



# JOB of the Week



**Job name:** Dog Groomer

**Job description:** Dog groomers keep dogs' hair in good condition and give their owners advice on fur care, grooming and diet.

**Tasks you will undertake in the job:** As a Dog Groomer you'll:

- prepare the dog for bathing
- shampoo and dry the dog's coat
- check for common disorders and parasites
- shape a dog's coat with electric clippers or a stripping knife
- use scissors to trim and style the dog's coat
- manage the dog's behaviour while in your care
- deal with clients, give grooming advice and do administrative tasks

### Working environment

You could work in a salon, at a client's home, at a store or at a veterinary practice.

Your working environment may be dusty and physically demanding.



**Skills required for this job (core competencies):**

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

### Career Progression for Dog Groomers:

With experience and qualifications, you could become self-employed and work from home or become a mobile dog groomer, visiting owners' homes.

You could also open your own salon or teach dog grooming classes.

**Salary:** Dog Groomers are typically paid a starting wage of £13 500, this increases with experience; experienced Dog Groomers can expect to earn approximately £30 000 p.a.



**Working hours:** Working hours are usually around 35-40 hours per week (variable). It is likely that you will work during some evenings and weekends depending on the demand from customers (often working around other people's working days)

## Qualifications to become a Dog Groomer:

You can get into this job through: a college course; an apprenticeship; working towards this role; specialist courses run by private training organisations

**College:** You could take a course in dog grooming like: Level 2 Certificate for Dog Grooming Assistants / Level 3 Diploma in Dog Grooming / Level 4 Higher Professional Diploma in Dog Grooming - These are offered by colleges and private training centres. Entry requirements: 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A\* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course and 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course

**Apprenticeship:** You could get into this job through a dog grooming intermediate apprenticeship. Entry requirements: There are no set entry requirements but it may help you to get in if you have: GCSEs, usually including English and maths, or equivalent, for an intermediate apprenticeship.

**Work:** You could start as an assistant with a qualified and experienced dog groomer and learn on the job.

**Volunteering:** You could get experience by doing voluntary work with dogs in kennels, which can help when applying for courses or jobs.

**Essential skills you need to show:** To succeed as a Dog Groomer, the following personal skills and attributes would give you an advantage:

- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- customer service skills
- the ability to use your initiative, to be flexible and open to change, patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with your hands
- the ability to work well with others
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

**This job in the future:** The workforce is projected to grow by 9.7% over the period to 2027, creating 7,400 jobs. In the same period, 56% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 42,900 job openings.

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