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### Overview

This standard covers assessing and planning dog grooming work. You will need to consider the head shape and type of coat, the requirements of the client, the methods to be used to achieve the desired result as well the tools and techniques that should be used when carrying out the work.

It is your responsibility to monitor the health and safety of yourself, the dog and others in the area.

You will need to be aware of your own limitations and ensure that you meet the legal responsibilities for your duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation.

This standard is for those who are responsible for the assessment and planning of dog grooming work.

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 maintain your own professional conduct and ethics and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
- P2 comply with relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and codes of practice at all times
- P3 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
- P4 select and implement appropriate hygiene and bio-security measures and ensure they are maintained
- P5 ensure that work area is safe, secure and clean
- P6 assess how the welfare needs of the dog may be provided while under your duty of care
- P7 observe and recognise the behaviour of the dog and record as appropriate
- P8 handle the dog in a manner that promotes confidence and co-operation and maintains the health and safety of all throughout
- P9 assess the appearance of the dog including **coat type**, **head**, body and leg **shape**
- P10 assess the condition of its coat and skin
- P11 carry out a **health check** of the dog and report any issues to the client, including advice to seek veterinary attention if required
- P12 discuss and agree the requirements for the work with the client including timescale and cost
- P13 **plan the work** required
- P14 keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 your professional responsibilities as a dog groomer and the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
- K2 the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to maintain professional competence
- K3 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and codes of practice
- K4 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K5 the importance of implementing appropriate hygiene and bio-security measures when carrying out dog grooming
- K6 why it is important to observe and assess the body language of the dog and the signs to look out for
- K7 the importance of communicating with others and where to seek advice and guidance
- K8 the Kennel Club UK types and their characteristics
- K9 how to approach, handle and restrain dogs in a manner that promotes their confidence and co-operation and maintains safety
- K10 how to assess the appearance of the dog including **coat type, head, body and leg shape**
- K11 how to assess the condition of a dog's coat and skin and how to recognise common problems
- K12 how to carry out and record a **health check** of a dog
- K13 basic dog anatomy and physiology to be able to carry out a health check
- K14 the requirements of the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) in relation to informing clients of possible abnormalities and conditions (not diagnosing) and the importance of referring clients to a veterinary surgeon
- K15 how to plan and agree the work to be done with the client, including timescale and cost, and the importance of obtaining informed consent
- K16 why clipping off and rough trimming are sometimes necessary and why the age, condition and temperament of the dog may influence the decision
- K17 the importance of removing excess hair for the dog's hygiene
- K18 appropriate **trimming methods**
- K19 the steps that should be taken in the event of accidentally cutting the dog

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or yourself

- K20 the resources required to carry out the work including tools, equipment, materials, accommodation and suitable expertise
- K21 how to check, clean and sterilise equipment and the correct methods of storage
- K22 appropriate records to be kept, the importance of confidentiality and the requirements of the Data Protection Act (1998)

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### Scope/range

#### Coat types:

- 1 wool
- 2 wire
- 3 silk
- 4 double – long and short
- 5 smooth

#### Head shapes:

- 6 round head
- 7 head with short split eyebrows
- 8 head with long split eyebrows
- 9 head with centre fall eyebrows
- 10 clean head
- 11 clean face

#### Trimming methods:

- 12 scissored body coat
- 13 hand-stripped basic body coat
- 14 hand-stripped advanced body coat
- 15 hand-stripped gun dog coat
- 16 clipped body coat
- 17 scissored leg and foot shapes
- 18 scissored/clipped or combination tail
- 19 blending

#### Plan the work in accordance with:

- 20 client request
- 21 breed of dog
- 22 its appearance and condition
- 23 trimming method
- 24 resources
- 25 accommodation for the dog, prior to, during and post grooming

#### Health check:

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- 26 feet, nails and pads
- 27 ear condition
- 28 mouth, teeth and gums
- 29 skin and coat
- 30 internal and external parasites
- 31 eyes
- 32 genital and mammary area
- 33 anal glands
- 34 weight and condition score

### Glossary

#### **Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966):**

It is illegal under the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) for non-veterinary surgeons to practise veterinary surgery.

The Act defines Veterinary Surgery as:

- the diagnosis of diseases in, and injuries to, animals including tests performed on animals for diagnostic purposes;
- the giving of advice based upon such diagnosis;
- the medical or surgical treatment of animals; and
- the performance of surgical operations on animals.

#### **Current animal welfare legislation:**

- England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act 2006
- Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

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<b>Developed by</b>	Lantra
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<b>Version number</b>	2
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<b>Date Approved</b>	January 2014
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<b>Indicative review date</b>	January 2019
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<b>Validity</b>	Current
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<b>Status</b>	Original
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<b>Originating organisation</b>	Lantra
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<b>Original URN</b>	LANAC16
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<b>Relevant occupations</b>	dog grooming
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<b>Suite</b>	Animal Care and Welfare
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<b>Keywords</b>	dog; groom; coat; style
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