



# Dirty Dogs Salon

4485 N. Carl G. Rose Hwy. Hernando, (352) 341-0600

It is so nice to finally see the sun shining brightly and be able to enjoy time outside. Just this morning I was able to take my dog out for our morning jaunt without having to bundle up as if I was planning an expedition to the Arctic Circle; a nice change from the last few months.

With summer comes several different things that we have to focus on. Summer vacation looms, which means either choosing dog friendly vacation spots or possibly considering a boarding kennel. Keep in mind there may be other options as well including a neighbor or friend that will "foster" your dog while you are away, welcoming your pooch into their home as one of their own. This is a great way to provide social interaction for your pet with people he or she already knows and trusts.

Yet another option may be to use professional pet sitting services. In many cities and even rural communities across the United States pet sitting is a growing industry. Be sure to check all credentials and meet with the individual well in advance to make sure they are a good match for your dog's needs. Pet sitters can actually live at your house or they can be scheduled to come in to feed, exercise and provide companionship for all your household pets at specific times of the day.

If you are like most families the summer is a great time for your dog. The kids are home from school and the family is around the house much more than usual. Take advantage of this by encouraging your children to play, walk and enjoy these lazy days with their four-legged friends. Kids and dogs are a natural match and your pooch will absolutely adore all the extra time and attention.

Summer is also a great time to add to your training routine. If you have always wanted to try agility training, the time really is now. You can easily set up a simple obstacle course in your backyard using PVC pipe to create small or larger jumps, a pole weave obstacle and a board and a log is a simple makeshift teeter totter. Always make sure everything is safe and well-designed. There is lot of information online about how to create an agility course in your backyard using materials you probably have in your garage.

Remember that summer isn't all about running and playing, although that is certainly a major part for our dogs. Enjoy time out in the backyard at night or out on the patio reading a good book or just talking together, including the dog as a valuable and much loved part of your family.

LuAnn

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[www.dirtydogssalon.com](http://www.dirtydogssalon.com)

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### Our Opening Hours!

**Open:**

Tues - Saturday  
at 9am

**Closed:**

Sunday and Monday

### Quiz

The most common dog names in the United States are:

- A. Harley and Daisy
- B. Max and Bella
- C. Buddy and Bailey
- D. Rocky and Lucy

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I am a member of National Dog Groomer Association of America Inc.

*The average dog is a nicer person than the average person.* ~ Andy Rooney

# IF YOU ARE NEW TO THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO READ THIS PAGE AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT I COULD DO FOR YOU AND YOUR PET!

## Five Important points to look for when choosing a good Dog Groomer!

It's important to remember that not all groomers are the same and that the service they provide will not always be what you'd expect. It's so important that the person who grooms and cares for your dog does so to the highest standard. Because it's critical that you have trust and confidence in this person, I have highlighted the five benefits that a good groomer will provide to you:

### **1. Assurance that the care and welfare of your dog is their top priority:**

Any good groomer is first and foremost a dog lover, so caring for your dog comes as second nature to them and is given at all times. By providing breaks during the clipping process and by never leaving your dog unsupervised, they reduce unnecessary stress while ensuring safety and security. They also attend to your dog's basic needs by providing them with such things as fresh drinking water.

### **2. Grooming of the highest standards that reflects the needs of you and your dog:**

A good groomer must be able to demonstrate the ability to groom your dog to high standards and to provide an appropriate look for your pet. They must have the ability to accurately determine your needs while advising you on different options for style and finish. A good groomer will never inflict pain or undue stress on your pet just to achieve a certain style.

### **3. Understanding of the different temperaments and characteristics of dogs:**

As not all dogs are the same, they cannot all be approached and handled the same. For example, a shy and slightly fearful dog requires calmness and patience, while a lively bouncy dog may require immediate leadership. A good groomer will be able to adapt their approach to meet the psychological and behavioral needs of different dogs to ensure minimum stress during the grooming experience.

### **4. Quality products and methods that do not risk the health of your pet:**

A good groomer will never compromise on the quality of products they use on your pet. Cheap dog products are available everywhere, yet they can cause severe health problems for your dog. Therefore, you must be confident that your groomer uses quality controlled professional grooming products. A good groomer will never cut corners with their products just to save money or to provide cheaper rates.

### **5. Advice and information on all aspects of dog ownership:**

It's important that you have someone to turn to when you need advice or help with your dog, and a good groomer will be this person. While groomers cannot offer all of the answers, such as a medical diagnosis, they should be knowledgeable enough to offer some assistance and to point you in the right direction. A good groomer will always attempt to identify and inform you of any physical or behavioral changes that may indicate a health problem. This can make all the difference in recovery, as early detection ensures early treatment.

As a groomer, the above five benefits are the guide by which I provide my services. Dogs and grooming are my passion, not just my business. By bringing your dog to me for grooming, you can be assured that you and your dog will receive all five benefits as well as the care and service that you deserve.

## What you can Expect if you Bring your Dog to Me!

Would you like your dog groomed so that she's looking gorgeous and left just the way you want her to look? Do you want her coat smelling delightful so there's no more 'doggy' smell in your home? Would you like her coat feeling soft while being just a dream to cuddle? And above all, would you like reassurance that your dog is getting the same gentle care and kindness during grooming that you would give her at home?

Well, you've just found a groomer that can provide everything you want, plus much, much more!

With me, you can be sure that your dog will be groomed to the highest standard. You'll be so pleased with how she looks, you will be proud to walk her down your street and show her off to your neighbors - just like the many other clients I have.

Your preferences and lifestyle, as well as your dog's character, are always taken into account as I advise you on grooming styles. The health, safety and welfare of your pet are always my priority, so you can have peace of mind knowing that I only offer the best advice to help you choose the right options for your dog.

As a caring dog owner, you'll want your pet to be healthy and happy. Therefore, it'll be reassuring to know that, with me, you'll have someone looking out for potential health issues and changes in your dog - some that may only be noticeable during grooming. Early detection of ailments can make all the difference to your pet, so I make sure to keep a close eye out for physical and behavioral changes during grooming.

Your dog will be well looked after and will always get the 'one on one' attention that she needs. You'll always feel confident that she's in the safest of hands with me; I can assure you of that.

Your pet deserves the best so I only use the best and safest products that will get her coat looking gorgeous but won't ever harm her. Others may choose to use cheaper, inferior products in grooming but that's something I simply will not compromise on.

With me, you'll also have someone to turn to if you have issues or worries about your pet. Advice and help is a free extra service I'm more than happy to provide. You can call me if you ever have any problems or just need to chat about your little friend.

So if you're looking for a groomer who will leave your pet looking fantastic then give me a call. You'll be over the moon when you see what I can do for you and your little furry friend.

## **Dirty Dogs Salon**

*"Expert in leaving your dog looking gorgeous"*

- ✓ **Have your dog gorgeously groomed so that she is left looking and smelling wonderful. You'll be delighted with how she'll look and you'll be so proud to show her off to your family and friends.**
- ✓ **You'll never have to worry when you leave your pet with me. She'll be groomed in a clean, relaxed environment where only the best and safest products are used.**
- ✓ **As a customer of mine, you'll get the respect and service from me that all good dog owners like you deserve.**
- ✓ **Help and advice is freely given so you'll always have someone to turn to if you ever have a problem or a worry about your little friend.**
- ✓ **I use a calm, 'tender loving' approach when grooming, where patience, praise and kindness is assured.**
- ✓ **And of course, kisses and cuddles for your little buddy are provided in abundance. She'll just love being groomed with me and you'll love how she looks afterwards!**

Call for an appointment today. Tel: **(352) 341-0600**

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## Summer Cuts for Cool Canines

Summer heat, and more specifically a combination of heat and humidity in many climates, can lead to discomfort for your dog. A summer haircut may be just the help that your dog is looking for to stay cool and comfortable all through the dog days of summer.

There are very few dogs that should never be clipped. However, terrier breeds or terrier crosses may not be a good candidate for a cut as it can actually damage the hair growth in the future. On the other hand some breeds are typically shown with a clip, so it is important to consider the dog and the actual coat when deciding if a clip is a good option.

- **Body Clips** – if you want to clip just the body of your dog and leave the hair on the face and tail natural this is certainly an option. Since the body is going to provide the greatest surface area it will allow your dog to stay cool without having to clip the face, ears and tail.
- **Stylish Clips** – you don't have to stay boring with your dog's clip, you can go a bit wild and choose a stylish clip. Lamb cuts, teddy bear clips and even sporty puppy cuts are perfect for many dogs, including the larger breeds that you may not originally consider in this category.
- **Just a trim** – you don't have to make the clip really short to open up the coat to allow greater air circulation. Trimming just a bit off the coat in both single and double coated breeds can make a big difference. It can also help with tangles and matting that is common when dogs are running, playing and enjoying their time outside in the warm weather.

The key is to understand that a dog, regardless of the coat length or type, can stay cool in the summer without the need for a clip. The long coat and the double layer can not only protect them from the cold but it also provides a layer of protection against the heat of the sun.

Some breeds, especially the northern breeds that have very heavy, thick double coats will have largely shed out all their inner coat (remember all those fluffy, white drifts in your yard last month?) so they really have only a light double coat during the hottest time of the year. Single coated dogs and dogs with very short coats may just need a touch up to help reduce any potential for knots and mats in the coat.

Clipping a dog is generally done for ease of care for the owner. It is a great idea if you have an active dog that is out and about in the summer, especially if they are swimming and then getting in and out of your vehicle.

Clipping, or shaving your dog, is really a personal decision. Keep in mind that a dog's coat is slow to grow in and if you are going to clip you need to do it early in the season to allow the coat to grow back in to provide warmth in the fall and winter seasons.

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## Considerations for Dog Friendly Vacations

Taking the entire family, including the canine members, on vacation is a great idea and a very popular option. However, if you are planning a vacation with your dog you do need to complete some advanced preparation and research to ensure everything goes without a hitch.

Taking a dog along on vacation is not a spur of the moment decision. You need to think about your travel plans, accommodation and even how long you will need to leave the dog alone while you are doing things that Fido can't.

There are an increasing number of hotels, motels and resorts that provide guest rooms for people and their canine family members. This is a great way to include your pet on your vacation, but it is not always exactly what it seems.

Most accommodations have restrictions on the size of dog that you can arrive with and have stay on the premise. The biggest problem, no pun intended, will be the giant breeds of dogs. Other potential problems can occur with specific breeds or types in some areas where there are specific breed bans. Dobermans, Rottweilers, Pit Bulls, Bulldogs and most Mastiff types are typically caught in these bans. Always verify, and make sure to get an email or written confirmation, that ensures that you will have no difficulty in checking in with a dog of these breeds.

Keep in mind that you will typically need to provide an additional damage deposit if you are staying with your dog and your choice of rooms may be limited. Not all accommodations restrict dogs to just specific rooms; there are some great dog friendly hotels that welcome canine guests like royalty.

Look online, read reviews and make sure to do your research to ensure that you, and your pet, will be more than welcome at your destination.

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## Preventing Pet Sunburn

Dogs of all types can get sunburn just as we can get sunburn when we spend too much time in the great outdoors. Dogs that have recently been clipped are often at greatest risk for sunburn as the skin is not routinely exposed to UV radiation.

If your dog has been clipped, or you have a dog with thin hair or even a hairless breed, there are several things you can do to protect their skin from harmful burns. They include:

- Restricting outside time in direct sunlight
- Apply a pet safe, FDA approved sunscreen for dogs. Do not use human products as they can be toxic if the dog licks the skin after application
- For dogs of all sizes a lightweight doggy t-shirt can be a simple way to keep the sun off the back of the dog but the head and ears will still be exposed and need protection.

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## Traveling with your Dog

Most families will take their dog with them on short or long trips throughout the summer season. The vast majority of dogs love to be in a vehicle and it can be a wonderful way to give your dog something new to see and do.

When traveling with your dog it is important to keep a few things in mind. These include:

- Keep the dog safe in the vehicle by using a doggy seat belt for medium or large dogs or crate small dogs and use the seatbelt to secure the crate.
- Bring a small dog water dish and bottled water with you in the vehicle. Don't let your dog drink out of puddles, ditches or unknown water sources as they can be contaminated or they may be home to bacterial diseases.
- Take frequent stops and, with your dog on a leash, go for a walk to give your dog a potty break as well as a bit of fresh air and exercise.
- Avoid feeding your dog immediately before travel, especially puppies, as this can increase the risk of the dog becoming car sick.
- Never allow your dog sit in your lap, or the driver's lap, when traveling. This is a safety risk and a distraction for you as well as your pet.
- Always make sure your dog has a collar with current contact information on whenever you travel just in case you get separated.

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## Get This Newsletter Every Month!

To continue to provide you with information, help and a little bit of fun, we publish this newsletter at the beginning of every month. There will always be a copy available for you. So, in a month that's between your appointments please drop in to pick one up (it'll be nice to catch up as well). Or if you'd like your newsletter emailed to you every month just leave us your email address or request your newsletter by sending us an email. Once you're on our list we'll send you a copy every month.

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### **Quiz Key**

The correct answer is B. Max and Bella, obviously linked to the Twilight show fame.

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## Summer Exercise Tips

Getting outside and getting active in the summer is something we all anticipate and look forward to. Jogging, hiking, running and enjoying sports with our family and friends, including our four-legged family members, is a summer tradition.

However, unlike humans, dogs don't have the ability to say they need a break or they need to cool off. Most dogs will play, run and chase until they literally drop, a very serious and potentially deadly behavior for many dogs each year.

Dogs at highest risk for heat related health problems in the summer include dogs with short muzzles such as Pugs, English Bulldogs, Pekingese, Shih Tzu, Boston Terriers and Boxers or any mixed breed dog with a flat face. Other dogs that are at risk for heat related issues include dogs that are overweight or obese or dogs that have respiratory or heart problems.

To help these dogs, and any dog, stay cool in the hot summer temperatures you can:

- Plan intensive exercise such as running or jogging for the early morning or later in the evening
- Take regular breaks in a shady spot and provide lots of fresh water regularly
- Bring an ice pack and place it against your dog while taking a break
- Stop the activity if you notice heavy panting

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## Newsletter Copyright!

This newsletter is provided to you every month so that I can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining and useful.

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So I'm afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, I'd be grateful if you'd let me know.

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