

Grooming by Coat Type Chart

How often you brush and bathe depends on the coat. **Find your dog’s coat below, set a routine, and log it.** Grooming time is also when you catch lumps, fleas, ticks and sore ears early.

FILLABLE PDF – TYPE ON A COMPUTER OR TABLET, OR PRINT AND FILL IT IN BY HAND.

DOG’S NAME

COAT TYPE

GROOMER / VET

BY COAT TYPE

COAT	BRUSHING	BATHING & NOTES
Smooth / short	A few times a week, with a rubber curry, grooming glove or short-bristle brush	Every week to every 4–6 weeks for medium and large dogs; too often strips oils
Double coat	Often daily, with a slicker and a long-toothed comb; heavy sheds in late spring and late fall	Bathe around the two big sheds. Don’t shave it: it insulates and protects from sun
Long / silky	Daily, with a pin brush and long-toothed comb: ears, armpits, backs of legs	Brush out tangles before the bath; mats come out with clippers, never scissors
Curly / non-shedding	Daily, with a slicker brush	Bath about every 6–8 weeks
Wire	A few times a week; the coat is hand-stripped, by you or a groomer	Clipping softens a wire coat and can change its color and texture over time
Hairless	No brushing needed	Bathe about weekly

EVERY SESSION

- ☐ **Nails:** clicking on the floor means they’re too long
- ☐ **Ears:** wipe the visible outer ear about monthly; never push deep
- ☐ **Dog shampoo only:** no human or baby shampoo; unscented, hypoallergenic is gentlest
- ☐ **Skin check:** lumps, fleas, ticks, red or sore patches
- ☐ **Mats first:** brush them out before water makes them tighter
- ☐ **No shaving to the skin** unless your vet recommends it

GROOMING LOG

DATE	BRUSHED	BATH	NAILS	EARS	NOTES

Call your vet if your dog shakes its head, scratches its ears, or has red, smelly ears or dark discharge (signs of an ear infection), or has severe mats, new lumps or sores. Floppy, hairy ears are more prone to infection.