

# LANAnC48 - SQA Unit Code HA86 04

## Style and finish a dog's coat



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### Overview

This standard covers styling and finishing a dog's coat using various trimming methods.

It includes appropriate and safe handling techniques, identification of coat types and head shapes and correct trimming methods to achieve the desired result.

It is your responsibility to monitor the health and safety of yourself, the dog and others in the area.

You will need to be aware of your own limitations and ensure that you meet the legal responsibilities for the duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation.

This standard is for anyone who carries out styling and finishing of a dog's coat.

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 maintain a high level of professional conduct and ethics and work within the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
- P2 comply with relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice at all times
- P3 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
- P4 maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
- P5 confirm that the work area is safe, secure, clean and ready for use
- P6 select, prepare, use and maintain **tools and equipment** in a safe, clean and effective condition throughout
- P7 use the correct **protective equipment and clothing** in accordance with workplace policy and procedures
- P8 observe and recognise the behaviour of the animal and record as appropriate
- P9 approach, handle and restrain the dog in an appropriate manner that promotes confidence and co-operation and maintains the health and safety of all throughout
- P10 style and finish the dog in accordance with the clients requirements, agreed plan and the type of breed
- P11 use the correct trimming methods for the **coat type** and style
- P12 produce the required body and neck shape
- P13 produce the required leg, foot and tail shape
- P14 produce the required **head and ear shape**
- P15 carry out your work with due attention to the welfare of the dog
- P16 complete your work in the prescribed timescale
- P17 deal with waste safely and correctly in accordance with workplace procedures
- P18 clean/sterilise and store equipment used in accordance with workplace procedures and report any faults
- P19 transfer the dog to suitable accommodation ready for collection
- P20 keep accurate and up to date as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 your professional and ethical responsibilities as a dog groomer and the limits of your own authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
- K2 the importance of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to maintain professional competence
- K3 your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and other animal-related legislation and codes of practice
- K4 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K5 the importance of maintaining appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security and how these can be achieved
- K6 types of tools and equipment required and how to select, prepare, use and maintain these in a safe and effective condition
- K7 why it is important to observe and assess the body language of the dog prior to starting work and the signs to look out for
- K8 the importance of communicating with others and where to seek advice and guidance
- K9 the Kennel Club UK types and their characteristics
- K10 how to approach, handle and restrain dogs in a manner that promotes their confidence and co-operation and maintains safety
- K11 different types of breeds and **coat types** and the clipping techniques and trimming lines for each
- K12 how to judge the correct amount of hair to be clipped/scissored off and why it is important not to remove too much
- K13 how to carry out different **trimming methods**
- K14 where thinning and blending is required
- K15 how to achieve the required body and neck shape
- K16 how to achieve the required leg, foot and tail shape
- K17 how to achieve the required **head and ear shape**
- K18 why particular care is required when removing excess hair from around eyes, ears, anal and genital areas
- K19 techniques for styling and finishing
- K20 timescales for the completion of activities in accordance with workplace

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policy and client requirements

- K21 the signs of distress in dogs and the action that should be taken when these are observed
- K22 how to handle, store and dispose of waste in accordance with legal and organisational requirements
- K23 how to clean and sterilise equipment and correct method of storage
- K24 how to provide suitable accommodation between stages of grooming
- K25 appropriate records to be kept, the importance of confidentiality and the requirements of the Data Protection Act (1998)

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### Scope/range

#### Tools and equipment:

- 1 clippers and blades
- 2 scissors
- 3 thinning scissors
- 4 stripping tools

#### Coat types:

- 5 wool
- 6 wire
- 7 silk
- 8 double – long and short
- 9 smooth

#### Head shapes:

- 10 round head
- 11 head with short split eyebrows
- 12 head with long split eyebrows
- 13 head with centre fall eyebrows
- 14 clean head
- 15 clean face

#### Trimming methods:

- 16 scissored body coat
- 17 hand-stripped basic body coat
- 18 hand-stripped advanced body coat
- 19 hand-stripped gun dog coat
- 20 clipped body coat
- 21 scissored leg and foot shapes
- 22 scissored/clipped or combination tail
- 23 blending

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### Glossary

#### **Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966):**

It is illegal under the Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) for non-veterinary surgeons to practise veterinary surgery.

The Act defines Veterinary Surgery as:

the diagnosis of diseases in, and injuries to, animals including tests performed on animals for diagnostic purposes;  
the giving of advice based upon such diagnosis;  
the medical or surgical treatment of animals; and  
the performance of surgical operations on animals.

#### **Current animal welfare legislation:**

- England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act 2006
- Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act 2006
- Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

#### **Protective equipment and clothing could include:**

- gloves
- apron

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