

Bathing:

Bathing is rarely a favorite pastime for dogs or pet parents, but every dog can benefit from an occasional bath. Introduce bathing early and slowly. Some dogs learn to enjoy their baths, and almost all of them can learn to tolerate them. Ask your veterinarian which shampoo they recommend for your pet. Never use human shampoo or dish soap to bathe your dog. Soak your dog's coat with warm-water. Once thoroughly soaked, start shampooing the coat being careful to avoid ears and eyes. Starting at the head, thoroughly rinse until no more shampoo washes out and the water runs clear. If you leave shampoo in the coat, it can cause dullness and skin irritation. Always dry ears with a drying ear flush and cotton balls. Never use cotton swabs in the ears.

Nail trims:

Trimming your dog's nails can be a hassle at times, but if you train them when they are young it can be an easy task. Training your dog to enjoy nail trims when they are young will help make the process easier as they age. Start on a back paw and work your way to the front paws. Give a small treat or piece of kibble after every toe. When you are first starting out start with one paw per sitting, eventually leading up to doing all four paws. Always use nail trimmers designed for dogs. Determining how far to cut can be a little tricky. If your pet's nail is clear or white you can usually see the quick (pink center). If this is the case you want to trim just above that area. However if your pets nails are black or brown it can be a little harder. Start by trimming just the tip off. You can always go back and cut more. If you accidentally cut into the quick, you can use styptic powder or cornstarch to help with the bleeding. Using an emery board in between clippings can also help keep their nails short.

Dental Care:

The best dental advice is to always start as a puppy. Starting as a puppy will help to train them to accept getting their teeth brushed. You should practice flipping the lip up and touching the teeth. Eventually you will work up to opening their mouth and touching all of their teeth. When brushing your pet's teeth you do not have to brush all of the surfaces. Instead focus on the outside of the tooth. We recommend using a doggie toothpaste, or baking soda with chicken/ beef broth.

Dental chews are another great product to help with dental care. We recommend veggie dents or Hextra chews.

