



THE IMPORTANCE OF DOG GROOMING!

Regular grooming is important for the **health** and **comfort** of your dog!

Health

By getting your dog groomed on a regular basis, your dog will be evaluated and closely observed by the groomer ~ we will be able to notify you of any changes in your pet that you may not have noticed, such as parasites, skin conditions, growths, and infections that may need medical attention.

The Importance of Nail Clipping

If a dog's nails are not clipped on a regular basis (every 4-6 weeks) then their nails can get too long, resulting in pain and discomfort. The longer a nail gets, the further out the quick (the vein within the nail) will grow, thus making it difficult to cut them short enough. Long nails can cause problems for your dog because if they touch the floor when the dog walks/stands, the nails get pushed back into the nail bed, which can be very painful. Longer nails can also result in the deformation of the dogs joints due to the fact that they have to stand in an unnatural position. The curling of long nails can result in the nails growing *into* the dog's paw pads, thus causing painful, open sores than may lead to infection. We HIGHLY suggest that you keep your dogs nails as short as possible to avoid causing them discomfort.

The Importance of Brushing in-between Grooms

When a dog is not brushed regularly, it can become tangled and matted. When hair becomes matted, it can be very uncomfortable for your dog due to the fact that the mat will tug and pull at the dog's skin as well as prevent airflow to the skin. In severe cases, this tugging and pulling and lack of airflow can result in irritation and sores and a breeding ground for bacteria. By brushing your dog regularly, you're more likely to remove debris that may get stuck in the hair. Hidden debris can poke and prod at the skin and can also start the formation of matting.

**Please ask your groomer about proper brushing methods!

The Importance of Ear Cleaning

Both cleaning and plucking the hair out of the ear canal is important in the health of the dog's ear. Wax and hair build up can prevent airflow which can result in bacteria growth and infection.

The Importance of Brushing your dog's teeth

Dogs, just like humans, need their teeth brushed regularly. If they are not attended to, then plaque will turn into tarter build up which can result in gum disease. Gum disease can become life threatening if not attended to. We do not offer teeth cleaning as a service at our shop because we believe it is necessary much more often than once every 4-6 weeks when your dog gets groomed. However, we will inform you if your dog is at risk for gum disease and let you know if you should see a vet. If your dog is not yet at risk, do your best to brush your dog's teeth daily using toothpaste made specifically for dogs.

The Importance of having a clean pet!

A clean pet makes for a happier pet! When your pet is clean, you are much more likely to interact with it and give it the love and attention it deserves.