

PUPPY GROOMING



- Start as soon as you get your puppy home.
- Touch his feet, one toe at a time and give him a yummy treat for each touch.
- Once he is happy with this, try holding each foot for a short time. Gradually increase the time. Give him a treat if he is good and does not bite or struggle. If he struggles or bites, try for a shorter time next time, and quickly give him a treat.
- Gradually lengthen the time you can hold his foot, rub his toes and move them around.
- Look in his ears, hold his face still and play with his eyebrows and beard, and between his eyes.
- Teach him to stand still while you run your hand over his back and down his sides.
- Pick up each foot separately and hold it.
- If he is a type that grows hair in the ears you should pluck them on a regular basis. This will harden the ear canal and make it less painful.
- Get him used to the sound of the hairdryer and nail clippers—turn the hairdryer on while he has dinner, and sit beside him and clip a small stick with the nail clippers before you try on your puppy. For nail clipping seek the advice of a groomer before you attempt it yourself.
- Essential equipment” comb, brush (type of brush depends on breed of puppy). You may need to groom him every day if he is a hairy type and you want him left long. Many breeds left long tend to matt up quickly, and then the kindest option is to clip him short and start again.
- Areas that commonly become matted are:- around the ears, neck and tail. In addition check the chest, flanks, armpits and legs.
- If he bites, put a handful of food on the ground, or get a lickimat and smear peanut butter over it. Take it slowly and reward a lot.
- First groom should be a short face/feet and bottom tidy

