Get Em Groomed!!

So you have a pooch... ②. Whether they're a puppy, senior, short or longhaired, they will need to be groomed.....regularly. Long ago are the days where you'd wait until summer to hose them down in the backyard. Today we take much better care of our beloved pets, as we should. They are part of our family. Depending on your pooch, you can expect to get your dog professionally groomed about once a month. "But I have a Lab" you say... yes, Labs need grooming too. Even if your dog doesn't have hair that needs trimming, like a lab, Ridgeback or other short haired breed, they should also be groomed regularly. The grooming will keep the shedding down, and keep them clean. Regular grooming keeps your dog's nails trimmed, ears and teeth clean, and can prevent many skin infections. More importantly, it keeps them feeling and smelling great.

Included in a typical groom is:

<u>The nail trim</u>, which may include filing the nails to smooth out those sharp edges. This ensures the nails won't grow out of control, curve under their pads, or scratch your hardwood floors.

<u>Ear cleaning</u> and possible <u>hair pulling</u> if you are lucky enough to have a dog that grows hair inside the ear canal, yes dogs can grow hair inside the ear... YIKES!! But too much of this hair can cause problems for your pooch, so it's best to stay on top of it and keep those ears clean, hairless and dry.

An added service is the <u>teeth brushing</u>, regular teeth brushing can prevent plaque and tartar build up on the teeth, although this is not a replacement of your regular Dr.'s office professional teeth cleaning, it goes a long way in prevention and maintenance.

The bath, blow dry, de-shedding and comb out. Ensuring your dog's hair is dry after bathing and combed out will also prevent a myriad of skin problems and also prevent matting of the hair, which can often be very painful to the dog. At Pampered Pooch, we recommend you keep your dog out of the water in between grooming's to prevent the hair from matting. If you do find yourself in a situation where Fido got caught in the rain, try blow drying him off and combing out the hair all over to ensure the hair doesn't clump or matt together. A little maintenance goes a long way, a few days without brushing or combing can lead to matts that may need to be shaved off.

If you have a pooch with hair, the haircut/trim is the final process in grooming. There are many types of trims. The basic for all pooches typically includes trimming of the hair off the bottom of the feet and the areas around the privates. From a little off the top, to the puppy cut, to elaborate lion trim, to poodle trim with pompoms or mohawk, it's a good idea to keep your dog groomed regularly.

Mink oil coat conditioner and perfume top off the groom, leaving them soft and smelling their best.

A great way to stay on top of the grooming and to prevent those dreaded mats is to work out an ongoing monthly appointment with your groomer, ensuring you don't miss a beat!! It's one less thing to worry about and keeps you dog happy, healthy and looking and smelling great!!

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Grooming by Appointment®