



# Fur Babies News

*Tips, advice and some fun facts about our best little friends who mean so much to us!*

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Can you believe that Christmas time is here already? Isn't this just the best time of year for little children? Seeing the delight on their faces as they open their presents from Santa is just wonderful. For us, having all the visitors, turkey dinners and the hustle and bustle of it all brings lots of warmth and happiness. We really hope it's a lovely time for you too.

Of course it's a pretty exciting time for our dogs, too, as they get to spend a lot more time with us during the holidays. Some will especially enjoy all the mischief they can get into with the gifts and decorations.

While it's great to relax and enjoy Christmas, it's also worth taking a little extra care with our dogs over this period. A change in routine and all the new strange objects in our homes can provide extra risks for our dogs. So, here are a few pointers to make sure your little buddy has an enjoyable and safe Christmas too.

First of all keep an eye on your Christmas tree, especially if you see that your dog loves it as much as you do. It's not hard to imagine a large dog running towards it and knocking it right over! Of course, there's always the lights and bulbs and tinsel to watch, too, because dogs can really hurt themselves when they mistake them for new chew toys.

The holiday season brings a temporary change in routine for many dogs, so it's not surprising that some get anxious over the new and noisy kids' toys or over all the family gatherings. If you'll have lots of excited little children in your home this season, maybe remind them to play gently near the dogs and to slowly introduce them to their new toys. While a remote control car whizzing along the floor can be hilarious for children, it can be absolutely terrifying for dogs!

It's likely your dog will beg for a bite of that delicious turkey dinner. The occasional scrap of dog-friendly food won't hurt them a bit if you want to give them a special treat—just be very careful with turkey leftovers, because dogs tend to get right to the bones and can get them lodged in their throats. It's best to give them a little piece of the meat that has no bones in it if you want to give them something tasty to enjoy with the family. Remind the kids, too, that chocolate agrees with them much more than it does with dogs!

Anyway, the most important thing this holiday is that you really enjoy it and that you, your family and your dog stay safe and well. We really do hope you get plenty of time to relax and spend precious time with your family because, before you know it, we'll be starting a New Year once again. Have fun and have a lovely holiday season!

*Sincerely, Shona, Denise and the staff of Fur Babies*

## Fur Babies Dog Grooming

456 Vodden St. E Brampton, Ontario

**Tel: 905-792-0428**

[www.furbabiesdoggrooming.com](http://www.furbabiesdoggrooming.com)

### Don't Forget you Fur Babies at Christmas!

We have extended our store hours for the month of December. Our retail area is now open 8:30 am - 7:00 pm Tuesday-Friday and from 9:00am-2:00pm on Saturday. We have a great selection of toys, treats and canine apparel.

### The Fur Babies Coat Collection has Arrived!

We have some of the most unique, stylish and exclusive dog coats anywhere! Most of our coats are handmade by one of our



clients and this year she has outdone herself.

With everything from pink argyle fleece, to faux suede with reflective strips to beautiful faux furs so soft and fluffy and all reasonably priced.

### CHRISTMAS FUR-TOGRAPHY SPECIAL



- 1- 8 x 10
  - 2- Christmas cards
- Only \$19.99

*"Man's best friend is what we say, so let's treat them well on Christmas Day"*

## **IF YOU ARE NEW TO THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO READ THIS PAGE AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT WE COULD DO FOR YOU AND YOUR PET!**

### **Five Important points to look for when choosing a good Dog Groomer!**

It's important to remember that not all groomers are the same and that the service they provide will not always be what you'd expect. It's so important that the person who grooms and cares for your dog does so to the highest standard. Because it's critical that you have trust and confidence in this person, we have highlighted the five benefits that a good groomer will provide to you:

#### **1. Assurance that the care and welfare of your dog is their top priority:**

Any good groomer is first and foremost a dog lover, so caring for your little buddy comes as second nature to them and is given at all times. By providing breaks during the clipping process and by never leaving your dog unsupervised, they reduce unnecessary stress while ensuring safety and security. They also attend to your dog's basic needs by providing them with such things as fresh drinking water.

#### **2. Grooming of the highest standard that reflects the needs of you and your dog:**

A good groomer must be able to demonstrate the ability to groom your dog to high standards and to provide an appropriate look for your pet. They must have the ability to accurately determine your needs while advising you on different options for style and finish. A good groomer will never inflict pain or undue stress on your pet just to achieve a certain style.

#### **3. Understanding of the different temperaments and characteristics of dogs:**

As not all dogs are the same, they cannot all be approached and handled the same. For example, a shy and slightly fearful dog requires calmness and patience, while a lively bouncy dog may require immediate leadership. A good groomer will be able to adapt their approach to meet the psychological and behavioral needs of different dogs to ensure minimum stress during the grooming process.

#### **4. Quality products and methods that do not risk the health of your pet:**

A good groomer will never compromise on the quality of products they use on your pet. Cheap dog products are available everywhere, yet they can cause severe health problems for your dog. Therefore, you must be confident that your groomer uses quality controlled professional grooming products. A good groomer will never cut corners with their products just to save money or to provide cheaper prices.

#### **5. Advice and information on all aspects of dog ownership:**

It's important that you have someone to turn to when you need advice or help with your dog, and a good groomer will be this person. While groomers cannot offer all of the answers, such as a medical diagnosis, they should be knowledgeable enough to offer some assistance and to point you in the right direction. A good groomer will always attempt to identify and inform you of any physical or behavioral changes that may indicate a health problem. This can make all the difference in recovery, as early detection ensures early treatment.

As groomers, the above five benefits are the guide by which we provide our services. Dogs and grooming are our passion, not just our business. By bringing your dog to us for grooming, you can be assured that you and your dog will receive all five benefits as well as the care and service that you deserve.

### **What you can Expect if you Bring your Dog to Us!**

Would you like your dog groomed so that she's looking gorgeous and left just the way you want her to look? Do you want her coat smelling delightful so there's no more 'doggy' smell in your home? Would you like her coat feeling as soft as velvet and just a dream to cuddle? And above all, do you want reassurance that your dog is getting the same gentle care and kindness during grooming that you give her at home?

Well, you've just found a groomer that can provide everything you want, plus much, much more!

With us, you can be sure that your dog will be groomed to the highest standard. You'll be so pleased with how she looks that you'll be proud to walk her down your street and show her off to your neighbors - just like the many other clients we have.

When we advise you on grooming styles for your pet, we always take your preferences, lifestyle and your dog's character into account. The health, safety and welfare of your pet are always our priority, so you can have peace of mind knowing that you'll get the best advice available to help you choose the right options for your dog.

As a good and caring dog owner, you'll want your pet to be healthy and happy. Therefore, it'll be reassuring to know that with us you'll have someone looking out for potential health issues and changes in your dog - some that may only be noticeable during grooming. Early detection of worrying ailments can make all the difference to your pet, so we make sure to keep a close eye during grooming.

Your dog will be well looked after and will always get the 'one to one' attention that she needs. You'll always feel confident that she's in the safest of hands with us; we can assure you of that.

Your pet deserves the best so we only use the best and safest products that will get her coat looking gorgeous but won't ever harm her. Others may choose to use cheaper, inferior products in grooming but that's something we simply will not compromise on.

With us, you'll also have someone to turn to if you have issues or worries about your pet. Advice and help is a free extra service we're more than happy to provide. You can call us if you ever have any problems or just need to chat about your little friend.

So if you're looking for a groomer who will leave your dog looking fantastic then give us a call. You'll be over the moon when you see what we can do for you and your little furry friend.

## **Fur Babies Dog Grooming**

*"Expert in leaving your dog looking gorgeous"*

- ✓ **Have your dog gorgeously groomed so that she is left looking and smelling wonderful. You'll be delighted with how she'll look and you'll be so proud to show her off to your family and friends.**
- ✓ **You'll never have to worry when you leave your pet with me. She'll be groomed in a clean, relaxed environment where only the best and safest products are used.**
- ✓ **As a customer of ours, you'll get the respect and service from us that all good dog owners like you deserve.**
- ✓ **Help and advice is freely given so you'll always have someone to turn to if you ever have a problem or a worry about your little friend.**
- ✓ **We use a calm, 'tender loving' approach when grooming, where patience, praise and kindness is assured.**
- ✓ **And of course, kisses and cuddles for your little buddy are provided in abundance. She'll just love being groomed with us and you'll love how she looks afterwards!**

**Call for an appointment today. Tel: 905-792-0428**

## Don't Forget the Dog at Christmas!

While some people may decide not to include the dog on Santa's list, more and more of you aren't forgetting about your four-legged member of the family. Christmas gifts for dogs can range from a necessary item to an over-the-top extravagant gift. But however you choose to celebrate Christmas with your dogs, you're sure to find something special for them that's within your budget—because some of the best gifts are free!

Some extra play time or a walk through a new area is one gift that a dog is sure to love, as they'll adore the time spent with you and will feel good from the exercise. A new area delights them with new smells and a sense of adventurous travel so, if Christmas gifts for doggies is not your style, you can still make it a special occasion for them, too.

Go for something practical if your dog's belongings are wearing thin. A new collar and leash or a doggie backpack is something useful that you both can enjoy during walks. Or, pick up some nice dishes for their food or a comfortable new dog bed.

There are plenty of edible and non-edible treats to fill a gift basket for dogs if you'd rather go that route. Gourmet dog cookies, a few bones, some new chew toys, a doggie blanket and spa-quality brushes or conditioners will give your dogs lots of enjoyment throughout the holiday season!

But if you really want to go all out with your Christmas gifts, you can find fun and interesting presents for your canine companions. There's actually a dog-friendly non-alcoholic wine for dogs now, so you can sip your own wine and offer your dogs a beef or chicken-flavored beverage to share at your side. How about a canine canopy bed or a plush convertible automobile bed? Anything you can imagine for your dog is probably out there, so take a look at dog gifts online or shop around your local pet stores for that perfect find.

A dog's happiness comes from his loving owners and from having all of his needs met, so whatever you choose to do with your dogs for the holidays is sure to please them!

### Dog Quiz

*Dogs were bred for specific jobs and activities. Can you match each breed to its historical use?*

- |               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Poodle     | A. hunt wolves and bear        |
| 2. Rottweiler | B. house pet for Ming dynasty  |
| 3. Pug        | C. retriever of game           |
| 4. Labrador   | D. herding and guarding        |
| 5. Weimaraner | E. game retriever from water   |
| 6. Shih-Tzu   | F. pet of Buddhist monasteries |
| 7. Pomeranian | G. sheep herder                |

## Doggy Humor!

*Woman to dog trainer:* "My dog goes into the corner whenever he hears a bell ring."

*Dog trainer:* "Well this is normal—he's a boxer!"

Have you heard of the latest cross-breeds?

A Pointer and Setter made the Pointsetter, which sounds like quite the Christmas dog! Then there's the more abstract dog, which is the cross between a Pekingese and Lhasa Apso, or Peekasso. The financial experts out there probably love the cross between a Newfoundland and Bassett Hound, as this is the Newfoundland Asset Hound. Don't know about the Spitz and Chow-Chow mix, though, because a Spitz-Chow sounds like a really messy dog to have around the home!

### 8 Signs Your Dog is Happy and Healthy

The little differences in a dog's behavior and appearance can tell you a lot about whether they're feeling their best or if they could use a visit to the vet. Is your best little friend showing the signs of health and happiness?

1. Plenty of tail wagging and normal behavior: Dogs can show a change in character when they're not feeling their best. There's no cause for concern here if your dogs are interested in all of their favorite activities and if they maintain their normal levels of energy. Check behavior changes with your vet and then a dog trainer if your dogs don't seem their usual selves.
2. Bright and shiny eyes: Redness, cloudiness, discoloration, sensitivity or colored discharge can signal eye health problems, such as injury, infection or disease.
3. Soft and shiny coat: A clean and silky coat comes from proper grooming and overall dog health. Watch for mats, ticks and fleas to keep a gorgeous coat, and check their diet and skin if you notice any problems.
4. Smooth and healthy skin: Skin that's free from sores, itching, redness and parasites is skin your dog loves to be in!
5. Clean ears: Odor, itching, redness or waxy buildup can indicate a problem with a dog's ears, which may require medical treatment.
6. A Healthy Mouth: Pink gums, clean teeth and non-offensive breath are all signs of good health in dogs. Foul breath can come from a variety of internal issues, so please contact your vet if your dogs have bad breath or if you see any sores in their mouths.
7. Clean Anal Glands: If your dog scoots their butt on the floor or has soreness around the rear, it's time to have their anal glands checked for buildup or infection.
8. Wet and Cool Nose: Dog's noses are so very important to them! It should be slightly moist and cool to the touch without discharge or cracks in the skin.

### Why Dogs Bark!

Some dogs bark inside the house and others do it outside, but why? A social bark is used to greet you and to bark along with other dogs outside, while an alarming bark is used to warn dogs away or to warn you of an intruder. Other barking can come from anxiety or attention seeking. If you're working with your dog to bark less often, the first step is figuring out why he's doing it!

### **Thinking of Less Fortunate Dogs This Holiday!**

Your dogs, and all those who belong to loving families, are so very lucky to have a wonderful home throughout the year. However, there are many, many homeless and less fortunate dogs who have not yet found owners as good as you. Hopefully they will receive some of the care and attention they deserve when the spirit of Christmas reminds us all to do what we can to help them out.

Please take a moment to think on the needs of rescue dogs as you celebrate the holidays with your own dogs. If you'd like to help a dog in need, the smallest things really can make a world of difference.

A dog lover in your family may appreciate the gift of you making a donation to a rescue shelter on their behalf. Or, ask the local shelters if there are any items or supplies they need this season.

While the donation of money is often the best way to help these dogs they can also get just as much benefit from the donation of your time. Maybe offer to walk a shelter dog with your family one day, or stop by to give them some love and attention.

If a puppy is on your family's wish list for the New Year, please consider a dog adoption, as this will bring joy and fulfillment to the dog and to you!

### **Newsletter Copyright!**

This newsletter is provided to you every month so that we can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining and useful.

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So we're afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, we'd be grateful if you'd let us know.

Answers  
to Quiz  
1 - E  
2 - D  
3 - F  
4 - C  
5 - A  
6 - B  
7 - G

### **Safe Travel Reminder!**

If you're traveling with your dogs this holiday, remember to have all their tags and vaccinations up to date, and contact the airline for pet travel requirements if you'll be flying anywhere.

Travel by car takes a little less preparation, but food, water, toys and a leash will make dog care much easier when you're out on the road!

### **Does Your Dog Have Tear Stains?**

Eye tear stains are quite common in some dog breeds and are caused by a variety of factors, such as allergies or genetics. The dark staining can come from bacteria or yeast that grows in the moisture, but there are things you can do reduce and remove these stains.

The first step is to cut back or eliminate foods and treats that contain artificial colors. A quality dog food will reduce the tear staining and also keep stains from forming around their mouths! Provide your dog with bottled or filtered water, too, as a concentration of minerals in the water will contribute to the stains.

Use a wet cloth to wipe the tears away each day, and talk with your veterinarian about tetracycline or calcium carbonate used for reduction of tear stains. You may also want to have the dog's eyes examined for any possible infection or underlying problems.

### **Get This Newsletter Every Month!**

To continue to provide you with information, help and a little bit of fun, we publish this newsletter at the beginning of every month. There will always be a copy available for you. So, in a month that's between your appointments please drop in to pick one up (it'll be nice to catch up as well). Or if you'd like your newsletter emailed to you every month just leave us your email address or request your newsletter by sending us an email. Once you're on our list we'll send you a copy every month.



# **Fur Babies Dog Grooming**

456 Vodden St. E Brampton, Ontario

**Tel: 905-792-0428**

[www.furbabiesdoggrooming.com](http://www.furbabiesdoggrooming.com)



The information provided in this newsletter and on any additional documents herein is for guidance purposes only. It must not be construed as veterinary or legal advice. Always seek fully trained veterinary advice if you have a health issue with your pet. As far as is reasonably practical the publisher endeavors to ensure that this information is accurate and correct. However the publisher cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies, omissions or mistakes. Neither can we be held liable for any damages, howsoever caused, resulting from the information contained in this document.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please let us know.