

When Your Pet Needs a Smoothie

How Matting Happens



Matting happens for many reasons. But the biggest cause of matting is shedding. There is no such a dog as a non-shedding dog. Poodle, Maltese, Shih Tzu, Cocker and so on, they all shed. The problem is their hair doesn't fall off like other dogs. Hair stays in the coat unless you brush them out. Dirt is also a big cause of matting. That is why daily brushing is very important to prevent matting. However, brushing can cause matting too! It may sound strange to you but that is why matting happens even if you brush your pet every day. The reason is static. If you don't use proper products when you brush, brushing can cause a bad static and static will cause matting.

The worst thing is, that many pet owners bath their pets without brushing out matting and let the coats air dry. It will create dreadlock matting which is almost impossible to brush out...

If Matting happens

Mats that pull tightly on the pet's skin can cause the pet constant discomfort and sometimes suffering. But even more serious is the fact that air cannot circulate through the hair and skin, which can lead to major skin irritations and infections.

As a highly trained professional, we understand how serious matting is and what health consequences your pet can suffer as a result of the matting. We will evaluate the condition of your pet's coat and recommend what is best for your pet.

The Solution

When a pet's hair becomes severely matted, there is simply no way to remove it except to give the pet a very short haircut, often referred to as a "Smoothie".

What is a "Smoothie"?



A Smoothie groom is very time consuming, as the groomer must use extreme caution as she removes the tightly matted coat from your pet. You don't *just shave the hair off*. It is much more involved.

Your groomer uses specialized equipment to separate the matting from the pet's skin. It is incredibly difficult and delicate work to release your pet, inch by inch, from the hairy prison surrounding him.

Great care must be taken. As the matting is removed, it may reveal skin conditions, parasites, or even foreign objects imbedded in the pet's hair. The skin can become unhealthy under matting, sometimes to the point that immediate medical attention is needed.

After the Matting is Removed

Your pet will feel different after its matted coat is removed. After finally being free of the matting that confined him like a straight jacket or body cast - he may feel itchy or his skin may have become irritated and sore from the matting.

He may want to rub or scratch, but you must not allow him to further irritate himself. Be especially aware that your pet's freshly clipped nails may be sharp and could cause secondary problems if he scratches and digs at his tender skin.

You may apply first aid cream or gel to your pet's skin. If his skin is tender, the cream can provide welcome, soothing relief from itching and will encourage his skin to heal. We strongly suggest our Premium package after shaving your matted pet. The Premium package includes a medicated shampoo and conditioner to soothe your pet's skin and deter any skin

irritations from happening due to shaving. .. Shaving can be traumatic for your pet as they are used to having a thick coat, but with your love, praise, and reassurance they will be back to their normal personality in no time. It is very important to remember that since the pet will have a very short haircut they are more susceptible to sunburn. It is your responsibility to protect your loved one, and with the help of our knowledgeable staff, we can recommend products which contain sunscreen for pets.

A New Beginning

Now that your pet has very short hair, you have the opportunity for a fresh start. This is the time to form a working partnership with us by putting your pet on a regular schedule of visiting the beauty shop. It is easier for you to plan ahead, and your pet will start expecting it -they may even be disappointed if you miss their day! Although the amount of weeks or months until we see you again highly depends on your pet's needs, we can usually suggest anywhere between 6-8 weeks. If you would love to come sooner then that's great! We offer a wide range of discounts according to how often you would like to bring your furry friend, just ask us about them! Together you and I can make sure that your pet is cared for properly and comfortably and that his hair never gets into such a bad condition again.

The Right Equipment and Products



As your groomer we can recommend and supply the grooming equipment that you will need to correctly care for your pet. There are specialty brushes and combs designed for different types of coats and we can explain which ones are best suited to your pet's needs. We will be happy to show you how to properly use these grooming tools on your pet. We will also teach you the correct brushing techniques that will enable you to brush his hair completely down to the skin. We will recommend and explain how to use the certain hair care products (i.e. detangling sprays and conditioners, coat softeners, hydrating sprays, etc.) that will be especially beneficial for your pet.

The Big Payoff...a Happy Pet

One of the most wonderful, caring things you can do for your pet is to spend time together. Make grooming a special bonding time between you and your pet. If you begin brushing

while hair is short and not tangled, your pet will be more accepting of it. Start with very short sessions and gradually lengthen them as your pet learns to enjoy daily grooming. Use treats and plenty of praise to reinforce a positive grooming experience. Be sure to use the brushing technique that your groomer demonstrated to you. The importance of thorough brushing followed by a complete combing cannot be overemphasized.