

Groomers Tips on Mats and Matting

Why should I care about mats and matting?

- ❖ Since mats rest tightly on the skin, they often are hiding pre-existing conditions. Shaving them can cause or reveal injuries such as inflammation, infections, restricted movement, parasites, and blood circulation problems.
- ❖ Important to note as well, mats on the ears restrict blood flow so they can cause hematomas. Removing mats can trigger a sudden rush of blood to the ears. Thus, bleeding can occur, typically at the tips of the ears.

Why do mats have to be removed with clippers?

- ❖ Mats are removed with clippers because it is the safest option.
- ❖ Brushing mats out is extremely painful and cutting them out with scissors is usually avoided because the skin can tear or be cut.

How do I prevent mats on my pet?

- ❖ Remember to comb your pet prior to a bath or swim, especially if your pet is a long-haired breed.
- ❖ Keep regular grooming appointments every 4-8 weeks if you have a breed that requires regular maintenance.
- ❖ Remember you can always schedule a comb out for your pet in between grooms.

How do I properly brush my pet?

- ❖ Gently brush with a metal comb and make sure the comb touches the skin, not just the top layer of fur.
- ❖ Remember to comb your pet's entire body including the tail, inside and outside of the leg, and the entire outside of the ear, including behind it.