

Pawcassö

Professional Cat & Dog Grooming



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Tips, advice and some fun facts about our best little friends who mean so much to us!

A warm hello to you and your little friends!

No doubt you and your dogs will be spending a little more time indoors now. So in this issue there are some tips to help keep our dogs happy and healthy as housemates.

Just like ourselves sometimes, dogs can get a little stir-crazy when it's dreary out and they've nothing to do but lounge around indoors. They'll soon find ways to entertain themselves though, but more often than not, their idea of fun is the exact opposite of what we'd have them do.

The signs of boredom are fairly easy to spot. They'll groan, sigh, or sit and paw at you even though they've already eaten and been out to the toilet. When that yields no results, they're off to rummage through the bin, chase the cat, and play tug of war with the socks you've dropped! And, sometimes, telling them 'no' isn't enough to stop them. Without mental and physical stimulation, they simply cannot stop themselves.

Spending a little time with them playing games can really make a world of difference, and it's certainly much easier and more fun than repeatedly correcting unwanted behaviours. Fun things to do with them include playing hide and seek, teaching them new tricks, creating a scavenger hunt with toys and treats, and setting up obstacle courses. These activities not only wear them out, they give us a pleasant break from the daily grind as well as a chance to bond.

A few new toys can also really brighten their days. If you tend to avoid buying them because they tear through them so quickly, you might want to consider getting a big bunch of inexpensive ones and letting them go wild with them. The 'tough, long-lasting, tear-proof, super durable' toys are really good too because the dog can rarely destroy them and make a mess.

Solid bones with a meaty filling can also last much, much longer than thin or rolled rawhides; however, they also require monitoring to ensure safety from splinters. You may need to experiment with different brands and materials to find those that are both enjoyable and durable for your dogs.

With Christmas quickly approaching, there's a lot more to keep in mind regarding safety and good behaviours. Stay tuned for next month's issue, which will be full of tips and tricks on making the most of Christmas and the New Year with friends, family, and our wonderful pets.

Morag & Star. XXX

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- 5 Tips for a Hair-Free Home!
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- Doggy Dental Checks!
- Paranormal Research? Dogs Do That, Too!

BOOK NOW FOR CHRISTMAS!

We are always busy during the whole month of December so please book early to avoid disappointment.



Did You Know?

The plastic food bowls we use for our pets can absorb germs as well as odours. Washing them with dish soap and hot water throughout the week helps prevent this. Stainless steel bowls are a better option, however. They also require cleaning, of course, but they are easier to clean and last much longer than their plastic counterparts.



**City & Guilds
Qualified**

We are approved members of the Pet Care Trust and British Dog Groomers Association. So you can have peace of mind knowing that while your dog is in our care it will be groomed to the highest standard and will be given the greatest level of care at all times.

"Want them looking their best all through November? Give us a call, please do remember!"

**A CHEAP GROOM IS NEVER GOOD
AND
A GOOD GROOM IS NEVER CHEAP**



Doggy Dental Checks!

Checking the inside of a dog's mouth can be a lot like trying to convince children to brush their teeth. They don't see the point and want no part of it. However, it really is important for their health (and breath).

Ideally, their teeth should be wiped clean at least once weekly. Gently massaging their muzzle with your fingers can help warm them up to the idea. A little doggy toothpaste on a damp cloth helps wipe tartar away, but even a damp cloth alone can make a difference.

Cleaning their teeth also gives you a chance to check for problems that are easier to treat when caught early. Inspect the colour of their gums. They should be pink and may have some natural grey or black marks. Redness or paleness can indicate gingivitis and other health issues.

A build-up of yellow, brown, black or green on their teeth should also be checked. The plaque can lead to loose teeth, cavities, and abscesses, which are incredibly painful in some cases. A light cleaning can be done during grooming; however, you may want to consider a deep cleaning by the vet at least once yearly.

A good diet and supply of bones can also help keep plaque build-up to a minimum.

COMPETITION!

Did you see our spread and competition in the Milngavie & Bearsden Herald this month???

The lucky winner was Lynne Stear and her beautiful long haired cat. He was so sweet and well behaved and seemed to enjoy his pamper session.

Thanks to everyone for entering, especially Lynne.

**NEW SEASON COATS AND JUMPERS
HAVE ARRIVED!!!!**

We stock Ancol coats which are hardwearing and excellent quality. Don't let your pooch get shivers this winter. Be prepared.

If we don't have your size in stock we can order for you. Our prices are very competitive.



SPCA APPEAL

We are collecting anything animal related for Dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters etc....(old or new)

- Toys**
- Collars & leads**
- Coats**
- Treats**
- Foodstuffs (opened or new)**
- Donations of money (every penny counts)**

We are also collecting old towels or blankets for the PDSA Glasgow Animal Hospital.

Please hand in to either :- The Training Club Instructors at the CE Centre, Allander Road, Milngavie on Weds & Thurs evenings 7-10pm.

Pawcasso Cat & Dog Grooming Salon, 990 Crow Road, Anniesland. Mondays- Saturdays 9.00 -17.00

If you don't have transport call Morag Brown for a collection in the local area 07711 200554

If you are interested in re-homing a pet from the shelters call - **03000 999 999** or visit the website

<http://www.scottishspca.org/> Thanks so much

5 Tips for Keeping a Hair-Free Home!

For many of us, dogs are a part of our families, so we're happy to share the sofa with them and give them hugs when we leave or come home. Unfortunately, even when they're not allowed on the furniture, their hair tends to end up everywhere...

1. Quick Fixes – A damp sponge, fabric softener sheet or rubber glove pulled in one direction on furniture or clothing usually puts all the hair in a single pile you can pluck right off. Sometimes it works even better than a sticky roller.

2. Vacuuming – Unless your vacuum has special attachments for hair, it may not pick up as much as you'd like. Try adding a few drops of liquid fabric softener to a bottle of water, shake it and spray it on the area, let it sit a while, and then vacuum. It should come right up! A static guard on upholstery can also make it come off easier.

3. Extra Towels – Keeping towels or blankets in your pet's favourite spots can save you lots of time on cleaning. They'll collect most the hair and protect your floors and upholstery. Simply shake them outside and toss them in the wash each week.

4. Brushing – Nothing controls hair like a good brushing. A slicker brush or one with soft bristles is usually best for gathering excess hair in the coat, though it depends on your breed. Aim to brush them daily while outside. Ruffling the coat a bit will loosen the hairs they've shed from the undercoat as well.

5. Grooming – A rich bath and thorough drying leaves the coat sleek and shiny, with very little excess hair. A trimming also reduces the amount of clumps and loose mats that fall to the floor. If your dog has a thick undercoat and sheds a lot, you might consider having it thinned or raked also. Having them groomed regularly will greatly reduce the amount of hair left indoors.

Quiz

Guess which dog is considered to have each trait.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Hairiest Dog | A. Chow Chow |
| 2. Smartest Breed | B. Old English Sheepdog |
| 3. Least Hairy Dog | C. Basset Hound |
| 4. Black Tongue | D. Xolo |
| 5. Smallest Breed | E. Border Collie |
| 6. Longest Ears | F. Chihuahua |

Doggy Humour!

A Labrador walked into a telegram office, took a blank card from the desk, and wrote, 'Woof. Woof. Woof. Woof, woof, woof. Woof. Woof. Woof'. The clerk looked at the card and said, 'You might as well add another woof. Ten words is the same price as nine'. 'But,' the dog replied, 'then my message would make no sense at all'.

I'll Have Some, Too, Please?

Dogs are firm believers that they need to have some of whatever it is you're eating. If you'd rather not have them trying to stick their noses in your meal, standing beneath your feet as you're cooking, or sitting there looking longingly at your dish as you eat, there are a few things you can do to curb the behaviour.

Ask them to go lay down. Some will lie at your feet and continue to nudge or even whine. In this case, physically direct them away from the table or to another room, and praise them for sitting and staying. Once you've finished eating, you can give them a treat if you'd like. What's most important is that you don't give them a bite while you're eating—at any time. Even if you only do so on occasion, they get the idea that persistence will pay off. The behaviour is much easier to break if you're strict about what is and is not acceptable.

Another trick is to schedule their meals around your own. If they're busy gulping down on their own food, they're less likely to concern themselves with yours. Dogs who are simply obsessed with human foods are not as quick to fall for this, however. Some will ignore their bowls and seemingly go on a 'hunger strike'. But again, if you're consistent in your own behaviours, they will change theirs.

Pampering the Paws!

If your dog's paw pads tend to get dry and cracked during the winter, you may want to start using a balm on them this month. Keep in mind, however, that overly moisturizing them can actually cause problems.

Dogs need their pads to be tough, and there's nothing unhealthy about them having rough skin. It's when they split, peel, and bleed that they need extra care.

With the cold and wet weather, now's a good time to get the long hairs on their paws trimmed up, too. Rather than keeping them warm, those hairs tend to get full of mud and knots instead.

ADVERTISE HERE!

This newsletter goes out to over 750 cat & dog owners every month. If you have a product or service that could benefit our clients then please contact us.

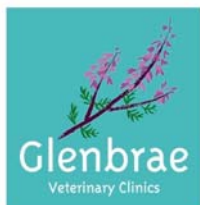
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If you know of anyone that you think could benefit from my services or who may like to read this newsletter then please pass this copy on to them.

Maybe when you've finished reading it you could leave it in a place where others might get to read and enjoy it as well. What about in your hairdressers, dentist or doctors' reception. Or could you take it to your work so that your colleagues could benefit from it as well.

It's always good to reuse and recycle so by passing this newsletter on or leaving it where others could get to read it really would be benefiting everyone.

Newsletter Copyright!

This newsletter is provided to you every month so that I can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining and useful.

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So I'm afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, I'd be grateful if you'd let me know.

6.	5.	4.	3.	2.	1.	Quiz
C	F	A	D	E	B	Key



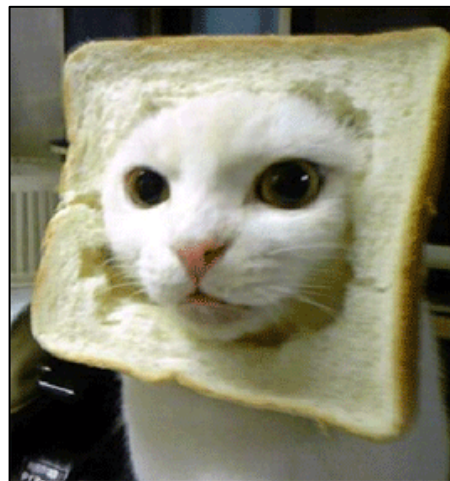
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INBRED CAT!!!!!!!

Thanks to Linda Cormack for this great photo



Get This Newsletter Every Month!

To continue providing you with information, help and a little bit of fun about cats & dogs, we publish this newsletter at the beginning of every month. There will always be a copy available for you. So, in a month that's between your appointments please drop in to pick one up (it'll be nice to catch up as well). Or if you'd like your newsletter emailed to you every month just leave me your email address or request your newsletter by sending me an email. Once you're on my list I'll send you a copy every month.

To make an appointment or if you just want to ask a question please contact me at:

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