

Assignment B4

Conducting Your Own Needs Analysis – Part 1

NAME:

STUDENT#:

The needs analysis is a complicated process. Even after learning the principles behind it, you'll need time and practice to apply them effectively in real life. In this assignment, you'll continue developing your own needs analysis skills by assessing the grooming needs of a real dog.

Don't forget that you can access a printable "Needs Analysis Template" in the Student Resources section of the Online Student Center. As you begin working with dogs, this will be a helpful resource to ensure you don't forget any steps of the needs analysis.

Note that this assignment ties into the next assignment. You will be using the same dog for each assignment so you may want to plan on completing both assignments at the same time.

To complete this assignment, you will need the following:

- A coated dog (preferably one that does not belong to you)
- A computer or notebook to record your answers

Guidelines for selecting a dog:

To maximize your learning for this assignment, we suggest you seek permission to use a friend's dog. If that's not possible, you can also use your own dog. However, keep in mind that if you own a dog, you likely already understand many of his or her needs. Interacting with someone else's dog will be much more similar to the kind of interactions you will have with clients and their dogs as a professional groomer.

For this assignment you can use a dog of any age and grooming experience. You must use a coated dog. You will learn about coat types later in the course, but for now just make sure you avoid using a hairless, smooth-coated dog or short-coated dog. You can look at the Dog Coat Type Cheat Sheet in the Online Student Center for more clarification.

Initial Assessment

If you are not using your own dog, ask the dog's owner to answer the following questions. If you are using your own dog, you can answer these questions yourself. Record the information below.

1. What is the dog's name?
2. Is the dog a purebred or a mixed breed? Does the owner know the breed or mix?
3. How old is the dog?
4. How long has the owner owned the dog?
5. Does the dog have any prior professional grooming experience? If yes, when was the dog last groomed and how often is the dog typically groomed?
6. Does the owner groom the dog regularly at home? If yes, what grooming practices does the owner perform (e.g. brushing, nail clipping, bathing) and how often?

7. Describe the dog's lifestyle.

a. What does the dog do (e.g. working dog, hunting dog, apartment dog, etc.)?

b. Is the dog active?

c. Does the dog spend a lot of time outside?

d. Does the dog walk in the city or in forest/field areas?

e. Does the dog swim?

8. Describe the dog's medical history.

a. Has the dog undergone any surgery?

b. Does the owner know of any scars, scabs, warts, cysts, tumors or other topical abnormalities on the dog?

- c. Is the dog experiencing hair loss or a skin condition?
 - d. Does the dog have any temporary or chronic medical conditions?
 - e. Is the dog taking any medications?
 - f. Does the dog have any heart problems?
 - g. Is the dog prone to seizures?
 - h. Does the dog have any weak or sore limbs?
 - i. Does the owner have any concerns about potential medical issues that have yet to be diagnosed?
 - j. Who is the dog's veterinarian?
9. Does the dog have any behavioral issues?

10. What are the owner's grooming concerns (e.g. shedding, hot spots, tangles/matting, high maintenance, etc.)?

11. How is the dog usually styled? What is the owner looking for?