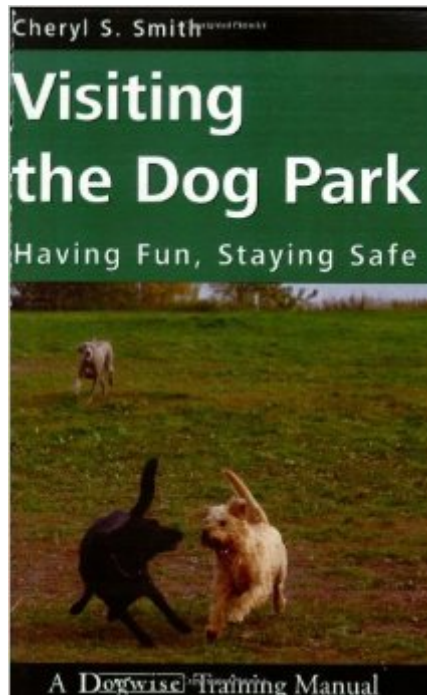


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# Visiting The Dog Park: Having Fun, Staying Safe



## Synopsis

Dog parks are great - just not for every dog, every time. Taking your dog to a dog park is a great way to exercise and socialize your canine companion. Dog parks offer fresh air, open space, and freedom - a chance for your dog to be a dog. But not all dogs enjoy the experience and not all dog parks are safe for your dog. Learn Practical skills: Evaluate your dog's temperament to decide if he's dog park ready. What design features a well-planned dog park should have. Teach your dog four simple behaviors to make him dog park safe. How to read canine body language to avoid problems. Dog park etiquette for both dogs and humans.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you finally have a dog park coming near you and you want to take your dog(s) to the park for some off leash fun, get this book to prepare beforehand. Cheryl covers what to look for in a good dog park - rules, park etiquette (yours and your dog), openings, landscaping and clean-up. Cheryl also covers different personality types in dogs and which dog may want to stay home rather than go to the park. There's also a very cool section of scenarios to see if you can tell what is going on in different dog interactions. Don't worry if you don't get them all right, it takes practice reading dog body language. There's a whole chapter that acts as a checklist for those who enjoy making sure they have all the details to prepare for a good experience with their dog. What to wear - you and your dog. How to arrive and enter as well as exit the park. What to do while in the park. Cheryl also covers health issues that may come up from visiting a dog park. The various illnesses that can come from shared water bowls, airborne illnesses, and poop-borne illnesses. These aren't meant to scare you

from going! The last chapter has suggested resources for training behaviors as well as how to learn canine body language. There is a lot of resources for dog park rules, how to find one, and how to get one setup in your area.

When I got this book, I wasn't expecting much - - still, I wanted to see what it had to say, because for me, a trip to the dog park can be just as fun as stressful. - - I have a very small poodle, and always worry about his safety. - - Within moments of getting it, I have to say, I realized that I picked a good book... especially when I got to the chapter that includes training tips to prepare your dog for a trip to the dog park. (- - I've put a lot of time and effort into training my dog, but the book presents some really useful ideas I had never thought of myself...) As an added bonus, the book is full of ideas that simply don't seem to be "floating around the net" (This is a shortcoming of buying books these days... I hate it when I buy a book and find out I could have gotten the same information off of WIKIPEDIA!) Well written, the book is substantive, yet short of "fluff" and has an excellent further reading session. I also like the layout of the book - - its very straightforward and well done... not a lot of goofy graphics, fillers and "white space" - - you open the book, you read the 127 pages comfortably ... and if you've got a highlight pen, can walk away with lot's and lot's of stuff to think about as you get ready for your next trip. Topics include: suggestions of who should and shouldn't use a dog park; dog park design and safety, rules and etiquette; training issues; understanding canine temperament body language; conflict resolution and health issues. All in all, as a person who likes dog parks, I really feel that the book lives up to the claims on the back cover which promises ways of having fun and staying safe at a dog park... and offers to teach practical skills to reach this goal... Based on this fact, and the fact that the book will definitely be a KEEPER that I'll come back to for many years to come, I give it a full five stars... and hope you'll decide to get it and enjoy it too !

A wonderful book. A must-read for anyone who has a dog and wants to take the dog to a dog park. Great information about calming signals, "bully test," and general behavioral advice--know when to leave, what to pay attention to, etc. Thanks to this book I have become a better dog guardian at the dog park I am more relaxed and also more attuned to potential problems. My dog as a result is enjoying herself better.

I am in the process of organizing a group to have a Free Run Dog Park built in Anderson County SC. I have excellent planning documents from Barkingham park in Florida and some additional input. I purchased this book as a guide to writing rules & recommendations for potential users. It will

serve that purpose well, but it is an even better source of ideas for the layout and planning of our own park. As part of our project we intend to donate several copies of the book to our county library and post that information with the rules.

this book is a useful reference for both the general public and for councils/communities establishing dog parks and for those that are already established.very well written and researched - the dog park ettique guidelines and the body language sections are essential reading in my opinion. I feel too many dog people go to these parks in total ignorance as to proper ettique and K9 body language.I highly recommened this book to all.

very well written, organized and useful!!

Great book

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