

Work With
Living Things

Pet Groomer

Other names for this job

Cat groomer, dog groomer

What do pet groomers do?

Pet groomers shampoo and clip dogs, cats and other pets. They make animals look good and feel good. Pet groomers work in grooming businesses, vet clinics, large pet stores or kennels.

Meet a pet groomer

Ann is a pet groomer. She works for a pet grooming business.

Here are things that Ann does:

- She makes appointments with pet owners.
- She talks to the pet owners. She asks questions about each pet.
- She decides how to groom each pet.
- She bathes pets. She chooses the best shampoo for each pet.
- She cuts, combs and blow-dries the pets' fur.

- She cleans pets' ears. She trims their nails.
- She takes care of her scissors, clippers and other **equipment**.

tip

Do you see words in **bold**?
You can look up these words at
alis.alberta.ca/ERdictionary.



What is Ann's work like?

Ann works part time. Sometimes she works evenings and weekends.

Each pet has an appointment. Ann has to finish each appointment on time. Then she has to get ready for the next pet.

Ann has to be strong. She has to lift and carry pets and cages. The pets may weigh up to 20 kilograms (about 45 pounds). Sometimes a pet bites or scratches her.

Ann uses her hands and arms when she grooms the pets. Sometimes her hands and arms get very tired.

Ann often gets dirty and wet. Sometimes she finds insects on the pets. For example, fleas. Sometimes the pets smell bad, too.



Do you want to be a pet groomer?

- You need to be healthy and strong. You must be fit. For example, you have to lift and carry animals and cages.
- You must not be allergic to dogs and cats.
- You must like working with animals. You must be gentle and **patient**. You must not be afraid of them.
- You need to be quick. For example, a dog may try to bite you.
- You have to talk to the pet owners. You must be polite.
- You must follow rules. For example, rules about how to clean equipment.
- You should have **experience** with animals. You should know about different kinds of animals. You should know about taking care of them.

What education do pet groomers need?

Most pet groomers learn on the job. They don't need a high school **diploma**. Some people start by bathing animals at a grooming business. Then they may become pet groomers.

You can ask your **career advisor** or tutor about being a pet groomer. You can ask about training, too.

What can pet groomers do in the future?

Pet groomers can work in grooming businesses, vet clinics, large pet stores or kennels.

Some pet groomers start their own business.

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How much does a pet groomer make?

A pet groomer usually makes between \$11.20 and \$30.00 per hour.

Other jobs to think about

Animal care attendants work in animal shelters, pet shops, vet clinics and other places. They take care of animals. For example, animal care attendants feed and clean the animals. Attendants clean the cages. They take dogs for walks.

Farm workers take care of farm animals. For example, they feed and milk cows. They feed poultry (chicken, ducks and turkeys). They operate farm equipment. They repair farm buildings. They help plant and harvest crops.

Swine technicians take care of pigs. They feed the pigs. They make sure the pigs are healthy. They clean the pig barns. They get the pigs ready to sell.

Do you want more information?

You can find the information below at alis.alberta.ca/occinfo. Or you can ask your career advisor or tutor.

- OCCinfo profile: Pet Groomer
- Easy Reading Dictionary

You can also ask your career advisor or tutor about jobs that are like Pet Groomer.

