

Poodle Grooming Tips

Equipment:

Soft Slicker

Comb with wide and fine teeth

Dr. Werber's Gentle Ear Cleanser

Remember:

*Full grooming at least once a week (including ears and teeth)

*Maintenance grooming daily

*The longer the hair, the more work to maintain it

*Use soothing voice – make this a nice experience

Brushing: Use Soft Slicker:

Body:

Brush up from tail to head

Head/Top-Knot:

Brush from eyes back (keeping hand over eyes to keep them safe)

Then, brush from front in little pieces from nose to neck to fluff

Ears:

Hold ear in one hand, brush down – never sideways

Flip ear over and gently brush underside

Legs:

Start from paw – brush straight up to arm pit in big, long sweeps

Tail:

Brush from base to tip

Use Comb:

For finishing work

Start with the wider spaced teeth and move to finer if needed

Use on edges of the ears

Use to pick out mats:

Go slowly, from the bottom and work up

Hold your finger on the skin to help prevent pulling

Ask your groomer for help with really bad mats

Extra fluff on the top-knot: short, quick comb strokes up from nose to neck

Spot Cleaning:

Use Nature's Miracle enzyme cleaner on a rag (or alcohol- and scent-free baby wipes) to wipe down whole body or areas where dirt has built up in between groomings.

Eyes:

Use cotton balls, Kleenex (without lotion or scents) or washcloth

Use different one for each eye.

Do not use your fingers to clean – only to check

Wipe toward the nose

Ears:

Use gentle cleaner, without alcohol or drying agents – recommended: “Dr Werber’s Performance Formula Gentle Ear Cleaner” which has Tea Tree Oil and Aloe

Put cleaner on cotton ball, never directly into the ear

Use cotton ball to move over nooks and crannies

Wrap cotton ball around index finger, insert deep inside and pull up

Regular cleaning will go a long way toward preventing infections

Ear Hair:

Personally pulling little bits out at a time will help with maintenance

Use dog ear powder: (“BioGroom” is one)

Sprinkle on fingers and rub together – helps to keep dry and grab hair more easily

Pull hair before cleaning – you don’t want to leave powder in the ears

The Groomer:

Puppy/Kennel Cut:

Body: #7 blade in the summer,

#5 or #4 blade in the winter (the higher the number, the shorter the hair)

Face and Feet: #10 blade

Legs: can use a blade or hand scissor – ask for a distinct “cuff” at the paw

“Hygiene Cut” – short around anus and penile area to keep clean

Face, Feet and Hygiene clip every 3 weeks or so

Full visit every 6 weeks or so (remember, the longer the hair, the more work to maintain)

Ask about service dog discount: US market price is around \$50

Be very specific about how you want your dog to look

Ask for no bows (usually attached with glue) or cologne – if you would prefer none

Ask to “hand pull” ear hair