

Matted Coat Waiver

Waiver for de-matting or shave-down of severely matted pet coats with acknowledgment of associated risks

Client Information

First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

Phone Number *

Date of Birth *

MM / DD / YYYY

Pet Information

Pet's Name *

Breed *

Matting Severity (as assessed by groomer) *

- ☐ Moderate — mats in some areas, may be brushed out
- ☐ Severe — extensive matting, close shave required
- ☐ Pelted — coat is matted to the skin over large areas

Areas Affected by Matting *

- ☐ Behind ears
- ☐ Legs
- ☐ Belly/underside
- ☐ Armpits
- ☐ Tail
- ☐ Back/body
- ☐ Full body (pelted)

Risks of De-Matting / Shave-Down

Important Information About Matted Coats:

Severely matted coats are a welfare concern for your pet. Mats pull on the skin, restrict blood flow, trap moisture, and can hide skin infections, parasites, sores, or wounds.

Risks of De-Matting/Shaving a Matted Coat:

- Skin irritation, redness, and razor burn — matted coats pull skin tight, making it very difficult to clip without some irritation
- Nicks, cuts, or abrasions — matted hair pulls skin into unnatural positions, increasing the risk of cutting even with careful grooming
- Hidden skin conditions — hematomas, sores, hot spots, or wounds may be discovered under mats that were not visible before
- Bruising — from mats that have restricted blood flow; releasing the mats may cause bruising as circulation returns
- Behavioral changes — the pet may scratch, lick, or bite at newly exposed skin due to unfamiliar sensation
- Uneven coat regrowth — the coat may grow back with a different texture or unevenly
- Sunburn risk — newly exposed skin is vulnerable to sunburn; protective clothing or limited sun exposure recommended

The groomer will use their professional judgment to prioritize your pet's comfort and safety. In most cases of severe matting, a close shave is the most humane option rather than attempting to brush out painful mats.

I understand that de-matting or shaving a severely matted coat carries risks including nicks, skin irritation, and the discovery of hidden skin conditions. I authorize the groomer to proceed.

I understand the risks associated with de-matting or shave-down: _____

Authorization

I authorize the following: *

- ☐ Full shave-down — shave the coat short and start fresh
- ☐ Attempt de-matting first; shave only if necessary
- ☐ Groomer's professional recommendation

Additional notes or concerns

Preventing Future Matting:

To keep your pet's coat healthy and mat-free, we recommend:

- Regular brushing at home (daily for long-coated breeds)
- Professional grooming every 4-8 weeks
- Using a slicker brush and metal comb
- Paying special attention to friction areas (behind ears, armpits, collar area)
- Scheduling an appointment before mats become severe

I acknowledge the groomer's recommendations for preventing future matting and understand the importance of regular grooming maintenance.

I have received guidance on preventing future matting: _____

Consent & Signature

I authorize the groomer to de-mat or shave my pet's coat as described above. I understand the risks involved and release the grooming facility and its staff from liability for any skin irritation, nicks, or conditions revealed during the de-matting process. I accept responsibility for my pet's aftercare.

I confirm I have read and understood the above information and give my informed consent.

I have read and understand the above information: _____

Signature

Date

Print name

Date *

MM / DD / YYYY

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