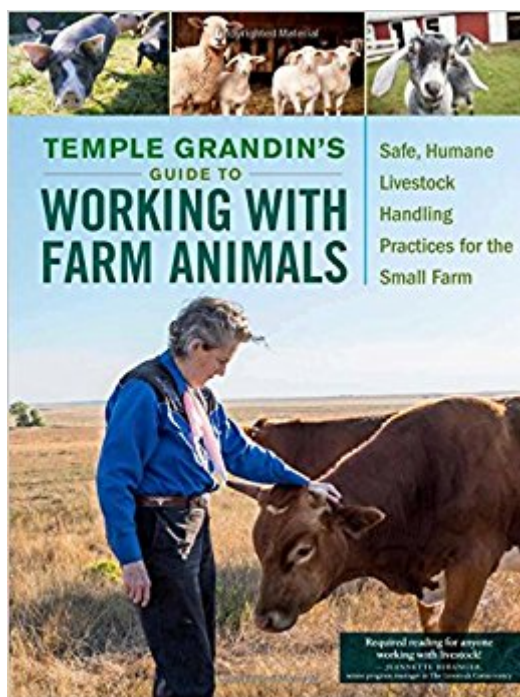


The book was found

Temple Grandin's Guide To Working With Farm Animals: Safe, Humane Livestock Handling Practices For The Small Farm



Synopsis

Award-winning author Temple Grandin is famous for her groundbreaking approach to decoding animal behavior. Now she extends her expert guidance to small-scale farming operations. Grandin's fascinating explanations of how herd animals think — describing their senses, fears, instincts, and memories — and how to analyze their behavior, will help you handle your livestock more safely and effectively. You'll learn to become a skilled observer of animal movement and behavior, and detailed illustrations will help you set up simple and efficient facilities for managing a small herd of 3 to 25 cattle or pigs, or 5 to 100 goats or sheep.

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Customer Reviews

“Grandin gets to the finest points of animal husbandry, providing perceptive insights into animals' physical strengths, weaknesses, and emotional capabilities. Augmented by finely wrought illustrations that delineate pastures, pens, chutes, and handling facilities, Grandin's guidebook is an essential resource for anyone involved with livestock management on any scale.”
— Booklist
“Written for ranchers who manage herds of 100 or less, Temple Grandin's Guide to Working with Farm Animals details key tenets of responsible livestock farming such as designing more humane corrals and chutes.”
— The Modern Farmer
“Dr. Grandin has a unique ability to see things through the eyes of animals, and reading this book helps us to learn how to be compassionate toward them. A must-read for anyone who wants to understand farm animals.”
— Adele Douglas, executive director of Humane Farm Animal Society
“In 45 years of working with animals, I've met no one who even comes close to Dr. Grandin's empathetic understanding

of animals'™ minds and behavior. Here she anticipates the questions someone new to livestock might have and in a highly readable and thoughtful manner explains how to create a good life for these animals.

• "Bernard E. Rollin, professor of philosophy and animal sciences at Colorado State University

• Temple Grandin walks in two worlds

• human and animal. As she gazes into the animal world, she sees, understands, and knows, then interprets for us. With her help, we, too, can begin to understand.

• "Dr. Nancy A. Irlbeck, comparative animal nutritionist and shepherdess

• It would be hard to overstate the impact Temple Grandin has had on slaughterhouses: it has been nothing short of revolutionary. Turning her attention to what's happening on farms is excellent news for people and farm animals alike.

• "Bill Niman, rancher and founder of BN Ranch and Niman Ranch

• A brilliantly written book that should be required reading for anyone working with livestock. Temple Grandin perfectly verbalizes the common sense and observational skills needed to build healthy, safe, and less stressful working relationships between humans and the animals they keep.

• "Jeannette Beranger, senior programs manager at The Livestock Conservancy

Expert Knowledge for Small Farms Keep your animals calm and safe with Temple Grandin's groundbreaking insights and methods, now tailored specifically for small farms. Understand the behavior, fears, and instincts of cattle, goats, pigs, and sheep, and set up the most humane, healthy, and productive systems and facilities on your farm. **Farm Smarter with Dr. Grandin's Principles:**

- Gather and drive your herd by working with grazing animals' instincts for avoiding predators.
- Move your herd at the pace of its slowest member.
- The leader of the herd or flock is usually not the dominant animal.
- Moving sheep through a gate is like siphoning water; never break the flow of their follow-the-leader instinct.
- Prevent many serious behavior problems by raising young animals in social groups with other animals.

Thought provoking and easy to read book with lots of good information on livestock handling as well as design of working facilities

as always temple grandin is truly amazing her insights into the livestock she writes about are truly earthquake level it is so helpful to be able to go to the book case and get that helpful information then see it in action and understand what you are seeing ,we deal with livestock everyday and with temple grandin's books it makes that relationship make more sense and gives us the tools to do a better job thanks

The guidance in this book is remarkably effective. I raise Angus and Wagyu cattle. Her methods simplify working my cattle greatly. The analysis is really quite amazing and quite practical. Thanks!

As you'd expect from Temple Grandin, this is a book full of good advice from an expert. Clear, concise and to the point. Useful for anyone who handles stock.

Having had the honor of Dr. Grandin appearing as a guest on my television show several years ago, it was a thrill to see that she has written this new book about working with livestock and how to use humane and safe handling practices on small farms. The book is divided into three parts, the first of which is all about understanding animal nature. It invites readers to learn how ANIMALS perceive the world around them. It also provides valuable information on livestock genetics and learned behavior. These are highly complex topics, but Dr. Grandin breaks it down very well for all to understand. Part 2 of the book explores the topic of working animals in pastures and pens. Readers will learn how to safely move animals through a chute and other handling facilities. The third part teaches people on small farms how to build animal facilities that are safe and efficient for both the farmer AND the animals. Dr. Grandin offers excellent information about the various layouts for corrals and working areas. I strongly believe that any young person who is involved with 4-H and FFA livestock shows should have a copy of this book. It teaches principles of animal behavior that will be useful for a lifetime. And for older readers hey, you CAN teach an old dog a new trick or two every now and then. We highly recommend this book to anyone involved in animal agriculture.

5...Simply the best animal handling resource for farmers and ranchers. Somehow you've graduated from a dog and a cat to chickens and then maybe a pony and a house cow, and eventually ended up on a farm or a ranch. With livestock. Animals that may not have names. Animals that you can't necessarily tell apart. Animals that definitely prefer each other to the likes of you and might try to trample you, given half a chance. This is the book you need. Or maybe you've grown up on a ranch or farm and have raised livestock all your life with parents and grandparents, in which case you've probably seen most of the mistakes people make when they're trying to figure out why you can't move sheep and cattle exactly the same way. This is the book you need. Temple Grandin is a well-known authority on livestock behaviour, partly because she had to figure out her own behaviour first. Autistic and

difficult, Temple had a difficult childhood was a trial for all around her. But she saw things that other people didn't. She spent time on a farm, watched the animals, and began to understand why they do what they do. (You may have seen Clare Danes playing her in the story of her life, *Temple Grandin* in 2010.) This is the result of that understanding. This is not a book for people who consider meat-eating abhorrent. Get the gardening book you've had your eye on instead. I will begin at the end. Her last section is *Thoughts About Eating Meat*. Mine are similar, and I came to them the same way, while in the cattle yards, admiring our new calves and their mothers (some of whom DID have names). Grandin writes: "One day, I was standing on a long overhead catwalk at a stockyard and chute system I had designed. As I looked out over a sea of cattle below me, I had the following thought: These animals would never have been born if people had not bred them. They would not have known life. I feel very strongly that all the animals that are raised for food should be raised in systems where they have a decent life. I am very concerned about welfare problems caused by poor stockmanship or neglect. . . . Our relationship with meat animals should be symbiotic. Symbiosis is a mutually beneficial relationship between two species. . . when caring people are good stewards of both the animals and the land, the relationship is truly symbiotic. . . nature can be very harsh . . . [some] predatory animals often dine on another animal's guts without killing it first. When an animal quietly walks up the chute at the slaughter plant and death is instantaneous, I feel peaceful. I only wish that all livestock were cared for as kindly and ended their days so calmly. There is a section where she discusses slaughter in some detail (not gory, but explicit), so you can understand why she says what she does about managing animals quietly. This book is full of facts, anecdotes, short summaries and dot points for easy learning, and the most wonderful, full-colour photographs! There are countless simple diagrams of where a person (handler) should stand in relation to a single animal, a small group, or a herd in order to 'ask' them to move in a certain direction. You don't have to shout and swear and wave frantically. You just have to let them know where you are, and they will do the rest. It's an art as much as a science, and she states often that these tactics don't work with pets or animals that are happy to walk up to you. It's for herd animals, and depending how familiar with you they are, they will react in particular ways "face you, turn away, move away" depending on what you do. There's also advice on how to give treats to cows or other stock to reward them and encourage the behaviour you want. There's a lengthy section at the end with designs for everything from small, portable yards that can be carried on a trailer to bigger, permanent yards for larger holdings. I can confirm a lot of what she says from my own experience.

Shadows, clanking chains, distracting noises, startling movement – all of these disturb cattle who will pretty happily follow each other single file if you encourage them the right direction. Cattle are easy to call with feed. That's when a noise is useful – the truck horn will bring them from every corner, looking for hay. A friend who was renting out a cottage on his farm told me the young woman who was living there had come home one evening and was scared when seeing a few steers on the track . . . so, she honked her horn. BIG MISTAKE! Poor thing was surrounded and terrified, but she knew better next time. Sheep are different, pigs are different, deer are different, and goats – well goats are so different they may climb up into trees to browse, making them hard to contain. I kept remembering many anecdotes of my own while reading this, which made it extra fun for me, I'm sure. One was when my husband rode down on a quad bike to check the cows and calves, who were in a new paddock, and he arrived to find the gate had been pushed open and the young steers had all wandered in to help themselves with the fresh feed. Panic stations! Fortunately, there was a set of yards not too far away, so he rode onto the track along the fence in the paddock to begin heading them back out. As soon as the steers saw him, they all turned around and, giving him a wide berth, walked out through the gate behind him! Just like a bunch of naughty kids, they knew they'd been sprung, and they left. That's what it seemed like, but probably, they just didn't want to be chased by a motorbike, and when they saw an open gate, they took the opportunity to 'escape'. Funny boys they were. Dogs are mentioned, but mostly just in relation to when not to use them. Ourselves, we found that moving cows with young calves was harder with dogs, because the mums spent all their time turning around to keep an eye on the dogs. Some dogs will run behind YOU for protection, which is mighty scary when there's a big, hefty Brahma-cross bearing down on it! So dogs stayed home or stayed put on the back of the bike (if they had to be there at all), which the cattle seemed to accept. But animals are curious, particularly the young ones, and I spent many happy hours perched on my quad bike with a notebook, noting which cows and calves were doing well or poorly (all were tagged), and if I were facing forwards and put my hands on the carrier rack behind, sure enough, some calves would wander up to lick my fingers. If I moved slowly, I could stroke those velvety noses – so cute! To catch a flighty foal once, I found the easiest way was to hang a bandanna or strip of cloth out of my back pocket, then bend over a bit and pretend to rearrange some sticks at the base of a tree. In no time at all, he was nudging my pocket to see what the rag was, and then he was happy for me to pet him and hold his soft halter. They were good times, and we are both pretty busted up from various incidents, just because it's such a physical life, but even Temple Grandin couldn't have saved us from all of our mistakes. I'm sure she'll prevent a lot of unnecessary

accidents, though. What an asset she is to the animals and the industry, and what a wonderful contribution she's made to her field! Thanks to NetGalley and Storey Publishing for a review copy from which I've quoted. The exact wording may change, but I'm sure the author's sentiments will remain the same.

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