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**Designer Dog Clothes**

**By Anne Doyle**

Some of us just refuse to think of our dogs as just dogs. For us there are dog clothes!

Cute sweaters, doggie tee shirts, dog booties, stylish bandanas, and let's not forget little hats. These are among the items people will purchase to dress their dogs in style.

Dressing a dog is more about the owner having fun than the animal, but as long as the clothing isn't uncomfortable, most dogs don't mind humoring their human friends. Some even seem to enjoy grabbing the spotlight with their new look.

Internet shopping has taken the concept of dressing our dogs to new levels as websites offering all manner of "designer" dog clothing have popped up everywhere. With names like Glamour Dog, Designer Dog Wear, and Paw Printz Boutique (dot com, of course), these sites offer the tops in canine fashion for proud owners to place on their pups.

Years ago, it was not uncommon to see a dog in a knit sweater or some other cute clothing article, but today there are nearly as many clothing choices for dogs as there are for people. There are dresses and slacks, raincoats, eyewear, headwear, footwear, and every imaginable item. There is doggie casual wear, for hanging around on the beach, doggie formal wear for those special black tie occasions and even doggie wedding gowns and tuxedos for the wedding of a doggie's dreams!

In many cases, the doggie designer clothing comes complete with a doggie designer price tag. Dog dresses at Glamour Dog dot com, for example, are listed with prices that run from \$40.00 for a basic Mary Jane dress to \$86.00 for prom wear! Some of these dog clothes cost more than many people spend to dress themselves. Nothing is too good for our "best friend!"

Some personal favorites include the doggie trench coat (\$70.00), the various college football jerseys (\$25.00), and the 100% cotton doggie bathrobe - perfect for the pooch who wants to emulate Hugh Hefner.

High end Doggie Duds can be traced to celebrities like Paris Hilton's Tinkerbelle and Anna Nicole Smith's Sugar Pie. Both are rarely seen in public without some form of clothing. The PR these pups

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bring to the industry can do nothing but make the business boom even further.

So, if you're in the market for dog clothes that will turn heads and get your pooch noticed, designer doggie duds may be just what the fashion critic ordered. Just be sure not to combine designer labels or adorn your dog in designs that clash. After all, what could be more gauche?

As an avid dog lover, Ann Doyle understands the benefits of owning a well-trained dog. There is no nicer compliment than "Wow, your dog listens well, how did you train him?" Having a well-behaved dog is easy when you know a few secrets, Ann shares some at

<http://abetterdog.com/>

### **Dog Clothes – Fad, Fun Or Functional??**

**By David Amos**

Your dog is not just a pet. Your dog is not just an animal. Your dog is a bona FIDO member of the family!! So of course your dog needs to dress the part - right?

Well thanks to the internet and the many online boutiques you can dress your dog for every occasion from the comfort of your own home. No more "granny" knitted sweaters for your sophisticated canine!! But is dressing up your dog just something that you like to do? Is there any benefit to your dog? It all depends on why you bought the clothes!!

A Dog Coat can be a very useful item of clothing for your dog. It can keep him warm in the cold weather, dry in the wet weather and can protect him from infections in the same way that our clothes protect us. It can also keep him clean which may be especially useful after a romp in the park on a wet winter's day. Just take the coat off after it's dirty and keep most of the dirt contained. Then you can let your clean(ish) dog into the car which helps keep the car cleaner. Dog coats come in many different styles and colors so pick the coat that's most appropriate for its use. And of course what dog would be seen out without the matching doggie hat??

Just like people wear, you can get 'designer' labels for your dog to make him feel like a million dollars, (and it probably costs that too). Many celebrities always have their dogs dressed in the latest doggie fashion. A practice that Paris Hilton with Tinkerbell has raised to an art form, or so it seems!

Apart from coats and sweaters other useful dog clothing items include dog t-shirts and dog sunglasses. These can look cute but they do also serve to help protect your pet. The sunglasses can protect him from UVA and UVB rays and the t-shirt helps protect his skin. Dogs can develop skin cancer the same way that people can and this is one of the main cancers in dogs. And you thought it was just to make Fido look cute!!

As you can see, getting clothing for your dog is not just vanity on your part, although it is fun dressing up your dog. It can also play a vital role in keeping your dog healthy and happy. And if you do get the urge to step out on the wild side - get your dog some formal wear or a great costume for Halloween -

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go on have fun and buy your dog some great clothing today!!

David Amos is a long time dog owner and dog lover. Further Dog clothing information can be found at

<http://onlinedogcare.com/dogclothes>

and other dog articles can be found at

<http://www.onlinedogcare.com>



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