

Scamps Grooming Parlour



AFTERCARE ADVICE

Why brushing your dog is so important!

Brushing has many health benefits that may not be immediately obvious but brushing ventilates the coat, helping the skin to breathe and improving blood circulation. Removing the loose hairs which can form mats, brushing helps keep down the level of grease buildup which can cause pores to block and cause irritation or skin problems. Regular brushing is great for bonding with your pet; the more often you do it, the more soothing and enjoyable the experience will become. Initially praising and rewarding your dog may be necessary, but over time your dog will enjoy the experience. We recommend starting from an early age. When your dog reaches sexual maturity, their coat will change from the soft fine puppy fur into a thicker, coarse and stronger adult coat. During this change, you may notice the coat becoming more matted and they may need grooming every day.

Practicing a grooming routine at home from as early as 12 weeks with consistent brushing and grooming multiple times a week is the best approach to mat-prevention and coat maintenance.



Prevention is better than cure!

When a dog moults loose hair can get tangled and cause matting if not brushed away. Matting can worsen, pulling on the skin and creating painful sore patches. The problem can escalate quickly causing huge infections hidden underneath the fur. It is so important to regularly brush and conduct a mini health check on your dog to check for sores, fleas, lumps, bumps scratches and the condition of eyes, ears and feet. Keep an eye on your dog's behaviour such as excessive scratching, chewing, licking or nibbling These may all be signs of a problem; external parasites, infections, allergies, metabolic problems or stress.

TOP TIPS

Start grooming early from around 12 weeks

Always brush your pet's coat regularly between baths using the right methods for your dog's breed.

Use the right tools; brush and comb for the dog breed and type of coat. Use the right products; shampoo and conditioner; we stock a selection of products on Scamps reception so please ask if you are unsure.

Do brush your dog's teeth. Teeth are often overlooked but this is essential for pets' health. Dental disease can affect kidney and liver function.

MATTING AFTERCARE

When a dog is in a matted condition the skin has been suffocated under layers of matted hair, restricting the oxygen and blood supply and limiting the sunshine that can get to the skin. The build-up of bacteria, mould, dirt and dust all lead to skin losing its strength and health.

Sometimes we may need to clip a dog shorter than usual if necessary, which can make them feel a little naked and exposed. Please give your dog plenty of affection to make them feel better. We know dogs can be very sensitive after a groom so plenty of cuddles and yummy treats will go a long way to make them feel better. You can always invest in dog clothing sweaters to help keep your dog feeling cosy and less vulnerable.

If redness or irritation does occur use a safe dog-friendly 1st aid cream, lotion or powder as soon as possible. Leucillin is a non-toxic, safe antiseptic spray which will soothe your dog's skin if irritated. Aloe Vera (not raw) or a

cold compress can also be used.

What happens to the skin when matting has been removed?

It is important to know that when matting has occurred, once the knots are removed, the skin pulled by the knots over the past few weeks starts to slowly contract back to its natural state. This tension in the skin can cause a pins and needles-sensation similar to sunburn. Try not to let your dog rub or scratch themselves on carpet or furniture as this may cause more irritation.

Why is professional grooming important?

Regular professional grooming sessions help your dog get used to the salon environment providing a social interaction for them with other dogs and being handled by a groomer.

Your dog's skin indicates their overall health so it is imperative to keep an eye on them.

At Scamps, we have all the tools and expertise you are unlikely to have at home. The groomer can identify any issues your dog may have or products most suitable for your pet. Our professional groomers will clean your pet's ears, clip nails, remove tear stains, reduce sanitary matting and express anal glands or clean your dog's teeth depending on the services they have. We will advise you when you should book in again for your next service but usually every 4, 6, 8 or 12 weeks depending on your breed and coat needs. We are here to help, educate and advise you on your dog's maintenance so please feel free to ask any questions about your dog's needs.

Do not apply flea/tick treatments for at least 3-7 days after a groom. The skin is sensitive and needs to cool and replenish the natural oils.

If your dog has had a flea bath with us, do not use any flea treatment for at least 24 hours.

Check your dog's ears for excessive ear wax or inner dog hair which may irritate. Never insert anything into your dog's ear canal; use a wipe to clean what you can see. Removing mats from dogs' ears comes with the risk of hematoma forming (*this is restricted blood flow from tightly matted hair*) and should only be done by your groomer.

Yeast infections can also grow almost anywhere on your dog where it is moist. Ears are a favourite so keeping your dog's ears, feet and skin folds/wrinkles dry is the best defence against yeast. Drying areas that easily trap moisture will prevent infections, bacteria growth and hot spots.

Paw Care

Your dog's nails should be trimmed as soon as they can touch the ground when they walk. If you can hear your dog's nails clicking on the ground or getting snagged on the floor then it's time for a trim. A dog's nails naturally file down when walked regularly but for dogs who live more leisurely at home, this may mean more regular clippings. Nail trimming can be tricky if not included in their overall regular care and prone to quicked, overgrown or broken nails.

Don't neglect your pet's nails! Long nails can damage your pet's well-being and can cause injured tendons or a foot deformity if left unkempt.

Regularly check your dog's foot pads often for wounds, infections or foreign objects as this helps protect their bones and joints from shock, and provides insulation against extreme weather aiding walking on rough ground.

Oral Hygiene

Do brush your dog's teeth. Teeth are often overlooked but this is essential for pets' health. Dental disease can affect kidney and liver function. Scamps provide a teeth cleaning service using ©emmi-pet technology. The ultrasound toothbrush is pet friendly, cleans silently penetrating deep into the gums without scrubbing.

The ultrasound toothbrush generates 96 million vibrations per minute to ensure maximum effectiveness.

Please see our website www.scampsgrooming.com for our prices or www.emmi-pet.com for further information.

Pet Welfare

We ask owners to meet their pets' basic needs by ensuring their dog has a suitable safe place to live, rest and sleep with suitable clean bedding and sheltered from rain, wind or bad weather. Your pet needs space, and facilities to exhibit normal behaviour as well as regular walks and exercise to stimulate them. Physical and mental stimulation plays a significant role in a dog's health and promotes bone, joint, muscle and organ health.

Walking eliminates boredom and provides mental stimulation. An appropriate nutritious diet and fresh water daily are crucial to help maintain pet health and a beautiful coat. Ensuring you do not overfeed your pet is also important as obesity can cause a whole host of other problems; metabolic abnormalities, cardiovascular disease or poor immune system. If you notice your pet in pain or suffering in any way you must seek help and treatment.

Never brush over the same spot more than 3 times to avoid causing bald spots or brush burns. Don't pull too hard when you reach a clump of fur. Damaged hair follicles can grow back dull and patchy.

Never brush a wet dog as the brush will grab wet hair and pull at the skin causing irritation and discomfort. Use a hair dryer or let them dry naturally before brushing.

When bathing your dog at home ensure you do not leave shampoo residue in your dog's coat when you bath them. Not rinsing thoroughly can lead to skin irritation, hair loss and flakiness. When rinsing concentrate on the belly, under armpits and genitals. Rinse on a decent water pressure until all bubbles disappear.

Do not wash inside your dog's ears, moisture can become trapped in their inner ear and become the ideal bacteria breeding ground causing an ear infection.

Further Reading

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Dog Grooming Tips.

www.aspca.org/pet-care/dog-care/dog-grooming-tips

Canine to Five. The Top 10 Most Common Dog Grooming Injuries and How to Avoid Them.

www.caninetofive.com/dog-grooming-injuries-detroit/

Dog grooming and the Animal Welfare Act. The five welfare needs of the Animal Welfare Act (2017)

www.clippitysnip.co.uk/news/dog-grooming-animal-welfare-act

Grimmett, Jackie (2018) Don't blame the Groomer – The after effects to expect following a groom on a knotted dog!

Kilroy, A (2022) 25 Dog Care Tips for Pet Parents.

www.forbes.com/advisor/pet-insurance/pet-care/dog-care-tips/

Matted Dogs After Care Advice. Our guide on how to care for your dog after a clip-off.

www.doghouse.co.uk/doghouse/matted-dogs-aftercare-advice

Nelson, J. (2023) A complete guide to brushing a dog the right way, according to a pro-groomer. www.bechewy.com

The Vet. The Importance of Dog Grooming. Essentials for your pet.

www.thevet.co.uk/pet-advice/importance-dog-grooming/

Willard, L. (2023) Dog grooming mistakes. Six things you should never do.

www.bechewy.com

Ziggy (2023) Post Groom Tips: Matting prevention and after-shave care.

www.barkbus.com

© Scamps Grooming Parlour

9c Alstone Lane Trading Estate

Cheltenham

Glos

GL51 8HF



01242 321804/07772 567078

Scamps_11@yahoo.com

www.scampsgrooming.com

