

SHAMPOO APPLICATION AND BATHING GUIDE

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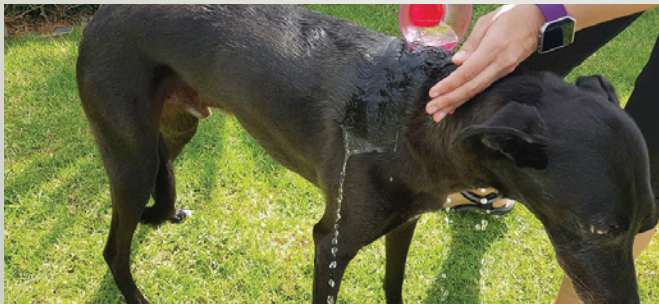
These guidelines were created to help you make bathing as stress-free as possible for your dog.

Bathe where the dog feels the most comfortable, e.g. in the back yard, in the bath or sink.

Put the dog in a happy mental state prior to bathing by giving treats, taking for a walk or playing with them.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Prepare all items required so that you won't need to leave the dog unattended later.
- Items you might need include: collar, lead, treats, shampoo, apron and gloves, rinsing water, timer or clock, and towels.
- Brush long haired dogs.
- Use a non-slip mat or towel to stand on.
- If filling a bath or sink, ensure water isn't too warm as hot water creates more inflammation that can increase itchiness. The ideal temperature is tepid to cool.



STEP 1: WET THE DOG

- The dog should be completely wet prior to applying shampoo.
- Wet from collar back: NO running water on head.
- Putting cotton wool in the ears does not stop water from going in them!

Pre-washing may be needed for some animals prior to medicated shampoo being applied, depending on coat condition.

STEP 2: APPLY THE SHAMPOO

- AVOID putting a stripe of shampoo down back.
 - It can be helpful to dilute the shampoo in a separate container/jug prior to application.
 - Diluting prevents over-using shampoo and allows equal distribution of product.
 - Dilute by approximately 50% or more prior to application on the skin.
- Some medicated shampoos don't lather as well as others - adding more water often helps improve the products ability to spread and lather.



STEP 3: CLEANING THE DOG

- Apply shampoo to the dog's most affected areas of skin disease first.
- In many cases this is the paws, axillary and inguinal areas (groin and underside).
- Feet can be washed separately in a container.
- Sponges/facecloths make bathing the face and under the tail easier. These are important places to bathe as they can harbor bacteria and yeast.
- In short coated breeds, do not scrub against the lay of the hair as this can irritate the hair follicles.

- Leave the shampoo on for the required contact time as advised by your vet or the manufacturer's recommendations.

Try to make this an enjoyable time for your dog, distract them by taking for a short walk, play with them, give them a massage or offer a healthy treat.

- Once shampoo has had correct contact time, rinse thoroughly ensuring no shampoo is left in the coat.



STEP 4: DRYING

- Allow the dog to shake excess water off.
- Try to prevent dogs from rubbing themselves on the carpet or grass if at all possible to avoid matting and contamination.

- Towel dry and avoid rubbing against the lay of the coat in short haired animals.
- Taking a short walk will often help dry the pet faster.

DON'T!

- ✗ Put a stripe of shampoo along the dog's back.
- ✗ Put running water on head.
- ✗ Put cotton wool in ears!
- ✗ Scrub against the lay of the hair.
- ✗ Use hot/very warm water.

DO!

- ✓ Try to make it an enjoyable(ish!) experience for the animal.
- ✓ Wet animal thoroughly before application of shampoo.
- ✓ Pre-wash if needed.
- ✓ Dilute shampoo prior to application.
- ✓ Apply to affected areas of dog first.
- ✓ Observe contact time.
- ✓ Rinse thoroughly.



To find out how to look after your dog's skin and coat, talk to your vet and visit nz.virbac.com/skin_science