

IMPORTANCE OF PUPPY GROOMING

By: Michelle Lonergan, Tabby & Jack's

Grooming puppies is a delicate procedure. Here at Tabby & Jack's we make sure your puppy's experience is positive. Puppies should be exposed to grooming procedures at a very young age to ensure they will be prepared for a lifetime of grooming which is essential for good health.

When a puppy is frightened during a grooming procedure, or when they haven't been exposed to grooming until a later age, it becomes a negative experience and they continue to be afraid of grooming for their entire lives.

At Tabby & Jack's we only use all natural, chemical free shampoos. We believe a day at the spa should include the purist products without any harmful chemicals. Some dogs may be sensitive to certain ingredients in shampoos, so we don't take any chances! This is especially important to a puppy's delicate skin.

We only use velocity dryers that are not heated. Cage dryers are never used at Tabby & Jack's, as they can make a dog feel nervous and it is very difficult for them to breath. Exposing a puppy to cage drying at a young age can create a negative experience that can be difficult to reverse. Brushing and talking to the puppy with encouragement while drying them will create a positive experience that your puppy will grow to enjoy!

Finding the right groomer and environment is critical in creating a positive experience. At Tabby & Jack's, we provide a comfortable setting without all the chaos. Too much activity during the grooming can be overwhelming and cause nervousness. Staying for a short period of time is also better for a puppy. At Tabby & Jack's your puppy is ready to go home in ½ hour!

We recommend bringing your puppy in for their first groom between the ages of 8 to 12 weeks. We will perform the Puppy Package which includes gentle exposure to the clippers, dryers, and scissors as well as other grooming procedures. By the age of 6 months, your puppy will be ready for a full groom and it will be enjoyed for years to come.