

Assess and plan dog grooming work

Overview

This standard is about assessing and planning dog grooming work. You will need to consider the head shape and type of coat, the requirements of the client, the methods to be used to achieve the desired result as well the tools and techniques that should be used when carrying out the work.

It is your responsibility to monitor the health and safety of yourself, the dog and all those affected by your work.

You will need to be aware of your own limitations and confirm that you meet the relevant legal responsibilities for providing your duty of care under current animal health and welfare legislation.

This standard is for those who are responsible for the assessment and planning of dog grooming work.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1.
work professionally and ethically and within the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2.
carry out all work in accordance with the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, associated codes of practice and organisational policies
3.
carry out your work in accordance with the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation, associated codes of practice, organisational policies and the Veterinary Surgeons Act
4.
select and implement hygiene and bio-security measures and confirm that they are maintained
5.
confirm that the work area for grooming dogs is safe, secure and clean
6.
assess how the welfare needs of the dog may be provided for while under your duty of care
7.
observe and recognise the behaviour of the dog and record it where necessary
8.
handle the dog in a way that maintains animal welfare, avoids behaviour giving rise to welfare concern and maintains health and safety
9.
assess the appearance of the dog including its coat type, and its head, body and leg shape to aid the planning of the grooming work on the dog
10.
assess the condition of the dogs coat and skin to aid in planning the grooming work on the dog
11.
carry out a health check of the dog and report any issues to the client, including advice to seek veterinary attention if required

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12.

discuss and agree the requirements for the planned work with the client, including timescale and cost

13.

plan the work required to groom the dog

14.

confirm that records are maintained and stored as required by the relevant legislation and organisational policy

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1.
your professional responsibilities as a dog groomer and the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2.
the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to maintain professional competence
3.
your responsibilities under the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, associated codes of practice and organisational policies
4.
your responsibilities under the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation, associated codes of practice, organisational policies and the Veterinary Surgeons Act
5.
the importance of implementing the correct hygiene and bio-security measures when carrying out dog grooming and how these can be achieved
6.
why it is important to observe and assess the body language of the dog and what signs to look out for
7.
the importance of maintaining communication with all those involved in, or affected by, your work, how this should be done and where to seek advice and guidance when required
8.
the coat types and their characteristics of the dog you are working with
9.
how to approach, handle and restrain dogs in a manner that promotes animal welfare, avoids behaviour giving rise to welfare concern and maintains health and safety
10.
how to assess the appearance of the dog including its coat type and head, body and leg shape to aid the planning of dog grooming

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11.
how to assess the condition of a dog's coat and skin and how to recognise common problems
12.
how to carry out and record a dog health check
13.
dog anatomy and physiology in order to be able to carry out a health check
14.
the requirements of the Veterinary Surgeons Act in relation to informing clients of possible abnormalities and conditions (but not diagnosing) and the importance of referring clients to a veterinary surgeon
15.
how to plan and agree the work to be done with the client, including the timescale and cost, and the importance of obtaining informed consent
16.
why clipping off and rough trimming are sometimes necessary and why the age, condition and temperament of the dog may influence the decision
17.
the importance of removing excess hair for the dog's hygiene
18.
required trimming methods relevant to the dogs coat
19.
the steps that should be taken in the event of accidentally cutting the dog or yourself
20.
the importance of planning the resources required to carry out the work including tools, equipment, materials, accommodation and suitable expertise
21.
how to check, clean and sterilise tools and equipment and the correct methods of storage
22.
the records that need to be kept in relation to assessing and planning dog grooming and the importance of completing these in accordance with the relevant legislation and organisational policy

Scope/range

Groom the following coat types:

1.
wool
2.
wire
3.
silk
4.
double – long and short
5.
smooth

Groom the following head shapes:

1.
round head
2.
head with short split eyebrows
3.
head with long split eyebrows
4.
head with centre fall eyebrows
5.
clean head
6.
clean face

use the following trimming methods:

1.
scissored body coat
2.
hand-stripped basic body coat
3.
hand-stripped advanced body coat
4.
hand-stripped gun dog coat
5.
clipped body coat
- 6.

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scissored leg and foot shapes

7.

scissored/clipped or combination tail

8.

blending

Plan the work in accordance with:

1.

client request

2.

breed of dog

3.

its appearance and condition

4.

trimming method

5.

resources

6.

accommodation for the dog, prior to, during and post grooming

Perform the following health check:

1.

feet, nails and pads

2.

ear condition

3.

mouth, teeth and gums

4.

skin and coat

5.

internal and external parasites

6.

eyes

7.

genital and mammary area

8.

anal glands

9.

weight and condition score

Glossary