



# Perfect Pets News



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

## October: A Month of Beauty and Celebration!

October is always a wonderful time of year for walking our best little friends outdoors. But it's also a month full of ghouls and frightening goblins as Halloween approaches. So we have to prepare our dogs for the sight of people in scary costumes and masks, as well as the noise of loud celebrations.

So this month we've included some good tips to help you and your dog through this frightening time of year. Of course, when combined with a little consideration for our dogs' needs, it's also a fun time of year, so we do hope that you and your dogs have a great time this month.

As usual enjoy the rest of this newsletter. We truly hope it brings you helpful and enjoyable reading for the changing season.

Kathy

## How to Stop the Demons Getting to Your Pet!

Even if we're having lots of fun on Halloween, it can be absolutely terrifying for our pets. Some pets dread the costumes and noisy crowds so much that they'll bark ferociously or try to hide. That's no reason to forego the festivities, though, because there are things you can do to help your pets relax and enjoy the evenings along with you.

- Desensitization and Socialization: This is more of a long-term process that helps pets adjust to crowds and loud noises, but it's never too late to start! You can play a recording of fireworks, thunder or gunshots in your home, beginning at a low volume, to introduce unsettling noises to your pet. Slowly increase the volume over time so that they can adjust. Reward them when they remain calm with the noise and they'll associate it with good things. Also, walk them in crowded areas and let them meet new people.

- Limit Affection: This is the hardest thing to do when our dogs are frightened, because we want to comfort them and let them know that everything is OK. But when we pet them and say, "It's alright," while they're in a state of panic, it reinforces the behavior. Instead, use commands such as "sit" and reward them for following your direction. They'll soon understand that listening to you means nothing bad will happen to them, which helps them stay calm.

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

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**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!

! A Tibetan mastiff has reportedly become the most expensive dog ever sold. According to ananova.com, the dog named Yangtze River Number Two, was sold to a woman in the Chinese province of Shaanxi for around 350,000 British pounds. This price beats the previous record by a staggering 260,000.

! A Border Collie puppy named Pixie is learning sign language after it was discovered that she is profoundly deaf. Liz Grewal, who has been an owner of deaf dogs for six years, is teaching the youngster to recognize hand commands. So far the bright young pup has learned to sit, lie down and come on command with hand signals.

! A cat weighing two-and-a-half stone is believed to be the heaviest cat in the world. According to Ananova.com, Chubby, who comes from Qingdao, in northern China's Shandong province, has a 27inch waste – which is bigger than some humans. The obese feline is gaining weight at a rate of 2lbs per year which is likely to be due to her love of raw pork instead of fish.

! A dog who was left tied to a railing while its owner went into a shopping market has been given a parking ticket. According to the Northern Territory News in Australia, the dog received an infringement notice tied to its leash after two traffic wardens decided that it was 'parked' illegally. A council spokesman said, "You cannot just leave a dog tied up and leave it."

Groomed really well and left so nice, gasps from your friends they're sure to entice!

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- Remain Calm: Dogs often mimic what they sense in us, their owners, so when we're anxious or fearful, you can bet they will be too. By ignoring loud noises (when possible) and staying relaxed, we help our dogs do the same.

Most importantly, we must not punish pets for their fears, as this only makes it more stressful for them.

These things help our pets get used to the commotion, but taking some extra precautions will ensure they stay safe. To lessen the impact of noisy nights, you can draw your curtains and let them stay in an area that helps them feel safe—even if it's under the couch! But if they'll be out in the yard or if there's any chance of them escaping your home, be sure to lock your gates and have proper identification attached to their collars. It's important that we do all we can to keep them home safely.

If you'll be seeing a lot of masks and costumes around your home this year, try wearing one around your pet beforehand so that they can get used to the sight of it. To do this, let them sniff the mask before you put it on and let them watch you do this. Stay calm and cheerful while letting them sniff at your hands; reward them with a little treat if they stay relaxed at the sight of you in a mask. And if you have little ones, remind them not to jump out at the pets while in their costumes. But because some pets can become aggressive when frightened, it's best to keep them on a lead and under your calm command if you'll be around costumed strangers.

### **Grooming Nervous or Frightened Pets!**

While grooming is a pleasant experience for most pets, a few can become very nervous. They may not like getting bathed, having their hair blown dry, their nails trimmed or even just the strange settings and various grooming tools.

This can happen for many reasons; unfortunately, some pets may have had a bad experience with less than reputable groomers or weren't introduced correctly to grooming during their first visit. Others just have anxiety over things they're not overly familiar with.

When pets become nervous during grooming, it can make the process a bit difficult, as they can be fidgety or even become aggressive from their fear. When this happens, extra special care and consideration is required. It's so important that grooming is as pleasant and stress-free as possible, and thankfully, there are methods to use in the shop and at home that help pets overcome any fears they may have.

The following list of strategies is the at-home version of methods we use during grooming, which can help make the whole process feel like second nature for your best little buddy.

\* Whenever you run a bath or use the sink, you can cup a little bit of water in your hand and let your dog sniff and lick at it. Eventually, you can run the little bit of water over their heads and down their backs, while praising their calmness, so that they find it a relaxed and enjoyable experience.

\* To help them with the noise of dryers and clippers, you

can turn on a hair dryer or hair clippers while they're in the room with you and calmly talk to them. Once they approach you, praise them. If they remain calm, continue praising them as you blow a light whoosh of air over them with the dryer or hold the handle of the vibrating clippers near to them. What's important here is that they don't perceive it as being a "big deal."

\* Handle their paws as often as possible, as this encourages them to be less protective of their feet.

When dogs have a great deal of anxiety at home or with grooming, one of the best things we can do for them is give them lots of exercise. If you're concerned about your dogs' nervousness or behaviors during grooming, try taking them for a walk before their appointment—this gives them a chance to relieve themselves and to get rid of some excess energy. 30-45 minutes of walking is ideal, but of course, there's not always time for that, so any little bit can help.

If you have any questions or concerns about your pet's comfort level with grooming, please let us know, and we can figure out the best course of action to make it the most pleasant experience for all of us.

### **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.

### **Doggy Humor!**

A traveler was checking into his hotel when he noticed a dog sleeping on a chair close by. He asked the rather grumpy receptionist, "Sir, does your dog bite?" to which the receptionist replied, "No." The traveler reached out his hand to pet the dog and it immediately leapt from the seat and sunk its teeth into the man's hand. "I thought you said your dog doesn't bite!" exclaimed the traveler. To which he got the reply "Sir, that is not my dog."

### **Don't Drop That Fruit!**

Last month we talked about the toxic effect that chocolate has on dogs, but unfortunately, it doesn't end there. There are actually fruits that can make dogs very ill, too. All unripe fruit can make dogs sick and should be avoided, yet there are ripened fruits that they shouldn't eat either.

Two of the biggest culprits are grapes and raisins. You may have already fed some of these to your dogs without seeing any harmful effects, but they can and do poison dogs. Grapes and raisins contain a canine toxin that has not yet been identified—what has been identified is kidney failure resulting from these two foods. So even though they may love them, it's best not to let them have any whatsoever.

Two other harmful fruits are avocados and black cherries. Again, it's best not to let dogs eat any of these, as it's too dangerous. But if your dogs are fond of apples, it is okay to give them the occasional slice so long as it doesn't have any seeds or stem attached—seeds contain a tiny bit of cyanide which can cause illness. And if that weren't enough, the pits of peaches and plums are harmful, too!

Dogs love to share our favorite treats, but with chocolate and these fruits, it's just not worth the risk.

### **Keeping Your Dog's Ears Clean!**

Something that can easily go unnoticed in dogs is the cleanliness of their ears, because unlike us, most of them have flaps hanging down over the openings. But their inner ears can develop a build-up of dirt and waxy residue that can lead to problems, such as ear infections. To complicate matters, some breeds grow an enormous amount of hair from their inner ears that can trap this dirt and wax.

To prevent infection from dirt and debris, it's important to keep their ears clean and to pluck out excess hair. Some dogs, such as poodles, require hair plucking more often than others, but it's usually best to do it monthly.

Hair plucking requires a gentle process with specialized tools, so it's best to leave this job for the groomer. To help keep their ears clean between appointments, you can use cotton balls and canine ear solution to wipe dirt and wax away from their inner ear flaps. But be sure to avoid their deep inner ear and to use large cotton balls rather than the little swabs. However, monthly grooming is usually adequate for clean ears.

If you notice any strange odors from their ears or if they're scratching at them and whining, it's best to contact your veterinarian, as this could be from mites or an inner ear infection.

### **Pets of Perfection Perfect Pets of The Month!**



**"Paris",  
"Max" &  
"Lolly"**

Own Susan  
Malnove of  
Gulfstream  
FL

**Contact us to see how your pet can become a  
"Perfect Pet" of the month too!**

***Perfect Pets receive a free gift!***

### **Did You Know!**

! A single pair of cats and their kittens can produce as many as 420,000 kittens in just 7 years.

! When out walking your dog it's better to choose different routes as much as possible. Walking is great for your dog's physical health, but taking them to new places where they can find new scents and smells can really help keep them in good mental shape as well.

Most dogs need plenty of mental stimulation to keep boredom at bay. So letting them experience new things and new places will really help perk them up, get them excited and keep them from getting bored.

! The domestic cat is the only cat species able to hold its tail vertically while walking. All wild cats hold their tails horizontally or tucked between their legs while walking.

### **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**

### **More Animal Humor!**

#### ***'A Dictionary for Pets'***

LEASH: A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your person where you want him/her to go.

PET BED: Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

SOFAS: Are to pets what napkins are to people. After eating, it is polite to run up and down the front of the sofa and wipe your whiskers clean.

BATH: This is a process by which the humans drench the floor, walls and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

### **Word Search!**

The following Word Search contains 8 common words relating to pets. The words are listed below:

M P T U N E U T E R G O D P  
U S E G I G Y Z P X R C C M  
S O Z S M O Q S I P A D M L  
S E I L I U G A H V T A J I  
N B L B F C I R C M O F G H  
D V A S I I R Z O K L R O S  
A H I M A G T E R O M X O U  
W I C O W W C E C T M U L R  
C W O M J M K T I X E W F B  
Q O S B I C R E M G E K L E  
K K X V Z A A N M A J P F U  
Z T E D I I Y S C T O O L P  
D B R N O A S H A A P J H S  
X B E T A N I C C A V L Q D

**Groom, Neuter, Vaccinate, Microchip, Brush,  
Exercise, Socialize, Train.**

### **Newsletter Copyright!**

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## ***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](mailto:petsz@att.net)*

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***Your Perfect Pet Deserves the Best!***

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