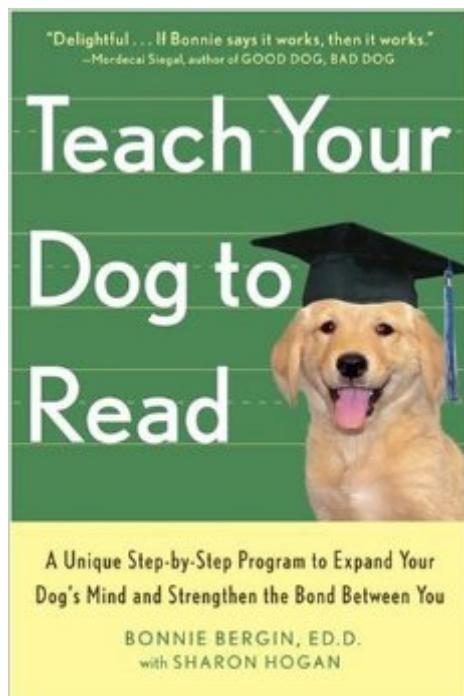


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# Teach Your Dog To Read



## **Synopsis**

Dr. Bonnie Bergin originated the service dog concept and movement, and she has been training dogs to assist people with disabilities for more than thirty years. She knows that dogs have an almost limitless capacity to learn. Teaching dogs to read was one of her dreamsâ "and now she has made that dream a reality with a system anyone can use with just about any dog. In this clear, inspirational guide, she provides step-by-step instructions for training the dog in your life to read flash cards with one-word commands and stick-figure drawings. With more than fifty instructional photographs, Teach Your Dog to Read is an amazing tool for making your dog smarter and enhancing your capacity to communicate with each other.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #830,416 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #71 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Animal Psychology #1499 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Training

## **Customer Reviews**

I was very impressed with this book, and eager to "teach my dog to read". Everything is explained in a very simple way and you are even given an idea of the stages to expect as you are training your dog. This book offers a wealth of ideas, not only on teaching your dog to read, but also on using your dog to help children read. I was hoping to teach my dog one or two words....we're on number 7. Can't go wrong with this book.

As my dog is getting on in years, 10+, training her to do new tricks is sometimes physically a little too demanding. I got this book and concentrated on the words "sit" and "down" as she already knew how to do them. It was great way to spend quality time with my dog and I think learning to read was an interesting new concept for her to keep active and stimulated. Because she already knows

verbal commands as well as hand signals, I found that teaching her to read has helped to keep her active. If you are teaching your dog to read commands that she already knows, then there's a lot of positive reinforcements in the exercises already and the reading part almost becomes a passive by-product of doing what your dog already knows how to do already and I think that is very rewarding to the dog to begin with. It's like your dog can't go wrong! The book is very straightforward and easy to follow. The book referred me to a website where I downloaded the flashcards. There were quite a few and many of the commands most dogs probably already know, down, sit, shake, roll, speak.....so half the battle has already been won, all that's left is to teach the pup to read the commands as opposed to responding to verbal cues. All in all, we both had a good time reading the book and learning to read. It's something different, fun, and impresses the heck out of my friends.

I was rather skeptical when I purchased this book. However, after careful reading and constant and consistent training, our dog is able to recognize and distinguish between specific word cards presented. It truly amazes everyone!!

Most noticeable about this book, is that the instructions are crystal clear. I would attribute this not only to the authors experience with dog training but also education. I read many a training book without learning the what, where, and when of the exercise. Oh, and yes, you can teach your dog to recognize words, aka "read". This is the only book of perhaps 30 that I have checked out that have this kind of clarity.

I gave it five stars because I knew what to expect because I had read it before. The author gives a step by step instruction on how to teach your dog to read and it worked for me. She's an authority on service dog training so her methods have been proven to be effective. This book is for anyone who wants to teach their dog a truly interesting trick that will WOW everyone.

This is a really unique book. I've been a dog trainer for almost 50 years and never knew I could teach a dog to read. This book is a joy to read, very amusing in parts and not at all technical. Anyone could teach their dog to read at least two words if not many more by Dr Bergin's methods. They really work and are a fun way to spend quality time with your dog. I have Border Collies and my 10 month old pup is learning to read this summer! I highly recommend this book to anyone who loves and plays with their dog.

I first took this out of a library. I found it so interesting that I had to have a copy for myself and my Mini Poodle. One nice thing is that you can print the flash cards from a website given in the book. We are only on word #2, but we are enjoying the book very much.

This is such a fun book and fun concept. Dogs can learn commands in many different forms: vocal, whistles, hand signals, line drawings, and even in printed words (no, your dog is not going to read the newspaper). Teaching your dog a command that it already knows vocally in a printed format (on a flash card) is a fun way to bond with your dog, a clever "trick" to show off how smart your dog is, and can even be useful at times (read the book to find out how). It's a short book and if you like working with your dog (and we all should) gives an owner another variety of activities to work with your dog on; and it is a form of work that is fulfilling to a dog. The last chapter in the book is about teaching your dog to be a reading therapy dog, i.e. to listen to children read aloud to help them with their reading skills (really what I wanted the book for, because being a retired librarian I've felt what fun it would be to have a dog I could take to the library and have children enjoy reading to). Dr. Bergin's approach to this is to teach the dog to be an active listener, looking at the book while listening, not just resting or sleeping. Really excellent book and principles.

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