

## MATTED DOG POLICY

### Information/Release Form for Pawsh Styling

The skin under matted fur is usually red, swollen, cracked and dangerous to groom. Matted coats and excessive undercoats cause a variety of health problems for your pet. Matted fur does not allow for air circulation to the skin, which can cause hot spots, bacteria and fungus infections. Fleas, ticks and other parasites may be lurking in the coat causing further skin infections. Matted fur also pulls and binds, causing pain to your pet when they move or just simply lie down.

De-matting is traditionally done by using a matt splitter or rake. This is done carefully by a professional since the tools are very sharp to facilitate breaking apart the matts and detangling the fur. In order to get to the root of the matt you are working directly next to the raw and inflamed skin that is almost always present with matted fur. Some salons do offer FULL de-matting services where EVERY matt on your dog is split, combed through and trimmed. I do not offer FULL dematting services but, I do offer PARTIAL dematting services at an extra fee IF your pet falls into these criteria:

- Your pet has only a select few matts through out their coat which are not close to it's skin.
- Your dog is a certain breed that cannot be shaved because of its genetic make-up and would be detrimental to your pet if it were shaved (i.e. Husky) See me for a further list.

A few reasons why I do NOT offer FULL de-matting services (as I only do humane grooming at Pawsh Styling) are as follows:

- De-matting of younger pets tends to make them dislike grooming to the point that they become VERY difficult to work with, and may even become biters, requiring them to be muzzled in order for them to be groomed at all.
- De-matting of older pets can be so mentally and physically stressful for them, that it places their health in jeopardy.
- When a dog is severely tangled or matted, it causes greater stress on the dog to be de-matted. Since your pet has no way of telling us that we are hurting him/her, their only alternative is to bite. Since we do not use tranquilizers at Pawsh Styling, we leave ourselves open to injury. Not to mention the trauma and the pain that goes along with de-matting your dog.

Since skin underneath matts is already raw and inflamed there are higher chances of nicking the skin during de-matting and/or clipping. In the event that your pet is nicked or cut, your signature below authorizes Pawsh Styling to obtain veterinary care at your expense. Pawsh Styling will not be held responsible for any grooming injury to pets with matted coats. This also includes any after-grooming effects of matt clipping procedures, which could include, but are not limited to the following: itchiness, skin redness or self-inflicted irritations/abrasions from excessive external rubbing. Of course, all precautions will be taken.

If you have a long haired pet and wish to maintain the long length, your dog must be brushed and combed thoroughly on a regular basis, either by your groomer or by doing this yourself at home. If you require assistance in the proper tools or proper use of the tools to accomplish this, I will be happy to assist you. Also, please keep in mind that when a short clip is recommended it is for the health and safety of your dog and the fur does grow back, usually in better condition.

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I hereby release Pawsh Styling from any responsibility of the above mentioned process and any and all medical problems that may be uncovered and/or occur during the stripping process.

Should my pet need veterinary care after or during the process I agree to pay any and all veterinarians fees for my pet's care. I further agree to obtain veterinary attention for my pet within 24 hrs of the grooming date should such action be advised by the staff of Pawsh Styling.

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Name of Pet Owner

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Signature of Pet Owner

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Date

(Please refer to the "Why do we groom our pets?" brochure for further information.)