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Pet Reads

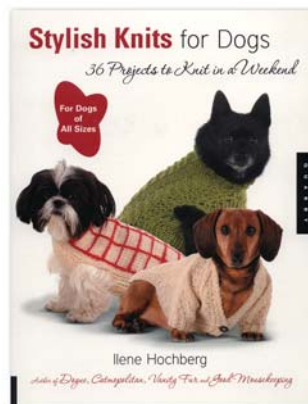
Compelling books on pets, care and just fun reading

Stylish Knits for Dogs by Ilene Hochberg

That's right, get out your knitting needles and knit one, purl one and make togs for dogs. This step-by-step guide takes you through the basics of making simple sweaters for your sweetie. Even if you've never knitted before, you'll be able to follow the rules of casting on, knitting and casting off. There many designs to choose from-scarves, jumpers and even a felted tote bag. Confident knitters will be able to tackle the harder patterns like kennel cable and furry fair isle.

The book has colour photos and illustrations on the knitting techniques with real dogs as the models. Author, Hochberg has written a string of parody books-Dogue, Catmopolitan, Vanity Fur, Good Mouskeeping-but this book looks like she's serious in getting dogs into knits.

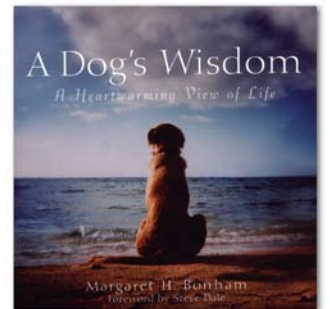
Published by Quarry Press - distributed by Tower Books RRP \$44.95



A Dog's Wisdom Margaret H. Bonham

This book dishes up dog soup for the soul. Author, Bonham is a dog-lover extraordinaire and her enthusiasm for her canine companions is captured in her observations of her life amongst dogs. At times the tales can be twee and Bonham's dogs are obviously very smart as they too share their wisdoms and observations on life within the pages. Bonham also includes some nutritious dog cookie recipes at the back of the book.

Published by Wiley RRP \$23.95



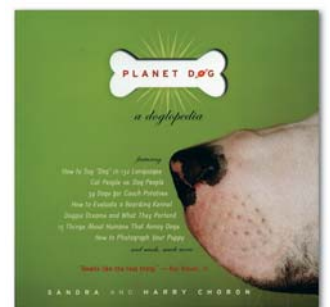
Planet Dog - a Doglopedia Sandra and Harry Choron

Want to fill your brain with everything you ever wanted (or didn't) about dogs, then we've found the book for you. Planet Dog explores historic legends of our four footed friends as well as some fabulous urban myths. But wait there's more for hungry minds- did you know that Superman had a white Terrier named Krypto who possessed all the powers of the man of steel. Bat Man's dog, Ace, was a canine sleuth helping the caped crusader through the comics in the 50s- Ace even wore a mask to preserve his true identity.

This book has over 350 pages of information on dogs from the silly stuff to more responsible information on health and tips on finding the right breed (or mix) for your lifestyle. It's an enjoyable book to find out weird and wonderful facts about dogs.

"Did you hear about the dyslexic agnostic insomniac who stays up all night wondering if there really is a Dog?"

Published by Houghton Mifflin Books available through Amazon.com US\$14.95



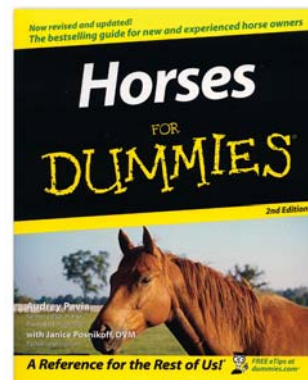
Horses For Dummies-2nd Edition Audrey Pavia with Janice Posnikoff, DVM

A horse is a horse, of course of course and knowing a horse from its poll to its dock is important if you already have one or are looking at acquiring and equine friend. This second edition in the Dummy series has been revised, updated and expanded. Author Audrey Pavia is the former editor of Horse Illustrated magazine and so understands horse from head to hoof.

This book covers in great detail the physical and psychological make up of the domestic horse; various breeds and their attributes; buying a horse and what you should look for in a wise purchase; what equipment you need and the types available; nutrition, health and general care.

Like all of the books on animal care and wellbeing in the Dummy series (and we've reviewed some within this column) this is a very well researched and well-written publication. It continues in the easy to understand and simple to reference manner that the Dummies books have become famous for.

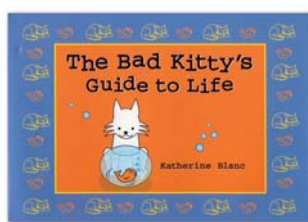
Published by Wiley Publishing RRP \$34.95



The Bad Kitty's Guide To Life Katherine Blanc

No doubt about it, this Kitty is bad, well naughty really and very cute. Bad Kitty shows you how to get what you want by clawing, biting, shedding and lying in wait to attack ankles. A sweet little book for the Kitty lover who's really good on the inside and want's to be bad on the outside.

Published by Sourcebooks - distributed by Bookwise International RRP \$14.95

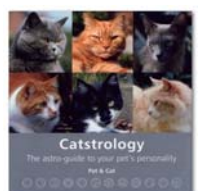
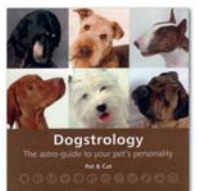


Catstrology/Dogstrology-The astro-guide to your pet's personality Pat & Cat

Can astrology really give a cat or dog owner an idea on the pet's personality? Authors and professional astrologers Patty Greenall and Cat Javor are sure they can. Each star sign has an overview on the personality traits of the pet and looks at the star sign compatibility of the pet to human relationship. Trouble is if you don't have a good idea of when your mutt was born, then you're going to have a hard time determining their star sign.

For instance rescue dog Lilly could be a Libra which would make her graceful (yeah right); genial (only to those she knows well); gentle (nope); flirtatious (definitely with her Vizler boyfriend); sociable (kind of). Whereas if she was a Scorpio she would be passionate (yup); secretive (certainly when she's dumpster diving); intense (at times); dedicated (to food); competitive (for affection).

Published by MQ Publications, distributed by Bookwise International RRP \$16.95





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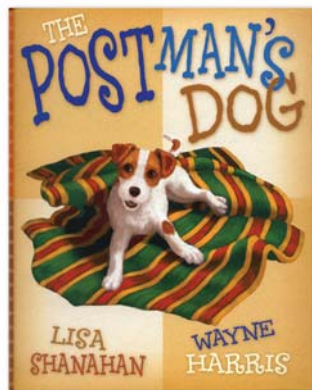


The Postman's Dog

Lisa Shanahan & Wayne Harris

This is a lovely book for children aged between 3 and 7 years. It's written by children's author Lisa Shanahan and has gorgeous illustrations by Wayne Harris. It's the heart-warming story of the Charlie the Postman who delivers mail to people and their dogs. He always has time for a chat and a pat and has many friends on his mail run who come from different ethnic backgrounds. When Charlie's wife dies, he becomes lonely and sad-that is until he discovers a little rescue dog called Lucy.

Published by Allen & Unwin RRP \$22.95



Nightjar. Many times since I've heard that cackle, but I had yet to see the actual bird from which it issues. I've seen them in silhouette, I've even had a pair lined up in the car headlights, but at the crucial moment I turned to make sure my companion, a novice birdwatcher, had also seen them. He had and was getting crippling views of them at that very moment. First rule of twitching-like the oxygen mask dropping from the ceiling, make sure you see to your own needs first. By the time I turned back to raise my binoculars, the White-throated Nightjars had flown. I heard them calling in the first few hours of the Big Twitch, and one had flown past me in the dark at Cyanide Dam in Chiltern, before I had a chance to get my spotlight onto it. This is what is known in the caper as the bogey bird.

Published by Allen & Unwin RRP \$26.95

The Big Twitch

Sean Dooley

A Twitcher is the name for a really dedicated bird watcher. Author, Dooley certainly fits into this category as he documents his attempt to break the Australian twitching record- to see more than 700 birds in 12 months. This is the true story of a seemingly normal guy who has to fulfil his obsessive dream. It's a hilarious read as he travels throughout Australia tracking down the most elusive avian specimens.

I first heard that maniacal cackle back on a hot summer's night in December 1983. A series of whoops that get quicker and higher pitched as they go along, this laugh could easily have made it onto Pink Floyd's Dark Side of The Moon. But it didn't belong to some stoned roadie; it was the property of a mysterious night bird, the White-throated



Bad Dog

R.D. Rosen, Harry Pritchett & Rob Battles

A little book that will bring a chuckle to some and have many of you scratching your heads as to why some people dress dogs up in stupid outfits. We think this book is meant to be funny but can't help think this is pretty low-brow humour. Still it's made the New York Times Bestseller list so there must be people out there who get it and love it...

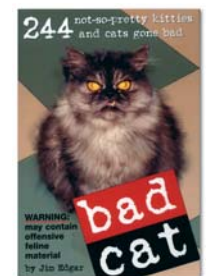
Published by Hardie Grant Books RRP \$19.95

Bad Cat

Jim Edgar

Ditto-see review of Bad Dog above. There should be a law against fashion crimes committed against cats and dogs.

Published by Hachette Livre Australia RRP \$19.95



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