Pet grooming release form

Grooming services

I am the owner of the pet named in this form, or I am authorised by the owner to arrange grooming and to sign this release on their behalf.

I ask **[Grooming Business Name]** to groom my pet at its salon, in its mobile grooming unit or at another location it agrees to.

Grooming services may include:

- Bathing, drying, brushing and de-shedding
- Clipping, scissoring, hand-stripping and breed or style cuts
- Nail trimming or grinding, ear cleaning and paw-pad or sanitary trims
- Dematting, or shaving the coat short where matting cannot be brushed out humanely
- Flea or tick baths and other add-on treatments I request or authorise

I understand that grooming involves water, dryers, sharp tools and restraint, and that the result depends on the condition of my pet's coat and how my pet tolerates being handled.

The groomer may decline, pause or end a grooming session if it reasonably believes that continuing would be unsafe or unduly stressful for my pet, for staff or for other animals. Fees for work already completed may still be charged.

Pet details and vaccinations

I confirm that the information I give about my pet, including breed, age, coat type, health and behaviour, is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

I confirm that my pet is currently vaccinated as required by **[Grooming Business Name]** and by applicable local law, including rabies where required. I agree to provide proof of vaccination on request.

I understand that the groomer may refuse service to a pet whose vaccinations are not up to date, or that shows signs of a contagious illness such as coughing, vomiting, diarrhoea, discharge from the eyes or nose, or skin conditions that could spread to other animals.

Health, age and behaviour disclosure

I agree to tell the groomer before every appointment about anything that may affect safe grooming, including:

- Heart, breathing, seizure or other medical conditions
- Arthritis, hip or joint problems, recent surgery or injuries
- Skin conditions, allergies, hot spots, lumps, warts or sensitive areas
- Ear or eye problems, poor sight or hearing loss
- Pregnancy, or a recent season or birth
- Medication my pet is taking
- Anxiety, fear of dryers or clippers, or sensitivity to handling of the feet, face or ears
- Any history of biting, snapping, scratching or aggression toward people or other animals

I understand that grooming can be physically and emotionally demanding, and that standing, restraint, bathing and drying can bring out or worsen existing health problems.

The groomer is not a veterinarian. It may point out a lump, a skin problem or another concern it notices, but it cannot diagnose or treat medical conditions.

Matted coats and shave-down release

Matting is fur that has tangled tightly against the skin. I understand that removing severe matting can be uncomfortable for my pet and may reveal problems hidden under the coat.

If my pet's coat is matted, the groomer may recommend a short clip or full shave-down instead of dematting by brushing. I understand that shaving a matted coat may:

- Reveal existing cuts, sores, bruising, redness, skin infections or parasites under the matting
- Cause skin irritation, redness, itching or clipper rash after the groom
- Lead to nicks or small cuts, because matted skin can be pulled into folds close to the clipper
- Cause a haematoma in the ears when a pet shakes its head after heavy matting is removed
- Leave my pet sensitive to sun and cold until the coat grows back
- Affect how the coat grows back in some breeds, particularly double-coated breeds

I authorise the groomer to shave matted areas or the whole coat when it believes this is the most humane option, and I accept that my pet's appearance may differ from the style I requested.

I understand that a shave-down or dematting may be charged at an additional fee, as set out in the groomer's price list or explained before the work begins.

Senior pets and pets with health conditions

Grooming older pets, and pets with medical conditions, carries a higher risk of stress, fatigue or a medical event during or after the appointment.

I understand that the groomer may shorten the session, give extra breaks, skip certain services or ask me to collect my pet early to limit stress.

I accept that grooming may reveal or aggravate an existing condition in a senior or unwell pet, and that the groomer cannot guarantee that a pet will not become ill or collapse during or after grooming.

The groomer may ask for written approval from my veterinarian before grooming a pet with certain health conditions.

Grooming risks

Even with careful handling, grooming carries some risk of injury or reaction. I understand that possible risks include:

- Small nicks, cuts or scratches from clippers, scissors or blades, especially around matting, skin folds, warts and moving pets
- Clipper burn, razor rash, redness or itching after clipping
- Nail bleeding when a nail is trimmed close to the quick, particularly with dark nails or long nails
- Reactions to shampoos, conditioners or products, including in pets with sensitive skin or undisclosed allergies
- Ear irritation or infection after bathing or ear cleaning
- Stress, panting, overheating, vomiting or loose stool caused by anxiety
- Injury caused by sudden movement, jumping or struggling on a table or in a tub
- Aggravation of existing conditions, such as joint, heart or breathing problems

I understand that the groomer cannot eliminate every risk, and I voluntarily accept the ordinary risks of grooming.

Handling, muzzling and aggressive pets

I understand that the groomer will use reasonable handling and restraint to keep my pet and its staff safe, which may include grooming loops, tables, tubs and crates.

I authorise the groomer to use a muzzle or other reasonable restraint if my pet tries to bite, snaps or becomes difficult to handle safely.

If my pet bites, attempts to bite or behaves aggressively, the groomer may:

- Stop the groom and contact me to collect my pet, even if the groom is unfinished
- Charge for the work already completed, along with any handling fee in its price list
- Decline future appointments or require extra time or conditions for them

I accept responsibility for injury or damage caused by my pet's behaviour where I failed to disclose a known history of biting or aggression.

No sedation

I understand that **[Grooming Business Name]** does not sedate pets and does not give any medication to calm a pet.

I agree not to give my pet a sedative for grooming unless my veterinarian has prescribed it, and I agree to tell the groomer if my pet has been given any medication before the appointment.

If my pet cannot be groomed safely without sedation, the groomer may recommend grooming at a veterinary practice.

Fleas, ticks and parasites

If fleas, ticks, lice or other parasites are found on my pet, I authorise the groomer to apply a flea or tick bath or another suitable treatment from its range, and to charge the treatment fee set out in its price list.

I understand that the groomer may also charge a fee for cleaning and treating its equipment and grooming area.

A groomer's treatment is not a substitute for ongoing parasite prevention, and I am responsible for treating my pet, my home and other animals as my veterinarian advises.

Emergency veterinary care

If my pet becomes ill or injured while in the groomer's care, I authorise **[Grooming Business Name]** to:

- Stop grooming and give reasonable first aid
- Try to contact me or my emergency contact
- Take my pet to my veterinarian, or to the nearest available veterinary practice or emergency clinic if mine cannot be reached or is not available
- Share relevant information about my pet with the treating veterinarian

I understand that the groomer cannot guarantee that I will be reached before my pet receives emergency care.

I agree to pay for veterinary examination, treatment and transport costs, except where the illness or injury was caused by the groomer's negligence or where applicable law provides otherwise.

Photos and social media

I understand that the groomer may take photos or videos of my pet before, during and after grooming to record its coat condition, matting, existing marks or injuries.

I can choose below whether the groomer may also use photos or videos of my pet on its website and social media. My own name and contact details will not be published without my separate consent.

Pickup, late collection and payment

I agree to collect my pet at the time the groomer gives me, or as soon as possible after being told my pet is ready.

I understand that the groomer may charge a late pickup fee as set out in its price list, and that my pet may be kept in a crate or kennel while it waits.

If I cannot be reached and do not collect my pet by the end of the business day, I authorise the groomer to arrange overnight boarding or veterinary care at my expense.

I agree to pay for all grooming services, add-ons and fees described in this form at the time of collection, unless another arrangement has been agreed.

Assumption of risk

I knowingly and voluntarily accept the ordinary risks of grooming, including the risks described in this form.

I accept responsibility for injury, illness, loss or complications caused or materially contributed to by:

- Information about my pet's health, age, behaviour or vaccinations that I withheld or provided inaccurately
- My pet's pre-existing conditions, including conditions revealed by grooming or shaving
- Severe matting that required a shave-down or caused skin problems
- My pet's aggressive or unpredictable behaviour
- Medication or sedation given to my pet without telling the groomer

---

Liability release

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, I release **[Grooming Business Name]** and its owners, groomers, bathers, employees, contractors and representatives from claims arising solely from:

- The ordinary risks of grooming knowingly accepted in this form
- Skin irritation, nicks or clipper rash associated with removing matting or clipping difficult coats
- Conditions revealed or aggravated by grooming, including in senior or unwell pets
- Information about my pet that I withheld or provided inaccurately
- My pet's behaviour, including injury to my pet while it was struggling or resisting reasonable handling

This release does not exclude or limit liability that cannot legally be excluded or limited.

It does not apply to fraud, intentional misconduct, gross negligence, animal cruelty, violations of mandatory consumer rights or any other liability that applicable law prohibits the groomer from waiving.

Privacy and recordkeeping

I understand that the groomer may collect and keep information about me and my pet where reasonably necessary to:

- Manage appointments, grooming notes and preferences
- Record vaccinations, health and behaviour information
- Record coat condition, matting and existing injuries
- Contact me or my emergency contact
- Respond to incidents, complaints or legal claims
- Meet insurance, business and legal obligations

Information will be handled according to the groomer's privacy notice and applicable data-protection laws.

Final declaration

By completing and signing this form, I confirm that:

- I own the pet or am authorised to sign for its owner.
- The information about my pet is complete and accurate.

- My pet’s vaccinations are up to date as the groomer requires.
- I understand the risks of grooming, including shaving matted coats and grooming senior pets.
- I authorise reasonable handling, muzzling and emergency veterinary care where necessary.
- I agree to pay for services, treatments and fees described in this form.
- This release applies to future appointments unless I tell the groomer otherwise or the groomer asks me to sign a new form.
- I understand that this form does not remove rights or protections that cannot legally be waived.

Owner and pet completion

Contact details

First name *

Last name *

Phone

Email *

Pet’s name *

Breed, age and weight *

Species *

- ◯ Dog
- ◯ Cat
- ◯ Other

Date of last rabies vaccination

Veterinarian name and phone number

Emergency contact name and phone number *

Health conditions, allergies, medication or behaviour the groomer should know about

Has your pet ever bitten or tried to bite a person or another animal? *

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Photo and video consent *

- ◯ I allow photos and videos of my pet on the groomer’s website and social media
- ◯ Use photos and videos for grooming records only

☐ I have read, understood and agree to the Pet Grooming Release Form above. I confirm that the information provided is accurate, that I am the owner or am authorised to sign for the owner, and that I authorise grooming, including shaving matted coats and emergency veterinary care where necessary. *

Signature *