

# 10 COMMANDMENTS OF DOG GROOMING



## SAFETY FIRST IS NO ACCIDENT

Protect yourself and the dog from unnecessary risk. Use every safety measure available to prevent injuries for both of you.

## KEEP THEIR FUR ON!

Never shave a double coat unless you absolutely have to. When shaving a matted dog, try to save as much fur as you possibly can, without hurting the dog.



## IT'S ALL ABOUT THE PRE-WORK

Bathing makes or breaks the groom! You need a clean dog before you can start brushing, trimming, or styling. Don't skimp on the bath!

## IF YOU CAN'T TOUCH SKIN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE

After a good groom, you should be able to reach the dog's skin through their coat. Anywhere you can't touch the skin, there are tangles or mats in the way that can lead to discomfort or even medical problems.

## JUST SAY NO!

It's absolutely ok to say "NO" to clients with unrealistic expectations, or to grooming any dog that you're not comfortable grooming. This can include dogs with physical problems, anxious dogs or aggressive ones.



## 1 HUMANITY BEFORE VANITY

Before you grab your clippers, think about whether what you're asked to do will harm the dog in any way. If the answer is "it will", then you shouldn't do it. Period.

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## 3 THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR THE RIGHT JOB

In the grooming world, one size does not fit all. Use the correct clippers, brushes, shampoos, etc. for each dog. Invest in these tools and products!



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## 5 FRUSTRATION LEADS TO FRUSTRATION

Dealing with a particularly difficult dog? Stay calm and in control. Your frustration will make the dog even more anxious and unpredictable. Don't be ashamed to take a break to give you (and the dog!) time to chill.



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## 7 AGGRESSION = FEAR OR PAIN

An 'aggressive' dog is probably scared out of his mind, or in serious pain. A bite is almost never the dog's fault!

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## 9 GIVE THEM A BREAK

New, inexperienced, or old dog on the grooming table? Take it slow and give them a few breathers. Never rush a grooming job. The dog's mental health is just as important as your work.

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