



Manual de Coton de Tulear



Manual de Coton de Tulear

Terri Tyler

Dedicated to Ron Hiskes,
Founder of the American Coton Club

Published 2012
Colorado Coton Kennel, LLC
Berthoud, Colorado

Copyright 2012
Terri Tyler

Cover Photos: Center photo by Susan Hallums;. all others by Terri Tyler.
Book design by Susan Tyler

Manual de Coton de Tulear

by
Terri Tyler

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Forward	4	Sit, Stay, Good Citizen <i>by Carla Foster</i>	45
History of the Coton de Tulear <i>by Kris Forke</i>	5	Potty Training <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	46
Where's My Coton? <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	9	House Training <i>by Ian Dunbar</i>	47
Finding a Good Breeder <i>by Karen Black</i>	10	Crate Training Your Coton de Tulear <i>by Karen Black</i>	49
Pet Quality vs. Show <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	12	All Dogs Bark <i>by Pat Enright</i>	51
A Coton Costs How Much??? <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	13	Service	
Kids and Cotons <i>by Carla Foster</i>	14	Coton de Tulear and Pet Therapy <i>by Jackie Hendricks</i> ..	52
Viva la Difference <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	16	R.E.A.D. <i>by Terry Cox</i>	53
Add a Coton to Your Family		Fun and Games	
Coton Basics <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	17	Dancing with the Stars <i>by Jan Weiner</i>	54
Preparing for Homecoming <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	18	Agility <i>by Cory Williams</i>	55
Baby Comes Home <i>by Carla Foster</i>	21	Grooming	
Do's and Don'ts Checklist <i>by Carla Foster</i>	22	Choosing a Groomer <i>by Robin Rosenthal</i>	56
Wellness and Health Care		Bathing and Grooming your Coton <i>by Marilyn Smart</i>	58
Minor Irritant or Collapsing Trachea? <i>by Ron Hiskes</i>	23	Tearstains <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	62
Striving for Puppy Wellness: Infectious Disease Prevention 24 <i>by Jennifer Messer, BA Psych (Hons.), DVM</i> <i>Edited by Terry Long, CPDT</i>		Mats <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	64
Poisonous Plants <i>University of Illinois</i>	29	Coton Grooming 101 <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	66
Top 10 Pet Poisons.....	30	Grooming Q&A <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	67
All Bad Stuff Happens at Night	31	To Cut or Not to Cut <i>by Hazel Gill</i>	68
Nutrition		And Other Important Topics	
The Urban Legends of Dog Food <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	33	How to Travel with a Coton <i>by Heidi Petran</i>	70
Training		So, You Think You want to be a Breeder?	71
Terri's Take on Training <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	35	What is the Purpose of a Breed Club? <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	73
Socialized Cotons are Happy <i>by Carla Foster</i>	36	What is Rescue? <i>by Jane Arrington</i>	75
I'll Be Back- Canine Separation Anxiety <i>by Carla Foster</i> 40		What to Do if You Lose Your Dog. <i>by Terri Tyler</i>	77
Friendly Training <i>by Ian Dunbar</i>	43	Lost Dog <i>by Kadence Buchanan</i>	78
		About the Authors, Contributors and Photographers.....	79

Forward

by Terri Tyler

This manual is not a work of art but it has been a labor of love a long time in the making. I have been promising to finish this for years and it has traveled with me on all of my vacations with the promise of completion.


Many of us who have contributed to the writing of this work have been participants on various Coton List Serves. This has been a great venue for “newbies” to learn from “oldies” about issues relating to and of the Coton. The forum continues to thrive and be a great resource that allows us all to share the love of our Cotons.

Over time I began to notice that the same questions kept arising as new people would join the list. Many of these questions were answered by breeders and pet people with knowledgeable and well written answers. I began saving some of those answers. As time passed I became more and more impressed with the quality, intelligence and experience evidenced on these list serves.

Through the process of collecting and soliciting articles I was fortunate to come in contact with a few professional canine authors who have generously given their time and expertise to this publication.

The purpose of this publication is to bring together in one booklet, the experience and knowledge of several Coton owners, breeders and other professional dog people. If you are reading this, we already know you must be a conscientious and intelligent human. You adopted a Coton and want to provide the best possible home for your baby. We want to help you.

What the Manual Coton de Tulear isn't is a dictatorial treatise on the *right* way to take care of your Coton. We will be presenting differing opinions on the same topic and trust that you, as a discerning individual, will be able to determine for yourselves what fits for you, your Coton and your lifestyle. You will not be able to follow the yellow brick road to arrive in Coton Heaven where grooming is a snap and your little buddy displays none of those unfortunate traits that come naturally to dogs. Do I hear barking in the distance?

I will be your narrator throughout the book. So, let's begin at the beginning. 

Training

Terri's Take on Training

By Terri Tyler

Pinned to a wall at my medical clinic is a cartoon with a picture of a physician speaking to a patient on the exam table. The doctor is saying, "I want you to quit smoking, lose weight and then come back here and tell me how you did it" Much like the medical profession, dog trainers are also infamous for telling you what to do, how to do it, and yet frequently, the expected results are not forthcoming! Teaching doggy push-ups is one thing, even a little heeling and recall and maybe a short stay we can all usually manage, but what about the problem behaviors like barking, jumping, dog aggression, prolonged down stay, fill in the blank _____?

Training comes more easily to some than others and likewise with Cotons. As a rule, Cotons are very amenable to being schooled in the basics. I frequently hear what star pupils my little puppies are in classrooms across the country. What I also hear are the frustrations of Coton parents who are being instructed in ways that are either counter-intuitive to training the Coton and/or are too rigid. I don't believe that one size fits all when it comes to dog training.


For example, I attended a basic obedience class with my little 5 pound Coton and was instructed to come equipped with a 6ft leash, a buckle or snap collar and a 9 foot piece of light rope. The rope is to be attached to the collar along with the leash so that when your 5 pound Coton tries to break a sit or down stay, you can maintain control over him by keeping your foot on the light rope close to his body. In addition to these restraints, we were also required to place a fair sized clip onto their collar that is on the end of a 1" wide piece of heavy webbing that is fastened securely to the wall for the purpose of having further control

over your 5 pound Coton while the instructor is talking. No worries about my Coton getting out of control, he can't even stand up with all the weight around his collar!

And how about this one, you must use a collar, never a harness. Why? Do dogs only experience the sensation of pressure when applied to their necks? The point I want to make is that there are no absolutes in dog training. There are several ways to reach the same goal as well as variation in what goals are desirable. Personally, I don't care if my Cotons jump up on me, that way I don't have to lean over so far! I want my Cotons with me on the couch and on the bed; I believe there are many other ways to help them to feel secure in their place in the pack order. Not everyone feels as I do about what constitutes appropriate behavior but we should all be able to decide what works for us without having to hit the confessionals after dog class.

So, does all this mean that I don't recommend dog training or trainers? Au Contraire, por certa I do, so much so it is in my contract! Training fulfills a number of purposes not the least of which is training the human! I do not say this to my new puppy people however, what I do say is this:

- 1) By having to show up every week and demonstrate that you have done your homework is a good motivation for not procrastinating.
- 2) Obedience is as much about learning to communicate with your dog as training your dog to not exhibit those undesirable doggy attributes.
- 3) I want my puppies to be welcomed wherever they go so the likelihood of them being left at home diminishes.

Train your puppy to be the adult Coton that will be capable of participating in your life as much as is caninely and socially possible. 



About the Authors and Contributors...

Jane Arrington and Jeri McLees

Jane Arrington and Jeri McLees are officers of UCARE, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity founded in 2002. Jane and Jeri are there to clean up after bad breeders, puppy mills or unfortunate circumstances. Unfortunately in the Coton world, this is becoming more frequent. They have a thankless job so I am thanking them right now.

Yulon Bearcup

Yulon Bearcup is a Coton breeder in Arizona that cared enough about the average pet owner to put together an article on bathing and grooming.

Karen Black www.rebelcreek.com

Karen Black operates Cotonwind Cotons located just over one hour northeast of Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Kadence Buchanan

Kadence Buchanan writes articles on many topics including Pets, Shopping, and Kids and Teens.

Terry Cox

Military retired Marine Master Gunnery Sergeant, after 30+ years, Terry Coy is a groomer. He used to show miniature schnauzers and standard poodles, has raised Shih-Tzu's for 8 years because of allergy interest, before he switched to the cotons. He wrote: "My therapy dogs are registered under Therapy Dogs, Inc, and do R.E.A.D. under Intermountain Therapy Animals. I fall under an umbrella organization formed here in the Jacksonville area called Pawsitive Pets. We do R.E.A.D. in schools, libraries and book stores."

Ian Dunbar

Ian Dunbar is a well renown author and veterinarian that is very generous about allowing his articles to be reprinted.

Pat Enright diamnkrest@aol.com

As the owner of DiamondKrest Kennel, Pat Enright is a champion breeder of Cotons de Tulear. She is licensed as an American Rare Breed Association judge and is a board member of her national breed club. Pat enjoys teaching about rare breeds dogs and the practice of responsible dog breeding. She lives in Lindenhurst, New York with her family.

Kris Forke www.oldsnowmasscotons.com

A Western Colorado Code of Ethics Breeder with the American Coton Club, our Cotons are raised as organically as possible in the fresh mountain air and sunshine.

Carla Foster

Carla Foster is a member of the Dog Writers of America Association and a former Associate Editor for Dog World magazine. I am honored and appreciative that she has given freely of her expertise.

Hazel Gill www.cotondetulears.com

Hazel Gill is a Coton breeder, exhibitor and groomer who lives in England.

Jackie Hendricks

Jackie Hendricks and her coton Chelsea live in Bucyrus, Ohio where they provide pet therapy at local hospitals.

Ron Hiskes www.happyheartscoton.com 650.494.0390 3484 Waverley Street, Palo Alto, CA 94306

Ron Hiskes is a Coton de Tulear breeder located in sunny Orange County, California, about 15 minutes from Newport Beach. He is one of the original members and Founders of the American Coton Club and has given of his time and money unstintingly. Without him there would be no ACC.

Heidi Petran www.heidipetran.com Chicago, Illinois

Heidi Petran is a self described- crazy coton mom who states that her dog MC "has enriched my life and made me a better person Through her I met wonderful people who also share the love of a coton. I could not exist without her. "

Robyn Rosenthal

Robyn Rosenthal is proprietor of Sterling Cotons and Park Place Grooming in Sterling Park, VA who gave up breeding when she started work in rescue.

Marilyn Smart www.simplygrandcotons.com

Marilyn Smart has been involved with the Coton de Tulear since 1998, under the kennel name of "Simply Grand Cotons." She is a member of the USACTC (United States of America Coton de Tulear Club), and the AACDT (American Association of the Coton de Tulear). She is a Code of Ethics breeder with both the aforementioned Clubs, and has received the Register of Merit Award from the USACTC. She is also the Website Coordinator for the AACDT. Marilyn lives with her Cotons in Phoenix, Arizona.

Terri Tyler [Colorado Coton Kennel, www.cocoton.com](http://www.cocoton.com)

I'm the one who had the dang fool idea that if I put all this information together into a book, it would be easier than trying to gather all the bits and pieces of information together at the last moment to give to each of my puppy buyers. I was wrong about the "easier" part.

Jan Weiner

Jan Weiner lives on Cape Cod with her three dogs, with two of whom she does freestyle. She is a founding member of the Capering Canines of Cape Cod which is a Canine Musical Freestyle group that entertain in nursing homes, schools, community events and fund raisers.

Cory Williams www.carolinacotons.com

Cory Williams is a breeder and competitor in agility who is not afraid to speak her mind. Her love for her dogs is demonstrated through her work.

Photographers

Many of the photographs in this book are by the author/ editor, Terri Tyler. Other photos are by article authors as noted.

Manual de Coton de Tulear

by
Terri Tyler



Terri Tyler's life was changed in 1998 when she got her first two Cotons. She became a breeder to share with others the joy they have brought to her life and the lives she continues to see that are touched by these unique and wonderful dogs.

Terri approaches the rearing of puppies with the same passion and sense of responsibility with which she raised her children. To this end, she put this manual together so future Coton owners can continue to raise their puppies with knowledge and intent.

Manual de Coton de Tulear includes 42 articles written by fifteen different breeders, trainers, groomers, veterinarians and dog enthusiasts, and over 70 photographs.

The *Manual* contains everything you could possibly need to know to raise your Coton De Tulear puppy. It covers how to find the right puppy for you and get your family ready to care for a new puppy, keep your puppy healthy, and train, feed, groom, travel and have fun with your Coton.

Terri Tyler is a registered nurse and proprietor of Colorado Coton Kennel, LLC. in Berthoud, Colorado.



Colorado Coton Kennel, LLC
est. 1998
3125 Sundown Drive
Berthoud, Colorado 80513
www.cocoton.com