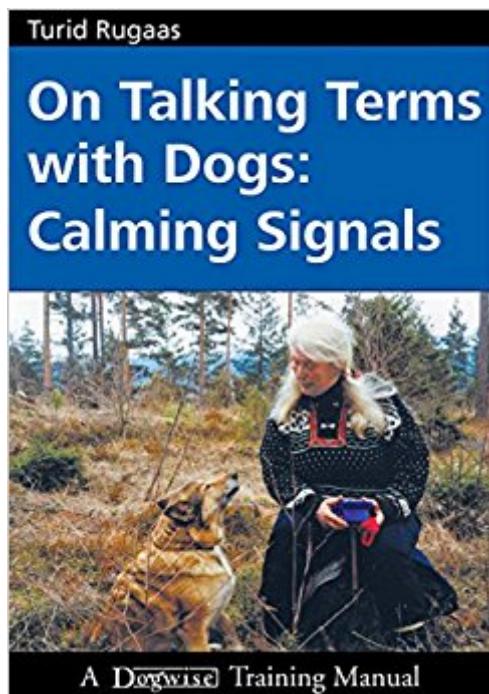


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# On Talking Terms With Dogs Calming Signals



## **Synopsis**

Yawning, lip-licking, sneezing, even scratching are just a few of the 30-plus signals that dogs use to communicate with one another. With *On Talking Terms With Dogs* you can learn to recognize these signals and use them yourself to interact with your dog. Norwegian dog trainer and behaviorist Turid Rugaas has made it her life work to study canine social interaction. She coined the phrase calming signals to describe the social skills, sometimes referred to as body language, that dogs use to avoid conflict, invite play, and communicate a wide range of information to other dogs and also humans. Every dog needs his human to read this book! Learn to identify situations that are stressful to your dog so that you can resolve or avoid them. Rehabilitate a dog that has lost her ability to read or give calming signals. Become a keen observer of canine behavior at home, in the community, and among dogs to get better behavior and build a solid relationship.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 78 pages

Publisher: Direct Book Service; 2nd edition (December 14, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1929242360

ISBN-13: 978-1929242368

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 5.8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 649 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,437 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs > Training

## **Customer Reviews**

This new revised edition is a must have! Even if you own the previous edition the photos and examples along with the writing are worth it. Turid has a wonderful gift of making everything so easy to understand and relate to... (she has made) an enormous contribution to mankind in our ever-increasing knowledge of man's best friend our dogs. --Pamela Dennison, author of *Complete Idiots Guide to Positive Dog Training* and *Bringing Light to Shadow. A Dog Trainer's Diary* Invaluable! The insightful observations of Turid Rugaas can help all of us have a deeper and more meaningful relationship with our dogs. This beautifully illustrated book belongs in the home of dog lovers everywhere. --Patricia B. McConnell, Ph.D. author, *The Other End of the Leash*, *Cautious Canine*, *Feeling Outnumbered* and more! personally owe Turid a great debt because her

work validated my observations that dogs are trying very hard to talk to us. This book was my guide and added amazing volume to my knowledge base. Her book provided the confidence to continue watching and interpreting. What a lovely gift! --Brenda Aloff author of Aggression In Dogs and Canine Body Language, A Photographic Guide

Turid Rugaas has been involved with dogs as long as she can remember. From her own classes held at Hagan Hundeskole, her beautiful farm in the fjords of Norway, to her world-wide seminars, Turid is helping dogs by helping their owners see and understand the signals they give us.

I paid about 12\$ for this book :( That's the only con. I wish this author put all of his books into one, so all his info is in one place and the price was more reasonable. This books would be ONE chapter in his book (if they were all together in one book). That being said.... I LOVE the info in this book and wish I learned this years ago! It's helping me keep my puppy calm as I train him in stores and on outings in general. There are 11 calming signals that the author mentions and then they list examples. That's the sum-up of the book. While it's a really brief book... the information is HIGHLY valuable and works great! I would recommend that you borrow this book from your library or a friend rather than paying so much for this book. Good luck and happy calming :)

I adopted a rescue dog who was almost blind, and had been severely traumatized by being dumped on the streets until she was all bones from starvation, and then was placed in a noisy over-crowded shelter. She was afraid of every noise - barking, voices, something dropping on the floor, people, other dogs - you get the picture. I learned a lot in this book about how to read and provide calming signals for my dog, to help her extreme anxiety. (Note, she needed a lot of tools to help her, this was just one approach I used, but this was really good information for me - and she is so much better now!)

This is a must have for anyone with a dog. You learn so much about the body language your dog is using to communicate that you will never realize without this book. She has pictures and descriptions of over 30 ways dogs signal you but you will not see such as Sniffing, scratching, lip licking, ears back or forward, body curving, looking away, and more. Her DVD is great for teaching kids the silent signals a dog is giving off, which is invaluable to know what they are doing "right or wrong" around any dog.

This was recommended to me by my holistic vet. It's a great book and is much more accurate in describing dog's body language. It was fun going to the dog park with my pooch and watching and understanding the communications the dogs were giving each other. I now am much more aware of when I need to start walking away from a situation before it escalates if there is an aggressive behaviour I see between dogs. Or on the other hand, I don't freak out when dogs are communicating in a way that looks strange to humans but is acceptable for them.

This is a sweet book with simple drawings and nice explanations and descriptions of the ways in which dogs communicate. I really like the way it is written and how clearly Ms. Ruggaas conveys the feelings of dogs and how to begin to learn to interpret some of the common body language. I have already tried yawning to calm my 11 month old shepherd mix and she certainly responds! She tilts her head to one side and then sits down!

If you are looking for a book to cover the fundamentals of canine behavior/communication, this book is for you. It's a quick read at 74 pages. Do not let that the short read fool you, the author gets right to the point, and provides examples with illustrations for each section. However, the book is not an all-inclusive book in regard to canine behavior/communication; the author even states this too. The author wrote other books in a series that goes more in-depth per subject. For the price of this book, I definitely recommend it as a foundation to learning about canine behavior and communication, and I will be exploring other books in the series by this author. Furthermore, I bought a few other canine behavior/communication books that provide more in-depth information. They are more academic in nature, but worth looking into. The following books are not listed in any order of importance.

1. *In Defence of Dogs* by John W. S. Bradshaw
2. *Decoding Your Dog: Explaining Common Dog...* by American College of Veterinary Behaviorists
3. *How Dogs Love Us: A Neuroscientist and His Dog...* by Gregory Berns

This is an excellent book that is accessible to the average pet owner. It walks through a host of very subtle signals that dogs give when they're nervous, uncomfortable, fearful and/or trying to avoid conflict. Turid not only describes the behavior, but also examples of the kinds of circumstances you'll see the dog do these behaviors, how other dogs respond to seeing these behaviors and even some behaviors that we can do in the presence of our dogs to help calm them down and make them feel safer. This book will open up a whole new world of communication and understanding (and thus bond) between you and your dog. And once you know what behaviors you're looking for, you'll

see them in other dogs as well which will allow you to intervene in calm, easy ways to help prevent undesired interactions even when the other owner may be oblivious to the stress their own dog is feeling or causing between their dog and yours. I'm a professional trainer and behavior modification specialist and I recommend this book to literally every single client I have. There's a companion DVD for the visual learner, though I recommend reading the book first so that as you watch the video, you already have terms and definitions in mind. This will help you connect the dots as you watch the dogs display the behaviors she talks about. It's an excellent dog-to-English dictionary for appeasement signals, cut-off signals and I'm feeling uncomfortable/nervous signals.

I liked the book -- it was cute and helpful. However, none of the information was anything new that I'd never heard before and I could probably find the same information with more sources and background info for free online.

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