

Dog Grooming

Most dogs, including shorthairs, will shed. Long or silky fur is prone to matting and must be brushed regularly. Start grooming immediately to accustom your dog to the routine. Praise it while you work. The best time to groom is after an exercise period. Your dog will be calm, and you can check for burrs, foxtails and ticks. Choose a brush suitable for your dog's coat. Bathe your dog only when needed. Avoid bathing puppies. If your pup requires a bath, be sure to dry thoroughly and keep it warm. Dog's nails need regular clipping. Ears and teeth need cleaning, also. Your veterinarian or professional groomer can demonstrate these procedures.

- You should brush and comb your pet on a regular basis, approximately once a week. The best brush to use is a wire slicker brush and the best comb is a metal comb.
- Your dog's nails also need to be maintained regularly. It's not good to let them grow too long because the animal can have trouble walking. You can use dog nail clippers at home. Be sure to clip only the tip of the nail. If you are reluctant to do it yourself, contact your vet or a groomer because it is still important to get them clipped.
- Just like us, animal's can get dry skin during the winter months. You might notice small white flakes on your pet's coat. You can place vitamin E or oil in their food to prevent this. If the flakes persist, we advise going to your vet because they can recommend something for a shiny coat.
- Something else you can do at home with your dog is giving him a bath. You should limit the number of baths per month to no more than two, because that can also dry out his skin. You should always use dog shampoo, not human shampoo. Always use warm water when bathing your dog. Be careful of your animal's eyes and hold your thumb against the ear canal to prevent water from clogging the animal's ears. Once the dog is completely soaked with water, put the shampoo on and work up a good lather. Then rinse off, being careful of the eyes and ears. Continue rinsing until all traces of soap have been washed away. If soap is left on the skin, the skin can get irritated. For quick touch-ups in between baths, we recommend using a dry foam shampoo.