



RinconVista.info

520-298-3319

Rincon Vista Veterinary Center - Tucson, AZ

by Dr. Gary Bird

Bath time for your pet

You'd be amazed at some of the products and advice there is for taking care of your pet's hygienic needs. Everything from waterless bathing to sprays to cover up your pet's odor have been strewn across the shelves of local pet stores recently.

Well, as an inexpensive, simple alternative to the twenty or thirty bucks you can easily spend on pet products these days, I'm sending you a good old fashioned guide to taking care of washing your pet...the right way.

Steps for proper shampooing of your pet:

Step one - Your pet's skin is quite different from human skin. It's thinner, has no sweat glands, and has a different PH. Therefore most human shampoos are not satisfactory. Neither are many over-the-counter pet shampoo products, especially if your pet has any type of skin abnormality or disease...so be very careful when selecting a pet store variety without consulting with a vet first.

Step two - Bathe the pet whenever it is dirty or smells bad. We recommend you routinely bathe the pet every 10-14 days to prevent excessively drying the hair coat. Of course, we can recommend some products that are SAFE to bathe whenever necessary.

Step three - BRUSH and COMB out mats BEFORE the bath.

Step four - Pack cotton in the ears.

Step five - Lubricate the eyes with mineral oil, castor oil, Vaseline, or eye ointment to prevent burning or irritating the eyes with the soap or dipping solution.

Step six - Wet your pet thoroughly before applying soap. Use luke warm water for pet's comfort. Use COOL water if the pet is "itchy."

Step seven - Thoroughly lather and add more water (instead of soap) to increase the lather.

Step eight - Allow the soap lather to stand on the pet's body for 3-5 minutes. (Medicated soaps: 5-10 minutes.) This step is very important so please make sure you follow it every time.

Step nine - Use a sponge to wash the face. Using the fingers is better than any brush for lathering and scrubbing the skin. RINSE THOROUGHLY to prevent skin irritation.

Step ten - Repeat the soap procedure if the pet is extremely dirty.

So - go ahead and save yourself some money and get your pet really clean, using good old fashioned elbow grease. Of course, if your pet has special challenges, such as a condition or extra challenging bathing needs, feel free to call us to get some practical advice on how to handle things properly. Mostly, remember that your pet desires to have a healthy, clean lifestyle, just like you! Fortunately, you don't have to spend a ton to get them there...



Rincon Vista Veterinary Center is owned and operated by Dr. Gary Bird. We are focused on providing comfortable, affordable service that will let you know we care about your littlest family members! This email marketing series is developed to share important, interesting and empowering information that allow you and your family to make the best decisions for your pets. Please let us know if you have any questions by calling us or by going online to RinconVista.info. We respect and value your privacy. If you don't wish to receive our email newsletter anymore simply click on the subscription button below. Or call us at 520-298-3319. We will never sell, give or share your information to third parties.