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**100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment**  
**Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances**  
**Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!**

**Pets: Choosing A Groomer**

**By Gary Allison**

Different pets have vastly different grooming needs. Some pets need a lot more grooming than others. The majority of animals will need some kind of grooming service at some stage of their lives. Whether it's bathing or trimming, or even a large mat that needs to be removed – there are some things that need to be done by professionals.

Choosing a groomer is not just a matter of opening the phonebook however, there are just too many choices. But when choosing groomers some standards cannot be negotiated. You want the best for your pet and need to be sure you can safely place your trust in your chosen groomer.

Before sending your beloved pet to a grooming service – here are some useful tips to consider when it comes to choosing the right service for you.

1. References: This is the most important of the criteria! A simple way to make sure you choosing right is just to ask your friends/family where they take their animals. Word of mouth works well. Look online to see if there's any evidence of good work or happy clients.
2. Their level of experience: Do they have some kind of qualification? Are they affiliated with any grooming associations? If your pet has exotic or unusual needs ask them if they've dealt with – for example a French treatment. Ask if they have any photo albums of their work or happy clients they could refer you to.
3. Staying there: Many places allow you to stay with your pet while they do their work. A trustworthy establishment should have no problems with letting you stay – and even if you don't intend to stay – their reaction to the question will tell you a lot.
4. Evaluate their place of business: is it clean and well lit. Does it give a good impression? Are the animals there happy and calm? Does the establishment have a happy feel to it?
5. Of course your own pets' reaction will also have a lot to do with whether you choose a groomer. If your pet becomes upset or reacts badly to them – find another groomer. Groomers should handle your

pet gently.

The best places love your animal as much as you do and treat them well. And if you aren't happy with their service – find someone else. You wouldn't leave your children with just anybody – why should your pets be any different. Take your time while choosing – it'll be time well spent.

Gary Allison is a third generation of professional dog breeders. It all started with his grandparents in 1970 with the Boston Terriers and has expanded to Maltese, Yorkshire Terriers, Pugs, Shih Tzu's and Pomeranians. He is also actively involved with dog rescue and has a website that showcases the puppies he occasionally has for sale at

<http://allmypuppiesonline.com>

Gary is also the author of two

consumer guides,

<http://carpetsecrets.com>

and

<http://movingsecretsguide.com>

## **Professional Dog Grooming**

**By Christopher Thomas**

Think grooming a dog involves washing it in the bathtub? Think you don't need a groomer?

Dog groomers do far more than just fluff and dry; they address several vital health practices regarding your dog's eyes, ears, and anal glands. Of course, it's not impossible to take care of these grooming concerns yourself, but in many instances it's safer and more practical to let a professional handle these sensitive areas.

Proper ear care requires periodic ear cleanings. Veterinarians and professional dog groomers use an agent that dissolves earwax, or saline solution to clean dogs' ears. These cleaning agents are usually put into the ear before bathing. It is crucial for the groomer to keep the dog's ears dry. If water runs into a dog's ear during the bath, a drying agent containing isopropyl alcohol, acetic acid, or boric acid must be put into the ear. Professional dog groomers recommend using a wash rag instead of Q-tips to help dry out the ears. Using Q-tips increases the chance of injuring the dog's eardrum. If the cleaning requires reaching places that are out of a wash-rag's reach you should seek professional help.

Dog groomers usually apply an ointment to the dog's eyes before bathing in order to protect the cornea. However, the trend is to move away from these practices because some professionals believe the ointment may trap irritants that run into the eyes during the bath. Closing, redness, squinting, and

excessive tearing are good indicators of eye problems.

Another part of proper dog grooming that the professionals see to is expressing the anal glands. Have you ever noticed your dog dragging its bottom across the carpet? If you have, you know how important it is to take it to the dog groomer. What it is trying to do is release the fluid that has built up in tiny sacs located under the base of his tail. If he is successful, you will know it by the rank smell. Since the sacs are fragile (and discoloration of the fluid could indicate infection), this part of grooming should be left to a professional or a veterinarian.

Adequate grooming is absolutely necessary to maintain your dog's health. If it's something you want to do personally, educate yourself on the finer points. But using a professional dog groomer will be the most beneficial to you in the long run.

Christopher Thomas contributes to several popular web sites, including

<http://famif.com>

and

<http://biduv.com>



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