

**Master dog trainer reveals his secrets in new book
In ‘Doggy Gone Good,’ stage performer Gregory Popovich teaches the proper
way to raise, train, care for and communicate with
your furry friend — and even teach it stunning tricks**

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — A dog not only needs obedience training to teach it the dog rules of the home — the dog craves it, since following commands fulfills its inbred drive to work for its master. A dog with a strong leader is a happy dog.

Want to train your four-legged companion from jumping on you or others? Reward it for obeying the “Down” or “Off” or “Sit” command. But if it needs stronger reinforcement, step or slide a foot forward to keep the dog off balance and add a reproachful “Ahh” sound — then ignore it until it settles down.

*Want to teach your dog not to bark and react wildly every time the doorbell rings? Don’t yell at it — the dog may think you’re joining in the barking. Give it a “No bark” or “Quiet” command and reward it for obeying. Or ring the doorbell so many times the dog no longer finds the sound exciting. Make no bones about it — that’s advice that works. Gregory Popovich, founder and star of the World Famous Popovich Comedy Pet Theater (based at the V Theater in the Planet Hollywood Casino in Las Vegas, when not touring), has authored his second book: *Doggy Gone Good: A Master’s Guide to Teaching Manners, Tricks and Healthy Habits.**

“There are approximately 77 million pet dogs in the nation,” Popovich says. “That’s a lot of dogs — and a lot of dog owners who can benefit from this book. My concepts represent many decades of knowledge that I’ve accumulated from experience, as well as wisdom passed onto me

from previous generations of Popoviches. I'm providing these nuggets of information in easy-to-digest morsels."

Doggy Gone Good — available at Comedy Pet Theater shows, as well as in physical or e-book form by ordering from www.comedypet.com — offers thorough advice: everything from choosing the right dog to acclimating the dog to your home, children and other pets; feeding it the right nutrition; keeping it healthy, happy and safe; breaking it of bad habits; communicating clearly to it and interpreting its language; traveling with it; and teaching it simple — and advanced — tricks, if desired.

Popovich — a fourth-generation circus performer — grew up with dogs and cats as his closest playmates backstage while his parents performed in the great Moscow Circus. He developed keen communication with, and understanding of, the animals, and sprinkles his book with humorous stories and fascinating facts and tidbits about dogs. "I have a great deal of knowledge and stories to share because I have spent my entire life around these furry, faithful creatures," Popovich says. "I encourage you to keep this book handy as a guide to turn to from time to time, whenever a particular problem may present itself with your dog.

"As with raising a child, becoming the best possible master for your dog demands a great deal of trouble and toil from time to time," Popovich says, "yet the rewards are more than worth the effort!"

Popovich also author of cat-training book, and star of slapstick TV episodes

Gregory Popovich also has written [You CAN Train Your Cat: Secrets of a Master Cat Trainer](#), published in 2009 by St. Martin's Griffin (ISBN 978-0-312-56528-2). The book is available from major retailers, and teaches readers how to correct even the most fickle feline's nasty habits — everything from bad litter-box habits to jumping on tabletops and countertops, clawing upholstery and curtains, begging for food, and more. The book even shows how to train your cat to perform tricks such as jumping through a hoop or perching on its owner's shoulder.

Popovich also is star of a series of nine hilarious TV episodes — now collected on four DVDs. The episodes feature his trained dogs and cats in madcap storylines, and include incredible stunts and acrobatics. The DVDs are available for purchase from the online store at <http://comedypet.com>.

About the author

Gregory Popovich, a native of Kiev, Ukraine, is an alumnus of the Great Moscow Circus and the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, a trained clown, and a world record-setting juggler. A professional circus performer since age 12, he personally trains the dogs and cats (all rescued from animal shelters) that form the core cast of Comedy Pet Theater. The show is an award-winning, family oriented act that features stunning animal tricks, Gregory's unique comedy and juggling, and performances by European-style clowns and balancing acts.

Comedy Pet Theater has performed in 25 countries and been featured on television's [The Tonight Show](#), [Late Night with David Letterman](#), [The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson](#), [Animal Planet](#), and [America's Got Talent](#). Comedy Pet Theater

also has been featured in People magazine, The New York Times Sunday Magazine, the Los Angeles Times, and the New Yorker. “Comedy Pet Theater is like a Cirque show with animals,” USA Today said.

Popovich lives in Las Vegas with his wife, Izolda, and their daughter, Anastasia, who also perform in the show. The Popoviches’ extended household includes more than 50 furry or feathered members — dogs, cats, ferrets, white mice, geese, doves, and a parrot.

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