



Perfect Pets News



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

It's great to welcome the month of June in this newsletter, as it brings us the official beginning of summer! June 21st will be the longest day of the year, too, so let's all hope it's a day—and month—filled with sunshine. Not only is summer the best time for going on vacation, it's the time of year when there are a ton of fun activities to be had outdoors with the dogs.

The dogs are really preparing for summer's arrival, too, by shedding off the rest of their heavy coats. So, you might find it more difficult to keep them (and your furniture) looking neat and clean right now. Due to all the excess hair, many people are asking if they should get their dogs clipped or have their coats shortened for the summer months, but the answer to this really all depends on the individual dog and their needs.

Clipping doesn't necessarily reduce the amount of hair a dog sheds; in most cases, the dog simply sheds shorter hairs, then! If shedding is your primary concern, it's usually best to brush their coat at least once daily, so you can then gather most of the excess hair at once and toss it into the trash. If your dog has a thick undercoat you might want to have it raked and thinned. Don't forget; routine professional trimming and grooming can keep it much more manageable, as well.

A dog's coat protects them from colder weather, yet it also helps protect their skin from the sun and other elements. Therefore, the best coat length really all depends on the dog's hair type, lifestyle, and living conditions. Sometimes, the dogs kept in one climate were bred for another, so this is something else to think about in regards to your dog's comfort.

Dogs that benefit from getting their coats clipped off are those that tend to get really matted and messy, and those that are bred for shorter styles. Certain skin conditions, such as hot spots, are also good reason to keep the hair shorter. The choice is ultimately up to you, of course, but it's good to take all these factors into consideration before deciding on a full clip.

Good Dog Groomers will always take style, breed, health, comfort, and ease of management into consideration when advising people of whether they should fully clip their dog's hair, with the health and welfare of the dog being the most important factor.

Let's hope you and your dogs find a seasonal style that works for you both, and that you find lots of ways to enjoy the fun of summertime together!

Kathy

Pets of Perfection Pet Spa

Professional Pet Grooming Consultants, Inc.

7730 Boynton Bch. Blvd Ste. 10 Boynton Beach, FL 33437

Call: 561-369-0913

Email: petsz@att.net

Your Perfect Pet Deserves the Best!

Pets of Perfection Pet Spa

is a full service pet grooming and styling salon offering:

- * *Expert hand* *
- * *Scissoring* *
- * *Therapeutic Skin Treatments* *
- * *Hydro Massage* *
- * *Terrier Hand Stripping* *
- * *Show Styling and Pet Grooming* *
- * *Cat Grooming* *
- * *Fancy Collars, Leads & Accessories* *
- * *Designer Pet Carriers* *

A Wonderful World of Animals!

! RSPCA staff thought a dog was deaf when he didn't respond to their commands. They later realized the problem was not his ears—he simply didn't understand English, because he was raised by a Polish family. The staff got a response from him after learning Polish commands, according to the BBC, and they then worked with him to become "bilingual."

! A woman in Australia went outside to gather her laundry from the line—and saw it covered in 20,000 bees! The bees were drawn to her colorful clothing, according to Orange News. The woman called a beekeeper, Brian Gardiner, who explained that the queen bee had taken worker bees with her to cluster together on her laundry while scouts looked for a new hive. This sometimes happens in the springtime when hives become overcrowded.

Did You Know?

When your dog violently shakes a toy around with their mouth, they're following their hunting instincts for conquering prey.

A dog's habit of spinning in circles before lying down is also due to instinct. This behavior in the wild was meant to push long grasses down to form a soft bed.

"Your dog's hair getting dirty can be a real bummer, give us a call and we'll make them gorgeous for Summer!"

On the Road with Kathy!

Those of you familiar with Pets of Perfection already know that I am an accomplished speaker and grooming contest judge. Last year my travels took me to Europe and Asia, as well as many cities throughout the US. 2010 as well, has brought exciting speaking engagements and judging assignments across the globe.



A St. poodle turned into a lion!

I started the year off in beautiful Pasadena, California where I judged the Barkleigh produced Groom and Kennel Expo. Although this is not my first time working at this show, this year was unique. The Learning Channel, (TLC) yes the one on TV, was filming a documentary about contest grooming, specifically: creative styling. The production company, Nancy Glass Productions has titled the program "Extreme Poodles" and will air on Sunday June 13th at 9:00 PM EST on TLC, The Learning Channel.

Creative styling is a class that showcases the groomers' artistic abilities. Stylists use brilliant color and sculpting of the dog's coat, (usually Poodles) to transform the dogs into true works of art and sometimes even other types of animals.

I was chosen to be the Master of Ceremonies for the program and it was a blast! I had my own camera crew following my every move. My job was to make introductions, narrate the class, give time calls and keep the audience engaged. This was an amazing experience and I can't wait to see the finished project on TV!

For more information check out the production company webpage:

http://www.nancyglassproductions.com/shows/television/extreme_poodles/index.php

My next assignment brought me to Atlanta, GA for the Atlanta Pet Fair. This show has bragging rights of being the largest grooming show in the world! At this show I presented several seminars on styling techniques and salon design as well as judging the contest.

On to the Meadowlands convention center in NJ, for the next show, Intergroom. This is one of the most prestigious shows in the world. Groomers converge from all over the globe vying for the title "Intergroom, Groomer of the Year". I had the honor of judging this show and choosing the Groomer of the Year! With so many beautiful dogs and talented stylists the decision was a tough one! This show is also the showcase for the prestigious Crystal Achievement Awards and once again, I was nominated for Grooming Judge of the Year. Even though I did not take home the award, it is truly an honor to be one of four grooming judges nominated from the entire world!

Coming next month: Brazil! Pet Fashion Week, Sau Paulo, and my excursions to Rio and the Amazonian Rain Forest!



Me and the first place winner at the Atlanta Pet Fair and her beautiful Bichon

Getting the 'Look' you want for Your Dog...

The easiest way to get the 'look' you want for your dog is by knowing what you want and clearly communicating it. Misunderstandings can be quite common in regards to dog haircuts and styles, just as they are for people having their own hair done up in salons.

The main reason for this is that it's often difficult to accurately describe a look you may have in mind. You know you want the hair to be shorter, for example, but your idea of 'trim it up a bit' might be completely different from a dog groomer's idea.

Don't lose hope, though! There are a couple of things you can do to better communicate your ideas of how you want your dog to look. Firstly, try to find a picture of the style you want for your dog or ask to see photos of different styles for your particular breed.

Then you need to think on the hair length because different blades are used to achieve vastly different hair lengths. For instance, sometimes people ask to leave only an inch of fur on their dog, but are then shocked to see how short that really is! If you're unsure of the measurement, hold the dog's hair between your fingers to show how much hair you want removed.

Most importantly you'll need to consider the state that your dog's coat is in first. If you've been unable to keep their coat maintained through regular brushing and matts have built up in their coat then it's very unlikely that you'll get your dog back in the fluffy long style that you may want. De-matting during grooming is painful and cruel to the dog and just not worth it to achieve a certain look.

Feed back after the grooming appointment is also very important. Your likes and dislikes can be recorded on your dog's record card which will help to ensure that your dog is always left looking the way you want it.

Doggie Humour!

A family's pets were out in the enclosed yard: their dog was running around and the cat was walking on top of the fence. The cat says to the dog, 'You know they love me more than they love you, or they'd allow you free from the yard to wander the streets like I do'. The dog replied, 'No, Kitty, they let you free from the yard because they don't want you to come back'.

A Look at the Maltese!



The Maltese is one small-breed dog that has captured countless hearts over 28 centuries. Popular as a family dog and as a show dog, these friendly little pooches will likely remain a fashionable pet!

This toy breed was kept by royalty, adored by the Greeks and Egyptians, and is still considered a posh pet today. The Maltese has brilliant white, silky hair that draws a lot of attention when grown long to the floor. As a family pet, however, the "puppy cut" (as pictured above) is much more manageable and easy to maintain.

The mild-mannered Maltese is typically gentle with people, but is also incredibly brave for its small stature. They enjoy lots of play time and affection from their owners, as well.

Maltese dogs require frequent brushing and grooming to maintain their silky hair and clean color. Depending on their lifestyle, they may need grooming as often as once weekly, though a shorter hairstyle is generally less demanding.

Word Scramble!

Unscramble the letters to reveal a quote on dogs

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R E R A T C U E

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N I T E H L W O D R

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S I A T E W O G D

—Ambrose Beirce (answer on Page 4)

Pets of Perfection Perfect Pet of The Month!



"Buddy"
who owns Marci
Appleman of
Boynton Beach

Contact us to see how your pet can become a
"Perfect Pet" of the month too!
Perfect Pets receive a free gift!

Choosing a Doggie Bone!

Chewing is a favorite pastime of dogs, and is very effective for keeping their teeth clean and healthy. When choosing bones for your dog to chew, here are a few things to keep in mind:

Dog's Size – Most dogs prefer chewing on bones that aren't too big or too small for them to comfortably gnaw and carry around with them.

Safety – Cooked bones from the kitchen can be dangerous to dogs, as they might splinter, so fulfill their chewing needs with dog-approved bones.

Chewing Habits – A softer texture is better for dogs that gnaw gently and have small teeth, whereas a firm and condensed treat is usually better for large, aggressive chewers.

Caring for Your Dog's Eyes

Canine eye care is typically left to veterinarians, and for good reason, but there are a few things you can do to prevent some of the common canine eye troubles and protect your dog's eyes.

1) Keep hair clipped away from your dog's eyes, because long hairs can scratch at their corneas. These hairs also trap moisture in the fur around their eyes, which leads to matting, irritation and discoloration.

2) Use a canine-approved ophthalmic solution or ointment to protect their eyes from soaps and water before they swim or bathe at home.

3) Gently wipe the hair around their eyes with a soft, wet cloth if they have any drainage or buildup on the hair. It's much easier to remove these irritants before they've dried against the skin.

4) Have a thorough look at your dog's eyes regularly, and contact your veterinarian if you see anything abnormal. Eyes are susceptible to infection and injury, especially within certain breeds, but early detection can lessen or eliminate the long-term impact they have on a dog's eye health.

A Summer Gone to the Dogs!

If you're looking for truly special activities to share with your dogs this summer, look into the sports and tasks your dogs were bred to master, and then practice those tasks with them.

For scent hounds, set up a tracking game or play hide and seek to let them put their noses to work. Play lots of fetch with your retrievers, and remember: some retrievers love to fetch toys from the water!

If your dog's a herder, talk with trainers on how to set up a herding activity. Or, maybe see if there is a dog agility team or course near you. Toy herding will do if this isn't possible; what matters to the dog is that they're able to practice their instinctual skills.

Your dog's breed and personality can help you choose the best games for them, so it's really a matter of identifying their strengths and finding activities to suit them.

If you have a mixed-breed dog, try to figure out which of their genetic traits they lean toward, as this will help you choose a game they're naturally inclined to play.

And, of course, you can always enroll them in specialized dog training courses to give them practice and exercise throughout the season.

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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.

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So we're afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, we'd be grateful if you'd let us know.

Word Scramble Answer:

'The most affectionate creature in the world is a wet dog'.

Pets of Perfection Pet Spa

Call for an appointment today.

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.

Pets of Perfection

Specializes in grooming Cats

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

petsz@att.net

Get This Newsletter Every Month!

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