



## NEW PUPPY SUPPLY SUGGESTIONS

# Toys



West Paw Zogoflex toys put the FUN in functional!  
 We like to put Pumpkin inside this toy and freeze it... this will keep them busy for a while.



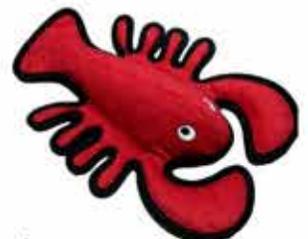
PetQwerks Talking Babble Ball Dog Toy



The Orbee Bone is made of the award winning Orbee material. A great match for Chewers! Constructed in a single mold in the classic bone shape. Some call it the Doggy Pacifier! Your pup will love the minty smell. Did we mention the best thing? Orbee Bone helps promote healthy chewing habit!



The Kong Wobbler can also be used at feeding time....



Tuffy's Soft Dog Toys

About Kongs (above) they have pink and blue Kongs for Puppies, however, remember the Black Kongs are the most Chew Proof



# Crates/Beds



By draping a blanket or cover on your wire kennel, you create a more private Den-Like kennel which I have found they seem to feel more secure in.



Wire pens and crates: I like the Medium Size. I use the wire crate for at home, and the appropriate size kennel (right) to fit in my vehicle for car trips (or both). You can find a great assortment at FleetFarm stores, or, order on Amazon.

**Note:** As the puppies have been sleeping together, sleeping alone is going to be a new experience. The crate is the safest place, and preferably where you can monitor them. If they are really fussy and they will not settle down, first, make sure they are OK, but then, if still not wanting to fall asleep, you might try taking a sheet and cover the crate completely. Note: if you take them out of the crate when they fuss, they will learn that fussing gets them out of the kennel. Wait until they are quiet, then take them out. They will adjust. Train them to go into the crate with treats/kibble. The crate should be a happy place for them, not punishment. Soft music may help as well. Locate the kennel in a quiet part of your home where the puppy is not distracted by visitors (much like an infant).

**How long can I keep my puppy in the Kennel:** Rule of thumb is one hour for every month old your puppy is. This means, if your puppy is eight weeks old (2 months), that's two hours. They say you can add one hour to each month, which would be a three hour max at two months. When you first get your puppy, you will likely be getting up once or twice to let them out to potty.

**Tip:** Put Pumpkin inside this toy (right) and freeze it... this will keep them busy for a while and help them enjoy and adjust to the crate. We find this toy/treat to be safe from choking hazards. Remember to always monitor your puppy with toys, they are no different than a Baby :)



**If you must leave your puppy for a longer period of time:** Set up a puppy area using a pen with a crate inside, with dishes and potty area. You can order these wire playpens on Amazon or FleetFarm carries them as well.

**Kuranda Dog Beds:** Orthopedic, Chew proof, Easy to Clean. We use these and love them! Nice to have in the living room, teach your puppy this is their space rather than the couch (if that's your rules). Get the Medium to Large size. These can be ordered on Amazon.





## Digging Pit

Digging comes very natural for many dogs. Digging is frequently a “hard-wired” behavior in dogs and stopping it is literally trying to stop a dog’s natural tendencies. So.... Instead of Fighting the Instinct to dig, harness it!

One of the most effective ways to deal with instinctual dog behavior like digging is to give a dog a way to do it that is not disruptive. My favorite is to set up a “digging pit” somewhere and then convince the dog that digging there is more rewarding than around the petunias. Dig a hole and fill it with sand. (Sand is a lot easier to clean up than soil.) it may be helpful to hide some toys in the sand and show your dog his new place to dig! Start out making the hidden goodies easy to find and then work your way up to making it more and more difficult. Make it a game, and be sure to spend some time with your dog. Which is a nice segway to the next point.....

Idle Paws are the Devil’s Digger!

In detective fiction we frequently read or hear about “motive and opportunity.” We covered motive for digging, now you need to deal with the opportunity! Are you leaving a “known offender” alone in your yard? Leaving your dog alone outside is not a good idea for a lot of reasons, but leaving a bonafide digger alone is just asking for it. Even when you are with your dog, his eyes may wander over to those petunias. This is a prime opportunity to train him to leave things alone on cue. That, along with some work on impulse control, will make it easier to redirect your dog’s attention to more productive pursuits.

Left to their own devices, dogs may not choose the recreation activities we would prefer. Trying playing with your dog instead of leaving him alone. Trying using toys and games to exercise his mind and redirect his desire to dig.

Digging can be a big nuisance, but it’s not an insurmountable problem. Try these steps and remember: enjoy your time with your dog. That why’s you got him!

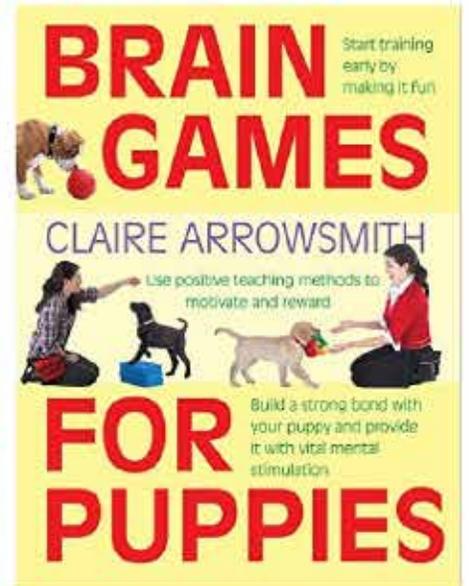
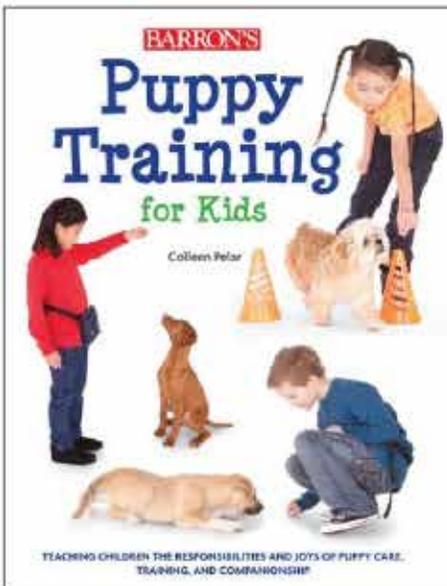
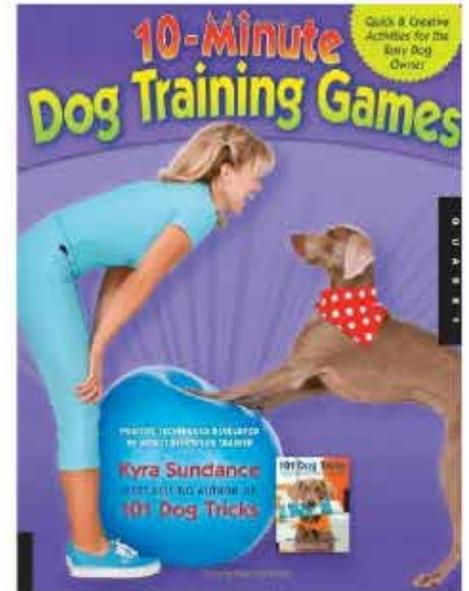
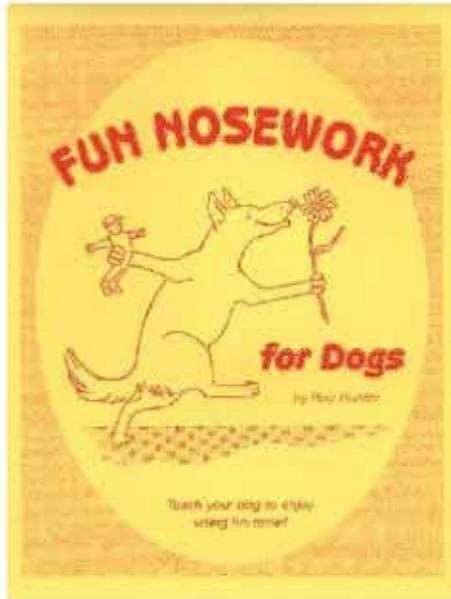
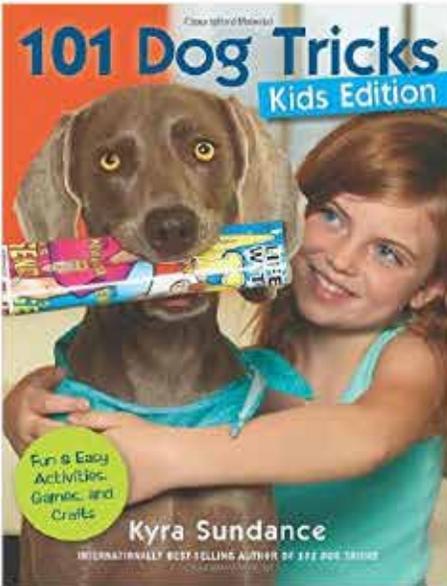
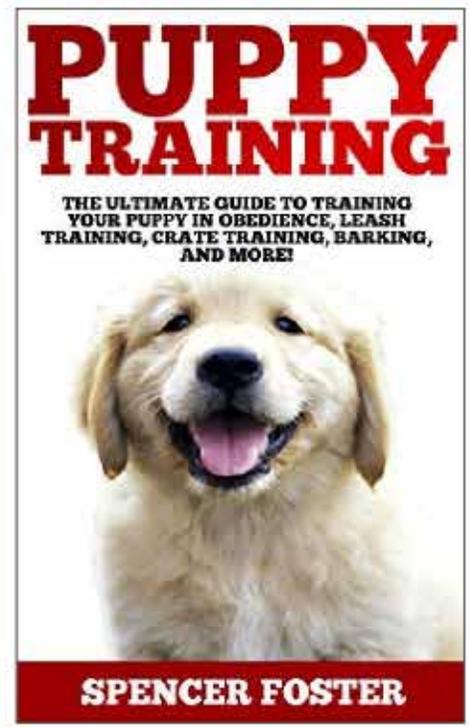
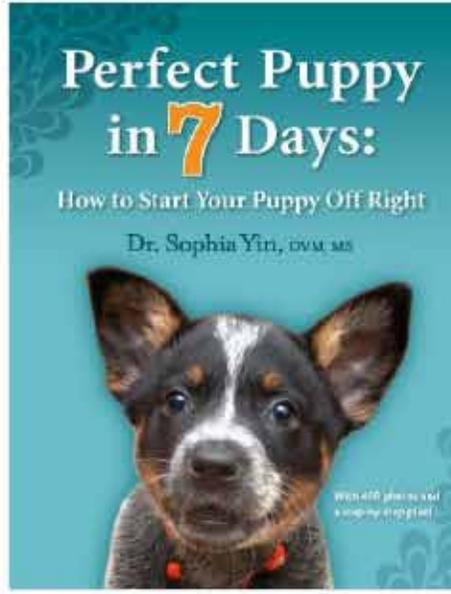
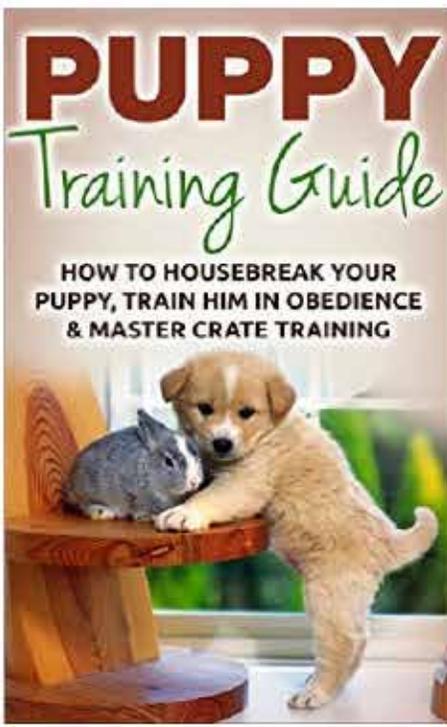
**REMEMBER: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TEACHING YOUR DOG THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE DIGGINGPIT AND THE REST OF THE YARD.** That was in all caps not because I am yelling, but because it is essential.

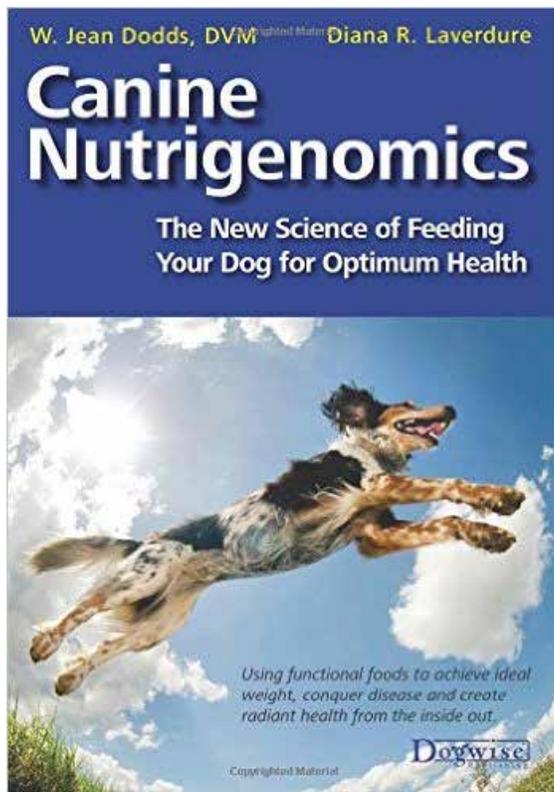
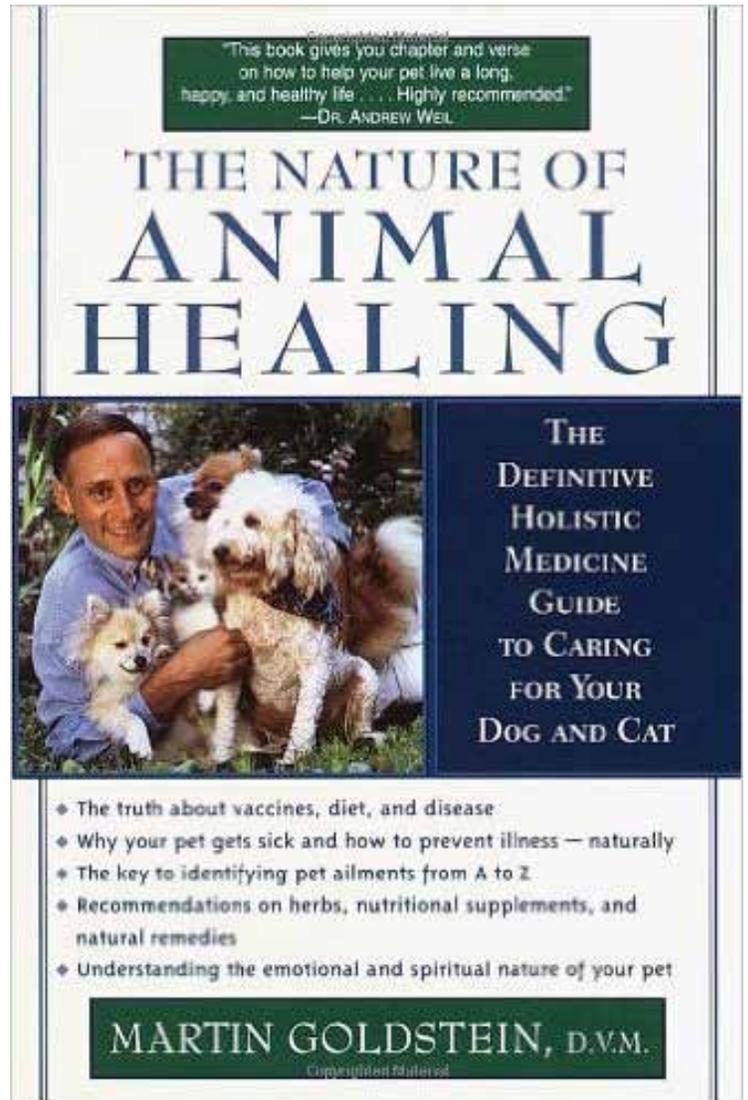
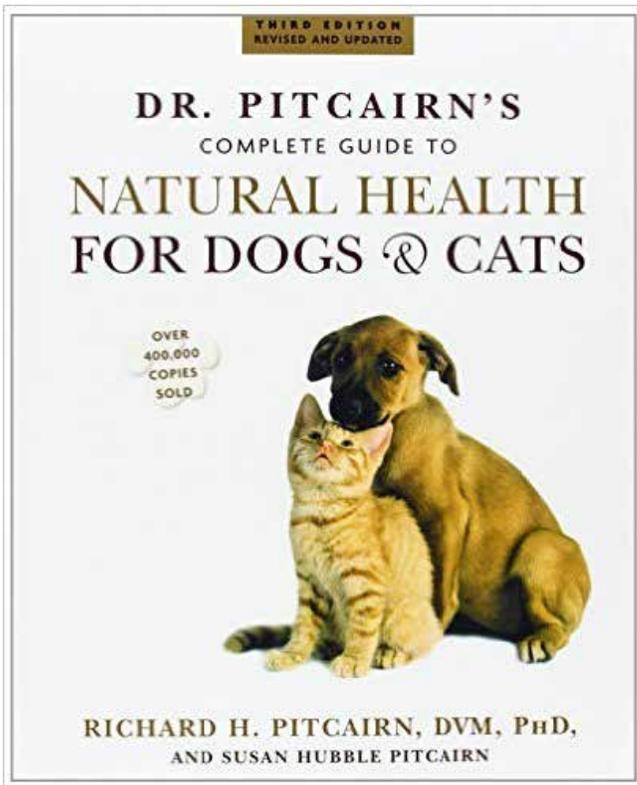
*Pictured Above: Our Digging Pit, constructed with landscape timbers and filled with sand. Large enough and with no bottom. They love to dig deep.*



# Books we Like

All on Amazon.com





**DID YOU KNOW:** What you feed your dog can contribute to behavior issues and how often they need to go to the vet? Does your dog tend to have chronic ear infections, skin problems, or, are you dealing with Allergies such as Diabetes, Cushing disease, Kidney or Urinary problems? Does your dog eat lots of grass, rocks, or their own poo? All these have to do with what you are feeding your dog. **Nutrition is the foundation of health.** The folks who refuse to use nutritional supplements or give homeopathic remedies but are willing to feed a raw, species-appropriate diet will still have pets that are healthier than those who are willing to do everything BUT feed raw. — Jessica Levy, DVM

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the magazine for dogs without boundaries