

Bed Bonz and Beyond Grooming Tips



1. Do all your grooming in the same area each time you groom. Have all the tools you need ready and easy to reach before you get your dog. Don't call your dog, just find him, put on the leash and bring him to the grooming area. Treat him just for coming with before you start.
2. Grooming tools: brush (slicker, pin or bristle brush) comb if needed (matte splitter if longer coat) rake for undercoat nail clippers, file and quick stop for nail bleeding eye wipes, ear wipes (baby wipes with no alcohol) Q-tips baby oil or ear oil damp towel.
3. Start by going over the whole body - nose to tail. Learn what your dog looks and feels like so you'll detect any *swelling, lumps, scabs, ticks and fleas*. Look in his ears and check his nails. Give him a treat.
4. Brush or comb out areas that need it. Always start in the same place and work around entire body.
5. Check ears for wax and dirt. Use baby wipe to swab out dirt with wipe wrapped around your index finger. Be gentle, only work as far into the ear as you can with the baby wipe wrapped over index finger. Use Q tip with a little baby oil on it to clean out the folds your baby wipe couldn't reach. Be sure cotton tip doesn't stay in the ear. Treat your dog.
6. Hold up lips and check tartar on teeth. Look at gums and general condition of teeth. If teeth are dirty, gums enflamed or dog has bad breath talk with your vet. A change of diet, harder food to chew (carrots) and scaling of teeth can help. Your vet may have you brush his teeth. If your dog is eating the right food and has good mouth care he should always have clean breath.
7. Nails: Have your vet or groomer show you how to clip nails properly so you don't cut into the quick of the nail. Buy good clippers and use them weekly and you'll easily keep their toe nails the right length. Clip one paw at a time (be sure to clip the dew claws if they have them). Look at your dogs paw pad to check for cuts.
8. End your session by misting your dog with mixture of 1 part Keri bath oil to 20 parts water and wiping off with a towel. This will remove any dander on the coat from brushing.

Tips:

- For small dogs grooming them on a table will be easier on your back. Put some kind of rug or no skid mat on the table top.
- During hot weather keep a quart of water with a cut up lemon in it (in the frig) to daub on any red, itchy areas. It changes the pH of the skin surface and isn't sticky. Trim all hair around any hot spot and it will heal up much more quickly.
- Raw vegetables (carrots, broccoli stems) help clean your dogs teeth, have no calories and are high in fiber. Give them a vegetable treat each day.
- If you have a dog with wrinkly skin be sure to look in the folds, check they are clean and wipe with lemon water if any skin problems are even hinted at. Wipe dry with towel.

Make this grooming time **special**. **Think of it** as a **chance to** gossip with your dog. **Treat throughout and have a jackpot treat (play ball afterwards) waiting for when you're done.**