



To walk with a dog... is to share his world. What sights and sounds he encounters. What past and present smells he reads. To stretch his legs, to bask in the sun, to discover and wind his way through this brave new human world.

cheerfuldogs chronicles

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Issue 28

Healthy Dog: Why Groom?

Even if you make regular trips to the groomer, there are good reasons to also groom your dog at home. A dog with a clean, healthy coat feels better in herself; while brushing and bathing your dog promotes skin health, and gives you quality time together. If done with proper preparation such that your dog enjoys the experience, nothing says, *I love you, Daisy*, like a good shampoo and a rinse. Plus, you can take the opportunity to check for ticks and skin irritations.



Did You Know: These Dog World Records?

Australian Shepherd/Border Collie mix Sweet Pea holds the record for completing the fastest 100-metre dash with a can balanced on her head.

First dog to take the surfing world by storm? Abbie Girl the Australian Kelpie, who holds the Guinness World Record for longest wave surfed by a dog (27.4 metres).

Twinkie the Jack Russell Terrier is the world's fastest balloon popper. He popped 100 balloons in 39.08 seconds. Hats off to one very determined and sound-resistant terrier.

Golden Retriever Augie set the bar for most tennis balls in a dog's mouth at the same time — five! — back in 2003. His record has yet to be beaten.



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cont.

....why groom?

If your dog is new to grooming, start slowly and first teach her to love being handled all over. Reward gentle touches of ears, paws, tail, etc. with tasty treats, then progress to brushing and brief periods of holding. Be sure to get the right tools for your dog's coat — brushes and combs come in many versions — and always use a dog blow dryer that delivers only air, not heat. You can find detailed DIY grooming instructions many places online. Try the Pet Care section of the ASPCA's website: aspcas.org.



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Tips & Tools: Moving with Dogs

Moving Day is often an exciting, stressful, exhausting blur — and that's just to the human family members. To make the organised chaos of geographical relocation less taxing for your dog, leave her with a friend for the day, if possible. If you can't, be sure to:

Use a crate. Doors are left open, unfamiliar people come and go, loud noises abound — enough to make even serene pooches run and hide. If she's crate trained, crate your dog with a favourite blanket in a quiet part of the house. Make sure her ID and tags are up-to-date, just in case.

Limit stress. Again, a crate or a quiet room can do wonders. Give your dog plenty of exercise that morning and preserve your meal-time and toilet break routine as best you can. For very sensitive dogs, or consult your vet about appropriate anti-anxiety medications.

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Professional dog walking you can trust

Website: cheerfuldogswalking.com

Tel: 9630 3884

Email: cheerfuldogswalking@gmail.com

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