5 stars because it doesn't focus a lot on potty training but everything else is great. Keep in mind the author's methods are very military so you don't have to follow everything he says. For example, he says you need to let your puppy cry it out it's

first night sleeping. That might be true but I'd rather soothe her to sleep the first couple nights. Overall, a great resource and a quick read! I refer to it often when I need help.

I have read a lot of books and tried a lot of methods in dog training. Wolters method is king. Although a bit dated, a dogs mind and instincts don't change much. 10 minutes a day and you will have a great dog. I've purchased and given out over 15 copies of his books through the years.

This book has been out for along time, but it is the best book on the market for training a dog. We get compliments on how well our dog is trained every time we are out in public. Our dog is NEVER on a leash. Stay means stay for up to an hour with no supervision. Buy this book BEFORE you get the dog!!!! Training starts the day you decided you want a dog. To have a well trained dog, the owner must be trained first. Two weeks into training the puppy was house trained. (No accidents...EVER). Five months: No leash needed.

The reason I wanted to do more research is so that I can not only train a dog the way I want it to behave but to have a loving FAMILY pet that other people will love as much as we do. This book tells you HOW to do this but also how the dog thinks, how it's brain develops, and that there is a short window of time to train a dog. Specific weeks of it's life that training needs to take place BEFORE it's too late. This book is PERFECT for the mom of the house who will get stuck with the dog all day. I personally would never get a dog without doing a ton of research or expecting to commit a lot of time to the dog training it myself. Most mothers that I know have gone out with the kids and gotten that cute puppy and then got stuck doing all the work. Then they don't want the dog anymore and it stays in the crate all day because it's too hype. WHAT??? If you do the work training the dog the RIGHT way, then you won't regret your desicion to get one in the first place. Get this book and refer to it often when training. Loved it. I have already lent it out to a few people.

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