

Dog Grooming Information

How to properly bathe your dog

1. First check your dog over for any mats, especially behind the ears, pants, and tail
 - I recommend you brush them out instead of cutting them out, but either is ok
2. Use a high quality shampoo. Brands I personally use are Best Shot, Espree, and Tropiclean. Both are all natural and gentle enough to be used weekly. Make sure to read the ingredients. You should look for products containing the following:
 - Made from a coconut base, not soap base because soap is too harsh
 - Products not containing sodium lauryl sulfate. This is a table salt most companies add to make the product bubble more and is VERY drying to the skin and coat.
 - Products with natural things like essential oils, aloe, omega fatty acids, etc.
3. Conditioners are not necessary, but the same rules apply from shampoo. I like Espree Remoisturizer diluted 1 part product to 3 parts water. I let it sit for a few min and then rinse off.
 - If your dog has problem skin Tropiclean Oxymed is wonderful.
4. Make sure you rinse your dog thoroughly.
5. Trim toenails. Trim the nails slightly in front of the blood line because it extends further than the eye can see.

How to properly brush your dog (after your dog is completely dry)

1. Start with a slicker brush and use until very little hair is coming off on the brush.
2. Use a fine-toothed comb, like a greyhound comb, and use until very little hair is coming off. This is the most important step in keeping your dog mat free. A brush only goes over the surface, while a comb gets down to the skin where mats start.
 - Make sure to lift up behind the ears and comb
3. Next use a shed blade forwards and in reverse to loosen up the undercoat
4. Depending on the texture of your dogs coat either use the Mars Coat King or the furminator. You will be amazed at the amount of hair you pull out!
5. Should be done daily to minimize shedding.

Problem areas

1. Hot spots: Cut the fur away from the area. Let soak for 10 min before rinsing. Use a therapeutic grade essential oil like those from Henry's or my favorite is Young Living, but they have to be purchases online. Dilute down with almond or jojoba oil and apply to the area until healed
2. Fleas: I like the purification blend, cedar wood, and eucalyptus from Young Living. I put a few drops of each in a water bottle and spray on my dog daily. You can also put directly on the fur like you do Advantage.
3. Dry coat: Start with diet. Look for foods that are organic, have a single food protein source like chicken or beef (no by product), contain a whole grain like brown rice/barley (no corn). Foods high in fatty acids from fish oils are great. Avoid foods with preservatives like BHA and BHT. These can cause cancer. Tocopherols are made from Vitamin E and naturally preserve the food. I personally recommend Nature's Variety. Awesome food! They bio-coat, which means they take living food enzymes and spray it back on the food. Your dog will get more nutrients from the food this way.



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