

Grooming Tips

Before you start to groom your dog, you need to have basic supplies.

While you can sit on the floor it will be much better on your back if you have a grooming table with a strong arm. One of the best arms I have found is by Groomers Helper <https://www.groomershelper.com>

This arm is especially helpful if you have a dog that doesn't like to be groomed. Not only is it a very strong arm, it gives you total control of your dog.

Next are the tools for the job:

I never use a slicker brush, it breaks the coat. I use a pin brush "without" balls on the tip.

I have a few different combs with different width of teeth.

A spritz bottle with water and conditioner, I always spritz before brushing.

The conditioner should be one without oils and silicone. I use the Galaxy conditioner, a capful in 8 ounces of water is always on the grooming table.

Some metal hair clips to help you keep the hair in place.

When I'm done, I use a pure Bristol brush with some finishing cream also from Galaxy.

After the dog is bathed (with Galaxy shampoo) and conditioned (with Galaxy conditioner) and blow dried the fun begins. It is usually easier to blow dry the dog on the grooming table.

I loosen the noose around the dog's neck so it can lay down on its side. Then decide which area you are going to work on first and spritz it with the water/ conditioner solution. NEVER brush a dry coat, it will break.

Gently brush a small area to loosen the hair, then separate that section with the comb and some clips.

**It is essential to get to the root of the hair and make sure there are no mats. Do this with each section and continue to separate with the clips. You would be surprised how one tiny little mat can grow so quickly.

As far as combs, I start with a wider tooth comb, then progress to a finer tooth comb to make sure all the mats are gone in that area before moving on to the next area.

Finally, we get to the head, spritz again, continue brushing, then use the comb. Start with the wider tooth comb, then the finer tooth comb.

Now it's time to turn the dog around and do the other side.

After all is done, I brush over with a boar bristle brush and spray with some finishing spray/conditioner.

Recommended combs and brushes coming soon!