

List of Useful Software Applications, Ebooks and Videos for Canine Massage Practitioners

- QwikCards Only for Mac but can be used on iPhone, iPad and Mac desktop computers. This is like an index card box that is useful for separating pathological conditions into the twelve systems of the body. Add links, treatment protocols and information about the pathological conditions. Very useful for acupressure therapists to keep track of the points to use for the specific condition that is presenting itself. Very useful for use in the field since it updates to all devices. There are index card software applications for Windows devices but most of them require you to be online to use them and not all work with Android devices.
- Canine Acupuncture Point HD Pro This application is for the iPad and iPhone and contains almost all of the information in Dr. Xie's Veterinary Acupuncture book. Very useful for point location, point descriptions and contains some treatment protocols for various common pathological conditions. A must own for the acupressure professional. The TCVM Fundamental Into DVD is also an excellent introduction for the animal acupressure therapist to watch.
- Canine AcuPoints Tallgrass Publishers iPad and iPhone compatible software application with is much cheaper than the Canine Acupuncture Point HD Pro and is well done. It lists common Acupoints, good pictures of meridians, good list of classification of points and a reasonable list of common conditions with treatment points. At \$14.99 it is a good reference for the beginning student and for those people on a limited budget. They have a similar application for horses as

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well. Tallgrass also has several other videos, books and charts that are worth getting. They do a excellent job with all of their publications.

- Dog Anatomy 3D For iPhone, iPad and ITouch and for Windows. For \$4.99 this application rocks. A must have application for anyone who wants to know more about canine anatomy. Very interactive, very searchable and good audio pronunciation guide. Well worth the money spent.
- The Well Adjusted Dog This book is awesome. It teaches the animals caretaker how to adjust their canine companion. He also has books out for the cat and horse. While it is illegal for a professional other then a veterinarian to do vertebral adjustments on animals in most states the animals caretaker can do these adjustments themselves. An animal massage therapist should be able to help show the animals caretaker how to do the adjustment themselves or at least guide them to this useful resource. There are very few veterinarians who are also trained in veterinary chiropractics so this book is a very useful guide for the animal caretaker and professional massage therapist.
- Canine Cross Training. A very useful book for agility trainers and canine massage therapists as well. Strengthening and stretching should be used as therapeutic modalities hand in hand. When one muscle is to taut and needs to be stretched then it's opposing muscle is probably weakened and needs to be strengthened. While one of the goals of a massage therapist is to relax the muscles and provide pain relief a good massage

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therapist should also know how to balance the body with safe exercise.

- Canine Rehab Exercise Card Box Set. A must have set of illustrated index cards with Balance, Exercise and Massage protocols. Once you have purchased the set you can print or copy the cards to give to your client to show the veterinarian who can then fill in the number of repeats, times and any cautions. The client can then do the exercises at home to save money and help their own animal companion. A good set of cards for stretching, on the ball and other common physical therapy types of treatments are in this box set. Developed by professional veterinary physical therapists.
- Dr. Debbie Gross Saunders DVD's. Dr. Saunders is a veterinary physical therapist who has produced some of the best instructional videos in the market of on the ball training, stretching, strengthening and osteoarthritis treatments. Every canine massage therapist should watch these videos. Combine these videos with the Canine Rehab Exercise cards and you will have a well rounded education in the common protocols for veterinary physical therapy treatments.
- Dog Steps by Rachel Paige Elliot. The best video on the market so far for dog conformation and gait analysis.
- The Language of Dogs and Am I Safe. These two DVD's are a must view for professionals in the field. Am I Safe is all about canine behavior assessment and is a 3 DVD set that's was done for animal shelter workers so that they could learn how to choose and work with dogs to adopt out to the correct families. The videos show how to assess resource guarders, high

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stickers, passive aggressive animals etc. etc.. The Language of Dogs is another good resource to learn what the dog is trying to communicate.

- Calming Signals: What Your Dog Tells You DVD and the companion ebook On Talking Terms With Dogs: Calming Signals are both excellent resources for learning the language of dogs which is a must for anyone who has an intimate relationship with dogs whether you are a professional or an animal caretaker.
- The Complete Guide to Canine Myofascial Massage/Release is a good video to learn the basics of myofascial release for dogs. It is a little pricey but is worth it if you want to learn this modality of canine massage.

These are the most useful of this group of resources that I have found so far. The list will grow as time goes on and this shouldn't be considered to be a complete list. There are several ebooks on a variety of complementary health care topics such as aromatherapy, jin shin do and acupressure that you will find if you do a search on Amazon and Dogwise. I will make a list of useful links for professionals and lay people soon that will help you find equipment and knowledge on a variety canine health related subjects. I hope this helps you and if you have suggestions about other resources that should be added to this list please email me or leave comments on whatever site you see this blog posted on.