

# Owner Tips: Maintaining Different Coat Types

Due to the current restrictions set by the Government to control COVID-19, your dog may be unable to visit the groomers. To prevent your dogs coat becoming matted you should regularly brush your dog, however different types of coat have different requirements. The Pet Industry Federation have provided some advice and tips to help you maintain your dog's coat during this time.

## When to Groom

Some dogs love to be groomed, where as some do not. Select a time when your dog is calm and not prior or after feeding. It's important to keep an eye on your dog's behaviour. If your dog shows signs of stress then you should stop grooming and wait till your dog is more calmer and try again. Signs of stress may include:

**Licking lips    Yawning    Tail between legs    Turning head away    Unable to settle**

## Equipment

Ideally you should use certain grooming equipment for certain coat types, however we understand not every owner will have these, therefore you can use any suitable alternative you can find.

Slicker Brush



Comb



Rubber Brush



Standard Brush



# Owner Tips: Areas to think about

Dogs should be regularly brushed to prevent matting. The whole of the coat should be brushed but some areas need extra attention as knots and mats can quickly develop. These include:

**Behind ears**

**Chest**

**Armpits**

**Underneath the collar**

## Grooming Tips

Always stop grooming if your dog appears uncomfortable.

Take regular breaks and reward your dog for remaining calm and still.

While grooming check your dog for lumps, bumps and parasites.

Grooming should be an opportunity to bond with your dog. If it becoming a battle STOP.

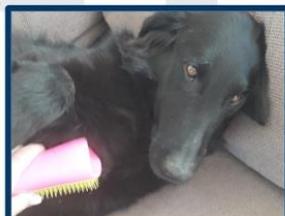
## Grass seeds

As we move into summer it is important to also check regularly for grass seeds. These pointy little seeds can get stuck in hair or between toes or pads and push their way through the skin causing infection.

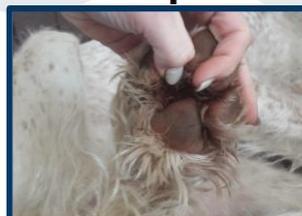
**Brush behind ears**



**Brush chest and arm pits**



**Check paws**



# Wire Coats

Low Maintenance

Brush Weekly

Removal of dead hair

Wire coat have two layers, soft underlayer and top wire layer. They do not shed much, but dead hair needs to be removed regularly.

Equipment	Ideal	Alternative
	Slicker brush & metal comb	Any comb or standard brush

Be careful of slicker burn, this can occur if you brush with too much pressure or work on the same area for too long.

Bathing: only required when needed, for example when covered in excessive mud / dirt. Small amounts of mud should be allow to dry and brushed out.

Drying: pat down with a towel. Allow to dry naturally or use a hair dryer on the lowest heat setting. Do not use a hairdryer on the same area for too long. Once dry, brush coat thoroughly.

Breed Examples:



# Smooth Coat

Low Maintenance

Brush Weekly

Removal of loose hair

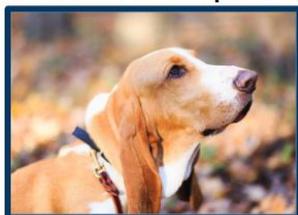
Short coat that is tight to the skin, can shed a lot and leave lots of unwanted hair. Consideration needs to be taken for breeds which have skin folds, ensuring skin is dried fully and treated if sore.

Equipment	Ideal	Alternative
	Rubber brush	Standard hair brush

Bathing: only required when needed, for example covered in excessive mud / dirt. Small amounts of mud should be allowed to dry and brushed out.

Drying: pat down with a towel. Allow to dry naturally or use a hair dryer on the lowest heat setting. Do not use a hair dryer on the same area for too long. Once dry, use a rubber brush to remove excess hair.

Breed Examples:



# Silky Coat

High Maintenance

Brush Daily

Removing of knots

Silky coats are sometimes called long coats. They generally do not shed much but can get knotted easily.

Equipment	Ideal	Alternative
	Slicker Brush & Metal Comb	Any comb & standard hair brush

Be careful of slicker burn, this can occur if you brush with too much pressure or work on same area for too long.

Bathing: only required when needed, for example covered in excessive mud / dirt. Little amounts of mud should be allow to dry and brushed out.

Drying: pat down with a towel, do not rub as will cause knots. Brush coat thoroughly. Allow to dry naturally or use a hair dryer on the lowest heat setting. Do not use a hairdryer on the same area for too long. Once dry, brush coat thoroughly again.

Breed Examples:



# Double Coat

High Maintenance

Brush 2-3 times a week

Removal of dead hair

Coat has two layers, soft underlayer and long overlayer. Needs regular removing of dead undercoat to prevent matting.

Equipment	Ideal	Alternative
	Deshedding tool & slicker brush	Any comb & long pinned brush

Be careful of slicker burn, this can occur if you brush with too much pressure or work on the same area for too long.

Bathing: only required when needed, for example covered in excessive mud / dirt. Small amounts of mud should be allow to dry and brushed out.

Drying: pat down with a towel, remove as much excess water as possible. Brush coat thoroughly, & continue to brush whole coat while drying. Use a hair dryer on the lowest heat setting. Do not work on one area for too long but ensure the dog is thoroughly dry before finishing - this may take some time

Breed Examples:



# Wool/Combination Coat

High Maintenance      Brush Daily  
Removing of knots

Wool coats are sometimes referred to as curly or combination coats. Though these coats do not shed, they are very thick and can matt very easily.

Equipment	Ideal	Alternative
	Slicker brush & metal comb	Any comb & long pinned brush

Brush daily, ensure you brush from the root to end of the hairs.

Bathing: only required when needed, for example covered in excessive mud / dirt. amounts of mud should be allow to dry and brushed out.

Drying: pat down with a towel, do not rub as will cause knots. Brush coat thoroughly. Either allow to dry naturally or use a hair dryer on it lowest heat setting. To not use a hairdryer on the same area for too long.

Once dry, brush coat thoroughly again with a slicker brush and comb.

Breed Examples:



# Combination Coat:

## Order of Brushing

Here is a diagram to show which areas to focus on when brushing your combination coat breeds (such as Cockapoo / Ladradoodle / Cavapoo)



Start with all the **green** areas, these are priority and are most likely to matt.

Move on to the **orange** areas next and finishing with the **red** areas.

You need to brush down from the hair follicle and check the coat daily with a comb.

