



Shorten your to-do list by taking dog walking off it with the help of a trusted dog walker to make your day smoother.

cheerfuldogs chronicles

Certified. Force-free. Dog-centred

Issue 8

Family Dog: Adding a Dog to Your Family

Getting a dog is a big commitment, one that comes with an extra level of considerations when you have kids. If you're thinking about adding a four-legged family member, the first thing to ask yourself is, is now the right time? Taking into account your children's ages, what will they get from the experience? Will they be able to participate in a meaningful way? If you have toddlers or very young children, they can't take on much (if any) of the care responsibilities. Are you prepared to shoulder that by yourself? If yes, the next question is, what's the right fit for your family in terms of size and activity level. Are you up for the considerable work involved in raising a puppy or would you prefer an adult dog with puppyhood and adolescence behind him? Both have advantages. You can raise and socialize a puppy from scratch, and if properly done, you may get a great dog. At the same time, if you pick well, an adult dog may be much calmer from the get-go and might also be easily trained, saving you a lot of work and worry.



Taking the plunge? It's always worth considering hiring a qualified force-free dog trainer to help you find a dog that's right for you and your family.



Dog Quotes

"Dogs are our link to paradise."

–Milan Kundera



Doberman Pincher

Tips & Tools: People-foods to Avoid

Most people know chocolate can be dangerous, even fatal, to dogs. Many have heard the same of grapes and raisins, and it's common sense that alcohol isn't canine fare. Other people-foods never to share with your dog include:

In the greenery department: Avocado, onions, garlic, chives (plus grapes and raisins).

Drinks and dairy: Cocoa, coffee, tea, milk, milk-based foods (plus alcohol).

Sweets. Candy or anything containing Xylitol (plus chocolate).

Nuts: Walnuts and macadamias.

Miscellaneous: Fish or poultry bones, yeast dough, salty foods like potato chips.

Common signs of poisoning include vomiting and diarrhoea, tremors and seizures, drooling, problems breathing, and losing consciousness. If your dog ingests something potentially harmful, take her to the vet immediately, along with a sample of the product.



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Did You Know: These Doggie Genetic Facts?

- Dogs have the largest variation in body size of any land animal—from a 12 cm Chihuahua to a 60 cm Great Dane.
- The total number of genes in dogs is under debate, but is currently thought to be around 100,000. Contrast this with humans' 20,000–25,000 genes.
- Dogs have more than 350 inherited diseases, including cancers, autoimmune diseases, heart disease, hip dysplasia, and blindness. Researchers at The Canine Genome Project in the U.S. National Institutes of Health are working to identify genetic markers for inherited diseases in dogs with the goal of preventing them in the future.

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Your go-to trainer for enlightened dog lovers

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