

Dusan Dule Marinovic

eBook

DOG TRAINING

Questions & Answers



Beginner
& Intermediate
Level

Handbook for dog lovers and owners.
Behavior, psychology, home education
and dog training of all breeds. Step by step.

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Bernese Mountain Dog



Photo: Dusan Marinovic

Dusan Dule Marinovic

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Questions & Answers

Handbook for dog lovers and owners

Translation Angela Kanacki

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Dog training

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Tel: +381 (0) 11 3099 630 and +381 (0) 63 254 738

Author: Dusan Marinovic

Translation: Angela Kanacki

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**What a book?!
Look at this
content!!!**



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Without the wholehearted support and understanding of my Slavka, without my vivid memories of Ada and Djura, without help, useful suggestions and long cynological discussions with my friends Jovan, Srđan, Stanko, Ivan, Bane, Sandor, Zoran, Aca and other great lovers and connoisseurs of dogs, real cynologes, this book, probably, would have never seen the light of the day. I am very grateful to them for all of this.

The author

*"If there was no reason and dogs,
there would be no world".*

(From old Assyrian records)

* * * * *

*Differences between dog training and people's
discipline - is non-existing.
If there's one to be found, the difference is that the
trainer, unlike the government,
sincerely and without deceptive intentions,
loves the dog with whom he works. Everything else,
such as the common pack mentality and the
constant struggle for the leading role
in the community and the classic methods of
subordination and domination through rewarding and
punishing has remained exactly the same!
For centuries!*

*I believe that because of this fact, people and dogs are
much better acquainted with each other and under-
stand each better from other,
similar beings on our planet.*

Dusan Marinovic, journalist

Introduction

*"If you want to train your dog,
you must be wiser than him."
(A German saying)*

As a longtime journalist and editor of Natura Cynology magazine, I have often talked with people who know very little about dogs but also with those who told me that "there isn't anything else they can possibly learn about dogs" and that they "know everything". Of course, there are no such people today!

I have been intensely engaged with dogs since early childhood and after 35 years of such an experience, I admit that I still learn something new about their behavior, habits, communication...

And I often wondered why it's so difficult to, let's say it simply, explain dogs' essence to others? Then I realized that it's sometimes difficult to explain - the very human essence to others, as well.

While in the process of making Natura, and its online version that exists today, people have often inquired about

dogs, about their characteristics, temperament, training, house education...

There were beginner questions, but also very lucid and professional dilemmas to which I couldn't immediately offer right answer.

So, in time, the idea to write a book was born, a book that would be professional, but also understandable to many and that could help dog lovers to cope with this, sometimes, complicated "cynological world" in an easy way.

After my books titled Doberman, Labrador Retriever - Questions & Answers and Dog Nutrition, here comes this one – on dog education and training.

I called it Dog training.

To what extent I managed to clearly and accurately answer many questions about training will be judged by you, but I hope that this book will help you in this important job and that it will pay off to you at least a hundred times!

Any suggestion, dilemma or questions for me will be an additional inspiration for me to work up on; Feel free to send me an email to which I will reply, as soon as I am able to.

And now, enjoy reading this book that I know will become your favorite piece to read, but also a reliable and practical manual in your important work of educating and training your beloved dog without whom, I'm aware, you would never have bought this book in the first place. Go ahead!

The author

d.marinovic@orion.rs





Chapter One

What should I know about getting a dog before I proceed with it?

What does it mean to be a responsible dog owner?

Getting a dog is a huge life decision. His coming to your home already creates a big obligation for you to undertake. Before you go to get a dog, you should consider the following: what will your personal responsibility for his future life be, why buy him, what purpose he needs to serve, how much do you think he should be old and which sex, or how much do you think it will cost you at all? And in the end, have you wondered what dog breed would be the best for you and your family?

Before you become a dog owner, purebred or not, nevertheless, it's necessary that you alone as well as within

your family, seriously consider the above-mentioned questions. For this time you're not buying a piece of furniture or a suit; you are buying a life you'll have to take care of for the next 12 to 14 years, maybe even more.

As a responsible dog owner, you will need to provide food and accommodation to him, brush him, take him for a swim, take walks, take him for a vacation, provide him with veterinary care, love and pay him a lot of attention and socializing, not just "for awhile" but – throughout all his life!

It's a huge obligation! Therefore, there is no shame in giving it up in time if you're not completely sure you can succeed in it.

What's my choice in all of this?

OK, so you have decided, after many thoughts and conversations, to get a dog. But, do you know specifically what kind of dog you want to take?

As in life, to be able to choose something- you need to know what you want. To be clear on what you are looking for in a dog or, better yet, what you can expect of him, you need to make some of the previous decisions. For example, you should know if you want a dog as a pet, one for competitions at kennel exhibitions, for mating and further development of the breed or, perhaps, a hunting dog?

You must first resolve the dilemma if you want a puppy or an adult dog, a male or female? And finally, how

much you want and can pay for your purebred dog? It's up to you to choose...



What's the difference between pet dogs and those intended for showing at kennel exhibitions?

Most dogs in the world are, in fact, pets. This means that when we talk about their breed quality, that such

dogs aren't always and completely in accordance with the official breed standard. These dogs may have more or less sized flaws when it comes to their physique and they can't therefore be successful at the cynological events. They can, let's say, be too high or too short, that is, they may have some other disadvantage such as an oversized white dot on their chest ...

However, as pets, not only "less valuable" breeds but also classic "stray dogs" can be extraordinary dogs, have excellent temperament and character and can make you feel completely satisfied. However, the standards of breeds say that such dogs, respectively those with serious physical or psychological disorders, shouldn't be reproduced further or be allowed to breed.

On the other hand, dogs that are intended for going to exhibitions and competitions have to be better. This means that, in physical and character terms, they must be much closer to the appearance issued by the official breed standard. And among these dogs, there might be some minor shortcomings, but they are, however, of satisfactory quality which qualifies them for further reproduction.

Sure, you should also bring your purebred dog to the exhibition so that you can get the right opinion and rating of your pet's quality by an expert.

If you intend to compete seriously, then it's necessary to buy a dog that's, at that moment, the best of the breed in question and that, as it's implied - you can financially afford.



Photo: www.jonaiste.com

Don't forget to pay special attention to dog's temperament and character when you choose one because no physical beauty of a dog can compensate for his bad character. Remember this. After all, let me remind you that the nature of a dog is also an integral part of many breed standards.

Be sure to have this mind when purchasing a dog, and don't just consider the beauty of the puppy's parents, especially if they have a bad temper. Then it's better to look for some other puppy.

What does it mean when a dog is said to be that of breeding quality?

This means that it's an extraordinary specimen, that is, that the dog is the closest to the standard of his breed and therefore is recommended for reproduction and further breeding.

This is of particular importance for the development of the breed because, as it is known, all of his good qualities will be passed onto next generations, that is, onto his offspring. Therefore, it's not surprising that the price of a breeding specimen of a certain breed is very high (if he's for sale at all), and that the mating of your dog with such an extra specimen will cost you more than usual.

If he is a proven breeder, with a large genetic potential, as it is usually called, then such a mating pays off

because if everything goes well, you will get prospective and healthy puppies whose price, according to the foregoing, will be appropriate.

If you can, I advise you to get exactly the puppy whose parents possess breeding quality and that have proven themselves on domestic and foreign specialized dog shows but also in - breeding.

Why are hunting dogs special?

Hunting dogs are bred because of their expressed ability to trace the trail and hunt the wild, find and bring various catch and other objects.

These dogs are bred for hunting in the field, regardless of whether they are really hunting or if it's a competition in performing tasks.

Hunting dogs are, above all, working dogs. This doesn't mean that, even if they are "purebred," that they shouldn't be the closest to the standard of their breed. However, there are cases when the "less beautiful" hunting dogs are often excellent hunters, although not perfect when it comes to their physique, but because of their characteristics that are not entirely in accordance with the breed standard. To many hunters, however, these physical flaws don't mean that much. As for them, the value of a dog in use is more important (then his beauty!), which we'll talk about later.

So, if you're primarily interested in hunting or in frequent active stays in nature, try to find and buy a good hunting dog, preferably the best in the field. As with others, this choice should be primarily based on the dog's temperament, regardless of the kind of purpose your dog will fulfill ultimately.

An aggressive, biting or nervously unbalanced dog will constantly make trouble and I know that you don't have the time for all of that. So, be smart!

Should I get precisely a puppy?

Everyone loves puppies. They are sweet and cuddly. They look at you sweetly with their large puppy eyes, and you surrender to them completely. They follow you everywhere...

The truth is: puppies are all this and much more. And that "more" means - a lot of hard work!

Raising only one single puppy requires enormous obligation and a lot of time invested by the owner because a puppy eats several times during the day, he needs to be thought the basic house behavior, after each meal, he should be taken out to pee or poop, and both early in the morning as soon as he wakes up, and later in the evening, before bedtime ...

In addition, a puppy chews all the time and constantly: your shoes, furniture, your child's toys, even dangerous things, poisonous plants, electrical cables, as soon as the opportunity arises.

To prevent these accidents, a puppy must be constantly under control, both in the house and in the backyard.

But, in spite of everything, raising a puppy is a real challenge. It's also the best way to create a strong and lifelong bond between the two of you, one of mutual love, friendship and partnership that's sometimes difficult to put in words.

How old should a puppy so that I can take him from a breeder?

It's best that you take a puppy from the breeder when he's between 8 and 12 weeks old. At that age, the puppy has already been removed from mother's breast and eats well. Although he shows the first signs of independence in this period, he'll then quickly form a bond with the people in his "new family".

His great curiosity will help him break from the first and understandable fears when he arrives to a new home. Thanks to this, a puppy will quickly adapt to the new environment and, of course, to you.

Is getting an adult dog a good idea?

Adopting or buying an adult dog can be a better option for some potential owners than raising a puppy. For example, parents with little children are sometimes unwilling to accept a number of obligations that puppies

bring with themselves. It's also easier to assess the temperament of an adult dog than a two-month-old puppy, which is important, especially if you have children.

An adult dog is already thought to do nothing in the house and to go outdoors (and if he doesn't know this - bring him back to the previous owner immediately!). He's even more calm when it comes to his behavior than



Photo, Dusan Marinovic: My Đura

puppies are, although this doesn't always have to be the case, especially with some dog breeds.

An adult dog has already overcome the stage of chewing on various objects, but this also depends from case to case, and some do it even when they grow up.

Choosing an adult dog can be a good move if you plan to exhibit him at shows or, if he's of the highest quality, to include him in your own litter.

When a dog is fully grown, his physical and character traits are obvious, so if you have money, you can buy an extraordinary dog that already has a positive exhibiting or breeding experience.

On the other hand, if you get an adult dog, you'll miss all the sweet mischief that only a puppy can make in his unique discovery of the world. It's true: many adult dogs like to cuddle as well, but it's even more indicative that many of them have still remained puppies in their souls.

Some people advise me to get a female first and others are totally against it. Do you think that it's better to take a male or a female at the beginning?

When faced with the dilemma on whether to take a female or male, I must say that it has an individual nature, because both of them will be - equally dear pets.



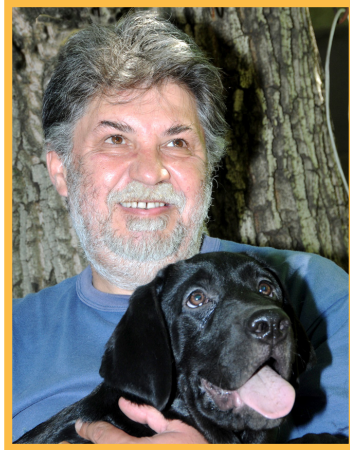
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About the author



Dušan Marinović, journalist, publicist and cynologist, was born in Belgrade in 1959, where he still lives and works. There he graduated from high school and the Faculty of Political Science, journalism direction.

He worked for a long time in the Army as a journalist and editor in several army newspapers. He was the founder, owner and editor-in-chief of the printed cineological magazine *Natura*, which now comes out as a notable Serbian online magazine www.natura.rs. He was the founder and owner of the monthly press newsmagazine *NO* magazine - specialized magazines for German Shepherd lovers and breeders. He's a dog breeder from an early age. He devoted a great time of his life to them.

He was a spokesman and the president of the Kinology Union of Serbia and Montenegro, an alternative Kennel Or-

ganization, member of the EKC, which, unfortunately, had never become widespread here.

For years, he has written professional and interesting texts about dogs and their owners.

He's the author of several books, studies and brochures, as well as several hundred papers on dogs in various specialized magazines. He's still preparing interesting, above all, cynological editions ..

His thoughts and observations about dogs and their owners, as well as our cynological chaos, now take on a digital form.

His books and texts about dogs were read not only in Serbia, but also in the whole area of the former Yugoslavia and even wider.

From the same author (in serbian language):

- Dog training - Questions & Answers
- Labrador Retriever - Questions & Answers
- Doberman - A complete guide for owners and breed lovers
- Nutrition - a small manual for dog owners
- Sarplaninac - yesterday, today, tomorrow?...
- eBook: Natura - all numbers (CD)

Additional information:

Dusan Dule Marinovic

Tel: ++ 381 (0) 11 3099 630

Mob ++ 381 (0) 63 254 738 (also Viber)

skype: dusan_marinovic

email: d.marinovic@orion.rs

www.natura.rs



"There're no differences between dog training and people discipline - if there's one, the difference is that the trainer, unlike the government, honestly and without deceptive intentions, loves his dog with whom he works. Everything else, such as the common pack mentality and the constant struggle within it for a leading role in the community, including the classic methods of subjugation and domination, through rewards and punishments - has been exactly the same!

For centuries!

I believe that because of this, a man and a dog know and understand each other much better from other, similar beings on our planet."

Dusan Marinovic, journalist

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