

dog  
FANCY  
EDITORS'  
CHOICE  
WINNER  
2010

# Gear of the Year

OUR TOP PICKS FOR THE BEST  
NEW DOG PRODUCTS.



Clockwise from top left: Associate Editor John Schwartze, Managing Editor Annamaria Barajas, Editor Ernie Slone, Art Director Matt Hennings, Assistant Editor Katy French, Associate Web Editor Andrea Bravo.



**I**t's that time of year again, when we comb through the myriad of new dog products to find the latest and greatest stuff for our annual Editors' Choice awards. And with more than 100 submissions, we had our work cut out for us. But we gleefully rose to the challenge, keeping our eyes open for the most wag-worthy goods that make owners' lives easier and dogs' lives better.

There were 16 winners this year; each product earned our seal of approval by offering innovative solutions to everyday problems or giving new life to an old idea.

And speaking of giving new life to things, we thought it would be fun to give our local shelter dogs a chance at a new career as doggie models. These amazing rescue dogs, courtesy of the Irvine Animal Care Center in Irvine, Calif., dropped by our studio to give the goods a go, flash a smile, and bring cheer to us all. We had a fantastic time with them, but we have even more fantastic news: Every single dog has found a new home!



### 1) WOOD CHUCK

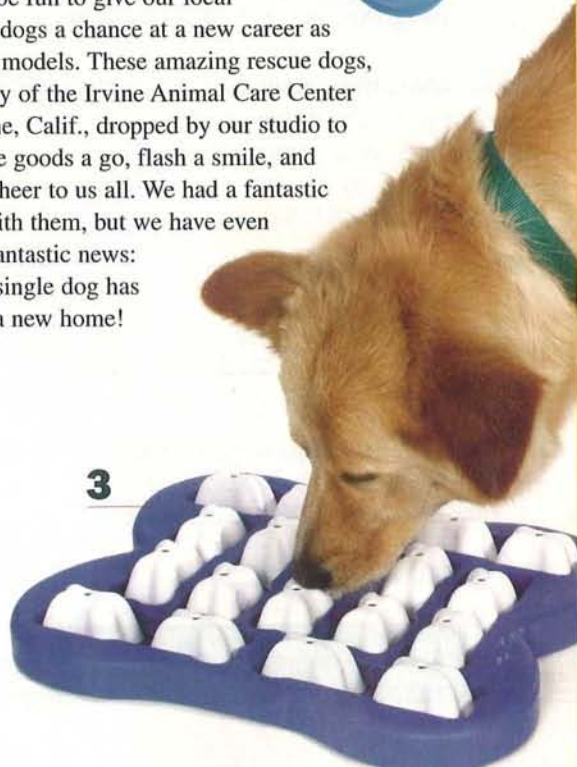
"When you're playing fetch, doesn't it always seem like you can never throw the ball as far as you want, and you end up tiring out before your dog does? Try the Wood Chuck. Made from bamboo and reused cork, the eco-friendly thrower is light, as is the ball, and you can get some serious distance when you hurl this ball across the field." — John Schwartze  
> \$24.95 for ball and thrower, from Planet Dog; 800-381-1516; [www.planetdog.com](http://www.planetdog.com)

### 2) HYDRO BONE

"It usually doesn't take long for playtime to become thirsty time with dogs. This is one of the coolest chew toys I've ever seen — literally. You can soak it in water, which is released when your dog gnaws on it, keeping him quenched and happy. Or you can freeze it to make it last longer on hot days." — J.S.  
> From \$7.99, from Hugs Pet Products; 573-346-0343; [www.hugspetproducts.com](http://www.hugspetproducts.com)

### 3) NINA OTTOSSON DOG FINDER PUZZLE

"In spring my two terriers revert to their original duties, chasing invading lizards under, around, and sometimes through our backyard bushes. Outside of gecko season, interactive puzzle games help keep them mentally engaged — and earning their kibble. This latest puzzle game from Nina Ottosson falls into the 'hard' category, and will test and hone your dog's natural smarts." — Ernie Slone  
> \$49.99, from The Company of Animals; 203-345-1234; [www.companyofanimals.us](http://www.companyofanimals.us)



#### 4) GREENIES PILL POCKETS TREATS ALLERGY FORMULA

"For the millions of dogs with food allergies, these treats are a great alternative. Instead of trying to cram a tablet down your dog's throat, why not give him the pill concealed in a nutritious treat that won't set off scratching or paw-chewing?" — E.S.

> From \$6.99, from Greenies; 866-473-3643; [www.greenies.com](http://www.greenies.com)

#### 5) DOG WASH

"This portable bath is easy to store and made of material strong enough to prevent nail punctures. Just inflate, put your dog inside, zip up the gate, hook the sprayer up to your garden hose, and you're ready to go. You can plop it down right on your patio and unplug the drain when you're done." — J.S.

> \$149.99, from Hugs Pet Products; 573-346-0343; [www.hugspetproducts.com](http://www.hugspetproducts.com)

#### 6) FIZZION

"Fizzion caught my eye because it had a lot of qualities in one product. The active ingredients aren't harmful to pets and can remove a variety of stains and odors from different fabrics without damaging them. You can reuse the 32-ounce bottle, too, which totally cuts down on trash. All you need to do is buy more tablets when you run out." — J.S.

> \$9.99 for spray bottle and tablets, from Fizzion; 863-734-0200; [www.fizzionclean.com](http://www.fizzionclean.com)

#### 7) BAGS ON BOARD DISPENSER LEASH HANDLE

"Anything that saves time and gives me one less thing to think about is No. 1 in my book. Just loop your leash through this handle, and you'll always have a secret stash of pick up bags at hand. And once you're done with the doo, you can hook the bag onto the notches for hands-free transportation. Love it!" — Katy French

> \$9.99, from Bramton; 800-272-6336; [www.bagsonboard.com](http://www.bagsonboard.com)

#### 8) POOCHPLANET ORTHODOGS THERAPEUTIC FOAM BED

"I can't say if this bed relieved my dogs' aches or pains, or if they appreciated the eco-friendly soy foam padding. What I can tell you is that this pad quickly became 'the favorite spot.' As soon as one terrier moved off the foam cushion, the other quickly pounced like a lion on a carcass. Natural selection." — E.S.

> From \$20, from Worldwise; 415-721-7400; [www.worldwise.com](http://www.worldwise.com)

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