

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

What grooming equipment do you recommend for my poodle?

Firstly, I recommend that any inexperienced poodle owners take their puppies to a professional groomer. This should happen right away! This ensures that your puppy gets used to grooming through experienced hands, a different environment and therefore socialization, and overall health and safety of the dog.

Some items you can choose to purchase to lessen the amount of time your dog spends at the groomer and may be beneficial for coat maintenance are:

1. **Spectrum 10 Shampoo:** This is by Chris Christensen and is a formula that you dilute with water 16:1. It is an overall good shampoo for all hair types. If you don't bathe your poodle more than once a month, shampoo with this twice in one bath. Use your fingers to push down to the skin and through the hair. Do not rub in a circular motion to avoid creating mats in the coat.
2. **Spectrum 10 Conditioner:** This is also by Chris Christensen. You can also dilute this formula slightly so avoid not spreading the conditioner evenly across the coat. Make sure to leave on for 5-10 minutes to get the benefits of the conditioner in the coat. Overall, you do not need to use a conditioner, but for ease of brushing, softness of coat, etc. it is something I do keep on hand. Note: Conditioning the coat makes for extended drying time.
3. **Drying:** I have a high velocity dog dryer. Any brand/make will work. The more functions the better, in my opinion. I like having the option for heat and varied air speeds. Note: It is best to dry the dog by lightly squeezing the hair to remove water. The more you rub the towel over the dog, the more chance for mats. Once you have gone over the entire dog, let them shake the water off in a clean space. This will greatly decrease the dampness that you would otherwise have to dry off with a dryer. When using a high velocity dryer. Avoid doing the face and ears. Often it is good practice to temporarily add cotton balls in the ears to lessen the noise of the dryer and/or cover the dog's ears with a snood option.
4. **Ear Cleaners:** Any general dog ear cleaner will work. Do not use Qtips, but cotton pads or balls are perfect for cleaning out ears.
5. **Brushes:** Any normal pin brush with soft, not sharp or too hard of bristles is good for general coat maintenance. A straight grooming comb with two widths between the tines at each end is good for checking that you have all the mats out of the coat. For fluffing, line brushing, etc. I recommend the Chris Christensen Big G Coral Slicker brush. It is fairly expensive, but a great design and not too sharp for a slicker brush. Note: It is important to watch videos on how to properly brush your dog with a slicker. Make sure any brush you buy passes the scratch test by testing the brush on your bare arm before you put it on the dog. If the brush hurts you, it will hurt the dog.



Chris Christensen Oval Pin Brush, 27mm

Visit the Chris Christensen Store
★★★★★ 1,159 ratings

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Material Wood, Metal
Brand Chris Christensen
Item Weight 0.2 Pounds
Shape Oval
Handle Material Wood

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a.



Chris Christensen 000 Fine/Coarse Buttercomb | 7 1/2 inch Pet Grooming Comb made with Stainless Steel | Great Finishing Dog Comb | Removes Tangles and Knots Combs for Grooming All Breeds of Dogs

b.



Chris Christensen - Big G Slicker Brush - Large

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★★★★★ 2,577 ratings

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Color Coral
Hair Type Curly
Brand CHRIS CHRISTENSEN
Item Weight 0.25 Pounds

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VIDEO

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6. Detangling Spray: I do not generally use a detangling spray or leave in conditioner. There are tons on the market, specifically Chris Christian's Ice on Ice is fairly good.
7. Toenail Clipping: In general, I prefer to use a nail grinder for my dogs. It slowly removes part of the nail, so you can start to see if you are getting close to the quick. If you prefer to use a clipper, I recommend using regular nail clippers for humans until the puppy is older. Then, I would move on to the clippers like the ones below. I prefer to not use the guillotine type of clipper.



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8. Hair Clippers: WAHL. I truly believe that they have the best quality clippers on the market. I am no expert in clippers or grooming, but I have a few versions of this brand's clippers at home. All work really well. As with anything, proper

maintenance and training is key for using clippers on your dog. I may be a bit biased as Wahls's headquarters are in my hometown, but I truly stand by their products.



Wahl Professional Animal Creativa Cordless Dog, Cat, Pet, and Horse Clipper with 5-in-1 Adjustable Blade

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