

CARING FOR THE DOUBLE COAT.

Double-coated dogs can present a challenge when grooming. Here are some great tips to keep that coat clean, healthy and matt-free.

1. Before the bath, use an Andis Deshedding Tool to remove loose hair; this will make it easier to bathe and blow dry.
2. Use a quality shampoo and conditioner. These products have come a long way for pets and will help the hair retain shine and moisture, while keeping the skin healthy. Shampoo and rinse well, making sure all soap is out of the pet's hair. Follow with conditioner and use an Andis Deshedder while the conditioner is in the coat.
3. After the final rinse and towel dry, use a High Velocity Dryer. An HV Dryer will blow out excess undercoat that was not removed during the bathing process. A hand-held dryer will work, but it will take much longer to do the same thing.
4. When the pet is completely dry, brush out the coat with an Andis Slicker brush, always following with a steel comb. Be sure to comb the hair all the way down to the skin. Another quick run-through with an Andis Deshedder will complete the job.
5. Depending on the breed, daily or weekly brushing and combing is essential to keeping the coat matt-free.
6. If you choose to clip the dog all over, it is not recommended to shave close to the skin. The dog's coat acts as an insulator regulating their temperature in hot or cold weather, and it also protects the animal from sun exposure and parasites. In addition, some double coats will not grow back in properly. Using a heavy-duty clipper such as the Andis UltraEdge® AGC® Super 2-Speed or Pulse ZR® II on double coats will get you the best results. Try longer blade lengths such as a 3-3/4 or 4 blade, or use a #1 or #2 attachment comb over a 10 or 30 blade.

