



Perfect Pets News



Tips, advice and some fun facts about our best friends!

Lately there's lots of talk about camping and going on vacation. These summertime activities are a real treat for dogs, so if you're thinking about taking your own dog along on a trip, here are a few tips for making it an all-around good time for everyone.

Whether you're traveling short or long distances, you may have a more relaxing journey if you prepare in advance for your pets. If traveling by car, map out some dog-friendly rest stops beforehand. These may include dog parks, outdoor shopping centers, and open fields. Then you'll have a better idea of where you and your dogs can safely stop to stretch your legs. A few walks during the trip may help your dog remain calm and on good behavior for the ride.

A checklist will remind you of all the odds and ends your dog may need. Items to include are a collar and leash, food, fresh water, toys, bedding, a kennel, and any medications they may need.

Other forms of travel require additional measures, so be sure to check with the travel company about pet restrictions ahead of time. Airlines typically require recent documentation from a veterinarian. But even if you aren't traveling by air, it doesn't hurt to schedule them a wellness check-up before leaving. This ensures their vaccinations are up-to-date and that they're in good health for the planned activities.

For camping, it's good to follow the "better safe than sorry" rule of thumb as you're packing for the trip. An emergency kit can make the difference between a lovely time and a stressful misadventure. The bare essentials for a kit include tweezers, bandages, styptic powder, saline solution, and an antihistamine. A quick review of canine first aid procedures can also better prepare you for an emergency.

If your dog doesn't already have a microchip or ID tag on their collar, put that on the to-do list as well. There's nothing like the wilderness or unfamiliar territory when it comes to piquing a dog's curiosity! Even if they don't tend to roam when excited, there's a possibility something could startle them into running off. With a microchip or ID tag, there's a much better chance of having your dog returned to you safely.

Last but not least, you may benefit from scheduling their grooming appointments for immediately before and/or after the journey. Traveling with dogs is much nicer when they're clean—and camping can certainly make a mess of their coats. Here's wishing you and your dogs a fun and stress-free time with all the warm-weather activities you've planned!

Kathy

Pets of Perfection Pet Spa ***Professional Pet Grooming Consultants, Inc.***

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Dogs in the News!

! Although penalties for skateboarding are usually reserved for teenagers who disturb public areas, a man in England has also received a skateboarding fine—for his dog. Bodhi, a Lakeland terrier, amuses the town with his skating and curb-side stunts, but complaints were issued when two women tripped over his board, according to *Orange News*. His owner, who reportedly did not even train the dog to skate, says Bodhi's not a criminal and is always under control. He must pay the fine but, fortunately, Bodhi is still allowed to skate in the parks.

! Four dogs were recently inducted into the Purina Hall of Fame for their service to others. Two of the dogs saved their owners' children by alerting them to injuries and an illness that required hospitalization. One dog saved his owner by chasing away another animal that was attacking her. The fourth dog was a 10-year-old Rottweiler who spent the year assisting soldiers who have PTSD.

Did You Know?

A dog's bedding should be cleaned as often as our own bedding. This prevents odors from forming and helps keep the dog cleaner between groomings. If you're unable to wash the bedding but detect an odor, try sprinkling baking soda over it and letting it sit for about 15 minutes. After vacuuming the baking soda away, the bedding should smell much fresher!

"A stinky dog can be a real bummer, so book them in for a wash and they'll look great for the summer!"

Is Your Dog Overweight?

Because obesity can lead to discomfort and health problems in dogs, it's important that we monitor their weight—and do what we can to control it if needed. Monitoring is especially important for older dogs and certain breeds that are prone to obesity.

It's actually quite simple to determine if dogs are heavier than ideal for their breed and build. The basic rule of thumb is you ought to be able to feel their backbone, and when pressing gently on their sides, you ought to be able to feel their ribs. When looking at them from the side, there should also be a discernable waist between their hipbones and the lower portion of their rib cage.

If they look rather rounded and feel squishy on all sides, then they are at risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, and joint problems, among other conditions. Fortunately, there are things you can do to get them back in shape and in better health.

Smaller portions of a higher-quality food can effectively reduce their weight. Due to the possibility of the suggested serving size being too much for your dog, you may want to ask your veterinarian for personalized feeding guidelines. It's also helpful to cut back on the number of treats they get. No need to feel bad for doing this—you could be saving their life!

While decreasing the number of calories they consume, increase the amount of physical activity they get. Even an extra 10 minutes of walking each day can help them slim down. Depending on the severity of their obesity, you may need to gradually increase the amount of exercise they get. Otherwise, a sudden shift in activity level could put too much strain on their heart and limbs.

Battling Doggie Boredom

When people get home after leaving their dog alone, they're usually greeted with lots of excitement—and sometimes with a huge mess. "What on Earth have you gotten into now?" they say. Some people believe their dogs tear into things from spite over being left alone, but it's more likely they were suffering from boredom.

A few things have proven helpful for this problem. By walking them before you leave, they'll have less energy and desire for playing when you're away. Food puzzle toys, such as a Kong ball, can occupy and entertain them once their energy returns. For soothing anxiety, you can also try electric diffusers that calm dogs with the scent of pheromones. And, of course, you'll want to be sure to get back to them as soon as possible!

What you can Expect when you Bring your Pet to Pets of Perfection!

Would you like your pet groomed so that she's looking gorgeous and left just the way you want her to look? Do you want her coat smelling delightful so there's no more 'pet' smell in your home? Would you like her coat feeling soft while being just a dream to cuddle? And above all, would you like reassurance that your pet is getting the same gentle care and kindness during grooming that you would give her at home?

Well, you've just found a groomer that can provide everything you want, plus much, much more!

With us, you can be sure that your pet will be groomed to the highest standard. You'll be so pleased with how she looks, you'll be proud to walk her down your street and show her off to your neighbors - just like the many other clients we have.

Your preferences and lifestyle, as well as your pet's character, are always taken into account as we advise you on grooming styles. The health, safety and welfare of your pet are always our priority, so you can have peace of mind knowing that we only offer the best advice to help you choose the right options for your pet.

As a caring pet owner, you'll want your pet to be healthy and happy. Therefore, it'll be reassuring to know that, with us, you'll have someone looking out for potential health issues and changes in your pet - some that may only be noticeable during grooming. Early detection of ailments can make all the difference to your pet, so we make sure to keep a close eye out for physical and behavioral changes during grooming.

Your pet will be well looked after and will always get the 'one on one' attention that she needs. You'll always feel confident that she's in the safest of hands with us; We can assure you of that.

Your pet deserves the best so we only use the best and safest products that will get her coat looking gorgeous but won't ever harm her. Others may choose to use cheaper, inferior products in grooming but that's something we simply will not compromise on.

With us, you'll also have someone to turn to if you have issues or worries about your pet. Advice and help is a free extra service we're more than happy to provide. You can call us if you ever have any problems or just need to chat about your little friend.

So if you're looking for a groomer who will leave your pet looking fantastic then give us a call. You'll be over the moon when you see what we can do for you and your little furry friend.

Doggie Word Scramble!

Unscramble the letters for these dog breeds. Use the letters in the shaded areas for the final puzzle!

A B L
[] [shaded] []

A B E E G L
[] [] [shaded] [shaded] [] [shaded]

D H N O U
[] [] [] [shaded] [shaded]

E E I R R R T
[shaded] [shaded] [] [] [] [] [shaded]

Answer:

[] [] [] [] [] [shaded] [] [] [] []

When Large Dogs Pull on the Leash

If big dogs become excited and try to dart after something when out walking, one of two things usually happens: the dogs end up choking themselves on their collars, or they take their owners for a walk rather than having their owners walk them. To stop this from happening, you can try using a collar or harness specially designed for this.

The Halti is one such collar. It wraps around the dog's face and prompts the dog to turn sideways whenever they attempt to lunge forward. Therefore, it discourages them from yanking on the leash. The Halti does not restrict their mouths; it simply puts the owner in more control. There are also harnesses that humanely discourage pulling. These wrap around the chest and attach to an ordinary collar.

You Know You're a Dog Person When...

- ...you have 23 different names for your dog, most of which make no sense, but they answer to them.
- ...you have baby gates installed inside and a small wading pool outside, but you have no children.
- ...you can't see out the passenger side window of your car because it's smudged up with nose prints.
- ...you like people who like your dog but distrust any person who doesn't. You also distrust anyone your dog seems to dislike.
- ...you never completely finish a delicious piece of meat just so your dog can have a taste of it.
- ...you keep eating even after finding a dog hair in your dish.
- ...you wrap gifts and there's hair stuck in the tape.
- ...you sign the dogs' names when sending a card from your family.
- ...you don't think it's odd to stand in the yard late at night or in the pouring rain repeating, "Go pee!" over and over, though your dog's paying no attention to you.

A Day in the Life of a Matted Dog

The problems for a matted dog go far beyond the fact that their coat isn't looking as nice as it could. In fact, they probably couldn't care less about the way it looks. All they know is the way it *feels*.

If you take a moment to pull the hairs on your arm, you can get an idea of what a dog's skin feels like when their fur is matted together. Only the dog feels it day and night because the mats are constantly pulling. This can limit their range of motion in severe cases. But even small mats can further irritate them. The skin beneath a mat may have debris trapped on it and it gets no fresh air.

As if that weren't distressing enough for the dog, they can also receive less love and attention because of it. Most people don't like the feel of a rough and clumpy coat, and so they stop petting dogs that have one, or they pet *around* the matted area. The dog then loses stimulation that normally helps keep them healthy and in good spirits.

For these reasons, it really is important that mats be removed as soon as possible. With daily brushing and routine grooming, the problem can also be avoided altogether. If you have any questions about managing mats, please do let us know! We'll be happy to help you care for them.

A little about Kathy Rose – owner of Pets of Perfection.

Kathy Rose, a salon owner since 1983, gained recognition in the Pet industry as a top winning groomer in the United States and abroad.

Kathy has won numerous world and National championships and represented the United States in world competition six years running as a member and coordinator of GroomTeam USA.

Kathy's philanthropic endeavors to educate groomers and improve the pet grooming industry are many. She won the prestigious Cardinal Crystal Grooming Achievement Award (the grooming industry's equivalent of the Academy Awards) for outstanding service to the pet industry, as determined by international balloting.

Kathy is a sought after speaker and grooming judge demonstrating her expertise across the globe, including most major pet industry trade shows throughout the US, as well as, Canada, Portugal, France, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Kathy demonstrated her expert styling skills in several episodes of "Mutt Makeovers" for the Animal Planet TV series "Petsburg USA".

Kathy's Salon, Pets of Perfection in Boynton Beach, Florida, was featured on the 2005 Groomer to Groomer Buyers Guide and has been pampering pets in Palm Beach County for almost three decades.



Kathy pictured here with her dog Taylor who is the official Pets of Perfection "meeter and

5 Tips for Clean, Healthy Eyes

A common complaint among dog owners is the look of their dogs' eyes. Oftentimes, dogs have a discharge that stains the hair on their faces.

1. Because there are many causes of this—from allergies to breed-specific abnormalities—a veterinarian should check it out to see if the dog is in need of medical treatment.
2. Keep the hair around the eyes clipped short or pulled back in long-haired breeds. Not only can these hairs scratch their corneas, they can soak up moisture from the eyes. This causes matting that irritates their skin and becomes discolored.
3. Prior to taking dogs for a swim or giving them a bath, put a canine ophthalmic solution in their eyes. This protects their eyes from irritants in the water.
4. Wipe discharge from their hair with a soft, damp cloth as needed, and gently rub any excess moisture from the hair with a dry cloth. This stops it from building up and matting.
5. Use a canine-approved cleanser for removing discoloration. In severe cases, a daily treatment can help keep stains at bay between their regularly scheduled grooming appointments. Just be sure to follow the label's instructions!

Word Scramble Answer:

GREAT DANE

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This newsletter is provided to you every month so that we can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining and useful.

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Tel: 561-369-0913

- ✓ **Have your pet gorgeously groomed so that she is left looking and smelling wonderful. You'll be delighted with how she'll look and you'll be so proud to show her off to your family and friends.**
- ✓ **You'll never have to worry when you leave your pet with us. She'll be groomed in a clean, relaxed environment where only the best and safest products are used.**
- ✓ **Help and advice is freely given so you'll always have someone to turn to if you ever have a problem or a worry about your little friend.**
- ✓ **We use a calm, 'tender loving' approach when grooming, where patience, praise and kindness is assured.**

Your Feline friend can be a "Perfect Pet" too.

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Please submit your questions, concerns and ideas! We would love to receive your input!

petsz@att.net

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