

# GROOMER PREP

Grooming shouldn't be a ruff experience! Helping your dog feel comfortable with a groomer is key to stress-free sessions. With some preparation, patience, and positive reinforcement, your pup can learn to enjoy—or at least tolerate—grooming visits.



## Start with At-Home Grooming

Before visiting a groomer, help your dog get used to basic grooming at home. Brush their fur, touch their paws, and clean their ears gently. Always rewarding with treats and praise. The goal is to make grooming feel ruffreshing!

## Gradual Introduction

If possible, visit the groomer ahead of time with your dog just for introductions. Let them explore the space, sniff around, and meet the groomer without undergoing a full session. Some groomers allow dogs to visit for a quick treat or a little social time, making the environment feel familiar before the actual appointment. First impressions are everything after all, and neither of you are looking for a hair-raising experience.



## Choose a Gentle Groomer and Start with Short Sessions

For nervous dogs, start with simple grooming like a quick nail trim or brushing, and slowly increase session time as they adjust. Finding a patient, dog-friendly groomer is key—look for someone who uses calming techniques, treats, and gentle speech. Ask for recommendations and check reviews to find the right fit.

## Use Rewards and Positive Reinforcement

Before, during, and after grooming sessions, reward your dog with treats and praise for calm behavior. Bring a favorite snack and encourage your dog with comforting words. If the groomer allows it, treats during the session can reinforce positive feelings and give your dog something else to focus on.

## Stay Calm and Reassuring

Your dog picks up on your emotions, so stay calm and positive. If you're anxious, they may be too. With patience and a good attitude, grooming can be a sheer delight—your pup will be looking good and feeling great in no time!