

Brushes and Coat Types

Using the correct tools for a dog's coat type is essential to conducting a successful grooming session. Pay attention to coat type characteristics as you groom to ensure you are working effectively.

| COAT TYPE | CHARACTERISTICS | RECOMMENDED TOOLS |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Smooth Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Great Dane, Bull Terrier, Grey Hound, Dalmatian, Boston Terrier</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lies close to the body• Short and glossy• Low maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bristle brush• Curry comb• Deshedding tools |
| <p>Short Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Pug, Labrador Retriever, Mastiff, Basset Hound, Rottweiler</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lies close to the body• Coarser topcoat• Soft undercoat | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bristle brush• Curry comb• Deshedding tools |
| <p>Combination Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Cocker Spaniel, Border Collie, Golden Retriever, German Wirehaired Pointer, Brittany</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both short and long hair• Short hair: face, body• Long hair: undercarriage, tail, ears, legs | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>On short-haired areas:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bristle brush- Curry comb- Deshedding tool• <u>On long-haired areas:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">- Slicker brush- in brush |
| <p>Double Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Siberian Husky, Akita, Beauceron, Bernese Mountain Dog, American Eskimo</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coarse outer coat• Thick, soft undercoat• Can be long or short | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slicker brush• Comb• Undercoat rake |
| <p>Heavy Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Collie, Pomeranian, Newfoundland, Malamute, Samoyed, Old English Sheepdog</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thick and dense | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slicker brush• Comb• Deshedding tools |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Silky Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Afghan Hound, Yorkshire Terrier, Irish Setter, Silky Terrier, Maltese</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long and glossy • Very fine • Can be straight or slightly wavy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pin brush • Comb • Slicker brush for minor matting |
| <p>Wire Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> German Wirehaired Pointer, Irish Wolfhound, Standard Schnauzer, Border Terrier, West Highland White Terrier, Scottish Terrier</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough and bristly • Harsh, wiry topcoat • Soft, thick undercoat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slicker brush • Comb • Deshedding tools • Stripping knife (optional) |
| <p>Curly Coat</p> <p><u>Examples:</u> Curly-Coated Retriever, Portuguese Water Dog, Poodle, Bichon Frise, Irish Water Spaniel</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thick, voluminous curls | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slicker brush • Comb |
| <p>Corded Coat</p> <p>Cording does not occur naturally. This technique can be used on curly- coated dog breeds.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thick strands or dreadlocks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None |