

Dog Bathing

Dog bathing is a contentious issue! Every-one has an opinion on how often to bath dogs. Our answer is easy. Bath your dog (and its bedding, as this is where a lot of the doggy smell will reside) as often as you like to keep your dog smelling nice and his skin healthy.

For example, my dog *Sophia* (Italian greyhound) is completely indoors. She has oily skin and tends to get a doggy smell unless I wash her and her dog bed cover, every 1-2 weeks. My previous dog *Duncan* had long hair which I brushed thoroughly every week, and he only needed a bath once a month.

Whether bathing inside or outside, it is important that the water is luke-warm. Of course your dog will not like the bath if the water is freezing cold or too hot. Have the water at a sensible temperature. If bathing outside, attach a long hose to the outlet of your laundry taps to provide water at the right temperature.

Have a jug available to pour water over your dog, to wet your dog thoroughly, and shampoo just as you would your owner body and hair. Always rinse well with lots of clean luke-warm water.

After the bath you can dry your dog with a towel (if short coated) or with a blow dryer. Ensure you keep your hand between the blow dryer and your dog's fur, to ensure you don't burn him.

Here is a great video by Dr Karen Becker on bathing your dog

<http://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2011/10/11/mistakes-that-can-ruin-dogs-bath-time-for-his-lifetime.aspx>.

I agree with all of Dr Karen's video *except* using colloidal silver on the facials skin folds. I recommend using **ONLY** water on the skin folds of a normal dog.

Remember to give your dog lots of praise and treats during and after the bath. It should be an experience which he may grudgingly endure, but of which he is not scared.