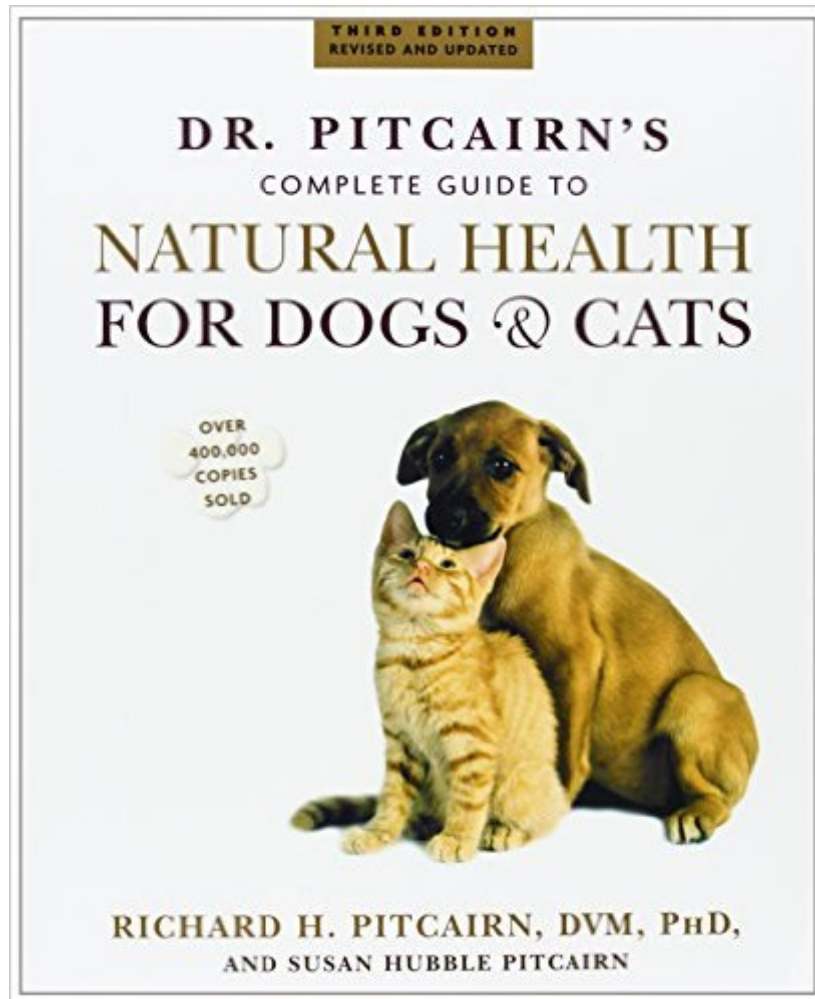


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Dr. Pitcairn's Complete Guide To Natural Health For Dogs & Cats



Synopsis

Over 400,000 copies of Dr. Pitcairn's Complete Guide to Natural Health for Dogs & Cats have been sold since its original publication more than 20 years ago. The book that is the definitive guide to a natural lifestyle for dogs and cats is now completely updated and revised--for the first time in 9 years. Writing with the warmth and compassion that have won them a national following, veterinarian Richard H. Pitcairn and his wife Susan Hubble Pitcairn, noted specialists in chemical-free nutrition and natural healing for pets, show dog and cat owners how to provide the very best in companionship and lifelong care. They now cover environmental matters, including pollutants both inside the home and out, as well as recent hot-button topics, such as Mad Cow disease, Lyme disease, and the West Nile virus. They've updated dozens of recipes for delicious and healthful pet food and treats. With a guide to handling emergencies and an in-depth "Quick Reference" section, they give specific instructions for preventing, diagnosing, and treating a wide range of animal diseases and disorders--with special attention to homeopathic, herbal, and nutritional remedies.

Book Information

Paperback: 466 pages

Publisher: Rodale Press; 3rd edition (August 11, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 157954973X

ISBN-13: 978-1579549732

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 1.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (423 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

You may see some of my other reviews about human health and nutrition, this is THE book that prompted me to learn more about MY diet. Here's what I liked about the book: Dr. Pitcairn has been a veterinarian for a long time. It was refreshing to read about his holistic approach to pet health and diet--treating the root cause, not the symptoms. I like the fact that Dr. Pitcairn chose to think outside the box, so to speak, and look for alternatives early in his career when he found that his patients did

not always respond to drugs. Also, the recipes are excellent for ensuring a truly healthy diet. I can't think of anything that I did not like about the book. I still remember the first time anyone had EVER mentioned to me that dog food is not good for dogs. My husband and I were adding a dog to our family and was going through an interview process with the breeder. She knew that we already have an older dog and she asked about his diet. This was two years ago, and by then, our older dog (11 years old at the time) had lost most of his teeth, and we had (reluctantly) taken him off his kibble diet. When we started feeding him more "table scraps" we noticed some incredible improvements. His coat looked better than it had in his 11 years, he was also very "peppy" and seemed to be overall in great health and spirits. All during his life he had ALWAYS suffered from weird ailments like skin disorders, hot spots, clogged anal glands, dry flaky skin, nasal allergies, etc. I can not count how many times this dog had been on drugs like cortisone and prednisone and bathed in "hypo-allergenic oatmeal-based shampoos". During my interview with this dog breeder, I did not share with her what my dog had been through, I just said, "...he has lost most of his teeth, and no longer eats kibble". This is when she told me that I shouldn't feed him kibble, and I should not feed the new little one kibble either! This got me curious and I started doing my own research about dog food and was absolutely HORRIFIED to learn the ingredients used to make dog food. How can an entire industry (veterinarians) give such harmful advice?!?! I was and still am outraged at all the people along the way who always advised me to keep my dog on kibble, and I had heard it from so many sources for so many years that I figured they must be right! The day I learned what kibble has in it, my husband and I started cooking for our dogs. There's been some ups and downs during the last two years, learning what to feed and what not to feed, but overall I believe that both dogs are much healthier and my husband and I have peace of mind knowing exactly what they are eating! Oh, and all those skin ailments and allergies that the older dog suffered from for 11 years?...not a SINGLE episode in the past two years! I found this book to be very helpful in understanding what dogs need to be healthy. I learned that generally speaking, we were doing most things right. We did make some changes in the supplements based on Dr. Pitcairn's recommendations and we replaced the white rice we had been feeding with oatmeal--which both dogs seem to like. The older dog is now 13 years old and was diagnosed with Inflammatory Brain Disease about 2 months ago. We are obviously very devastated and I believe whole-heartedly that this brain disease was brought on by the poor diet and also the "top-spot" flea poison he had been on all his life. I found out AFTER his diagnosis that top-spot has been linked to this disease...as this is the same way the poison kills the fleas--it attacks their nervous system!--we had treated him with Frontline just four days before he became ill and was carried to UC Davis Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Whether you decide to buy

this book or not, I would suggest that you to do your own research about your pet's diet and decide for yourself. Some would say that cooking/preparing meals for their pets is a hassle, but this is the least you can do for all the benefits you will get from your healthier pet--not to mention the money you'll save from not taking your dog to the vet all the time to treat symptoms of a poor diet!

I recently obtained Dr. Pitcairn's book and found it to be a wonderful, easy to implement and understand book on natural care for dogs and cats. Dr. Pitcairn provides concise information on dogs and cats from what to feed, to training, and even about how to choose a dog breed for your lifestyle. This book also has lots of natural prevention remedies included and how to PREVENT pesky problems like fleas and ticks from invading your home and your pets. One of the things I educate pet owners on is prevention being the key and that is done through a strong immune system by feeding and supplementing properly. I always tell them that once your pet is diseased you'll need to see a veterinarian and then undo the illness and disease if you can, then build your pet back up. Dr. Pitcairn shares a lot about prevention and that thrilled me! That is the answer and key to keeping our pets healthy. He shares about natural feeding which is another big issue I like to tackle with pet owners. He even includes grooming. This is a must have book for any dog or cat owner who wants to approach their pet care naturally and preventatively. Excellent book! Kim Bloomer[...]

This book is the ultimate guide to pet health. After owning a dog who struggled with frequent seizures and, near the end of her life, osteosarcoma, I am so thankful for the advice contained in Dr. Pitcairn's Guide. My dog began to have seizures when she was about seven or eight years old. I was told by a veterinarian that she would have to take phenobarbital, a seizure drug, for the rest of her life. After tests showed the drug was beginning to destroy her liver, I found a new vet and started looking for another way to treat her seizures. Not knowing what I was looking for, I picked up a copy of this book. After several months of gradually introducing her to the diet described in this book, I was able to wean her off the phenobarbital, which she never took again. Never before had I realized what a difference diet could make. Coincidentally, my new vet was a practitioner of homeopathy who had studied Dr. Pitcairn's methods, so things came together quite nicely. Sadly, at the age of fourteen, my dog developed osteosarcoma, a deadly bone cancer. Again, I always kept this book nearby as a reference until the end of her life, forgoing chemotherapy in favor of less harsh care. I have never seen a more comprehensive book for pet health with so much effective, practical advice. In addition to recommendations for diet (including recipes), this book also contains

a quick reference to different disorders, and the recommended treatments for each. Its main focus, however, is on prevention. One important note: If you have an older edition of this book, please buy the new one as some important revisions have been made.

I'd reviewed the 2nd edition version when I was looking into a more natural diet for my puppies on the advice of my holistic vet. In fact I was using the diet until my youngest started gaining weight and they were worried that the grains were causing the weight gain. I switched to raw meat and pureed veggies instead. Turns out that she was low thyroid. The diets are still heavy on grains. Great for the majority of dogs I'm sure. The upside is that there are nutritional analysis of all the diets included so you know why you're including each of the components. There are also special diets included for allergies, weight loss and gain. I also like the information on various health issues and vaccines that is included.

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