

## Hello I'm Melanie

I am absolutely in love with all thing's dogs! I have two perfect fur babies of my own. Delta, my sheltie is 7 years old, and Piper, my pom/chi mix is 3 years old. You might get lucky and see Delta running around in the back of the salon as he "helps" me with my various duties! In our spare time we like to learn lots of tricks, go hiking (mostly in the summer) and help in the garden. I have two great hole diggers!

I started as a dog bather in late 2021 and I am absolutely loving it. I do my best to keep up on everything dog grooming by doing lots of reading and watching videos online. I plan on taking courses and online seminars in the future to further my knowledge and improve my techniques. It is

an always evolving career!

**My favorite part of grooming** is seeing the transformation of the dogs from beginning to end! It is incredible how much of a difference a good groom makes. They get a smile on their face and a bounce in their step when they are all done! I really enjoy bathing poodles and other curly coated dogs, and the smaller double coated dogs! (Specifically, shelties. But I might be biased!) They look so fluffy and cuddle-able when they are done. And the barks and bum wiggles when their owner comes to pick them up are the best!

**The best piece of advice I have** to owners is that if you are unable to keep up on brushing, book them in for more frequent appointments or for a bath and tidy in between! Regular brushing at home is always best, and if you are unsure how to brush at home, there are many great videos on YouTube on correct technique or you can ask the groomer for some recommendations on





tools and techniques!

I think the biggest misconception about my job is that it is easy, playing with puppies. It is a lot of cleaning, to keep things safe and

sanitary for each pet, and requires a lot of knowledge and practice to keep things safe and comfortable. Also, I go home every day covered head to toe in dog hair!

**The groomers at Hair of the Dog** are not only very talented, but they also take a very personalized approach to your dog's groom. Picking special shampoos depending on their fur and their skin is just the beginning. They really spend the time getting to know the dogs, and work with them to help them be more comfortable. The more often they see your dog, the more they notice things that you may not, and can keep you up to date on how your dog's body is changing healthwise. We truly want to help keep them in tip-top shape inside and out!