

The Attentive Groomer Checklist:

A Guide to Stay Safe, Sane & Sanitary in the Salon

Cassandra Renee, AMCP, FFCP-G



Sanitary

Cleaning alone isn't enough. Check out other items to keep your environment sanitary for everyone.

Clean and Disinfect:

- Remove any visible dirt, debris, and hair before applying disinfectant and allowing the surface to remain wet for the required contact time.
 - Disinfect between pets: bathtubs, tables, drying area, crates/holding pens, entryway
 - Disinfect daily: Floors, walls
 - Disinfect weekly: hoses, walls, ceilings
 - Disinfect every few months: vents

Selecting a Disinfectant:

- Look for a pet-friendly, non-toxic, low-odor disinfectant
- Disinfect tools all day long in concentrated solutions that are germicidal, fungicidal, pseudomonacidal & viricidal
- Wash hands between handling any pets as well as between handling them & touching your face/eating food
 - **Tip:** Bathing pets does not count as also washing your hands because of microorganisms coming from the pet during the bath*
- **Air:**
 - Purifiers reduce the amount of germs & debris we breathe in
 - Dehumidifiers reduce moisture in the air, which causes bacterial & fungal growth
 - UV-C Lights sterilize all airborne & settled pathogens & microorganisms on all surfaces exposed. Wands are good for hard-to-reach surfaces & ovens are great for high-turnover tools



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Safe

Check out these must-haves to keep the salon safe & handling maneuvers to keep your body safe while keeping the pet safe and comfortable.

- Wet floor/caution signs
- Cords wrapped up and off/covered/taped on the floor
- Safe height of pet on the table
 - Point of shoulder no higher than your sternum
- Masks, gloves, eye protection, mosquito nets, closed-toe/nonslip shoes
- Eye wash station
- Practice cooperative care
- Monitor fear, anxiety, and stress (FAS) levels at all times
- Defensive body positioning to keep your head/neck away/blocked from the pet's head
- Move with the pet's range of motion
- Move with your natural range of motion
 - Bend from hips, keep arms close/level
- With your back facing the pet's front, loop your arm under/over the pet to keep them close to you to limit unexpected movement
- Use mirrors to see all sides of the pet no matter how you face them
- Touch gradient
 - Continuous touch to sense movement and communicate your next move



Sane

Whether you are communicating with a client or co-worker, make sure you have these documents and practices in place to keep everyone on the same page.

- Self-care
 - Yoga, meditation, stretching, chiropractic care, exercise, health insurance
- Legal forms
 - Business license, articles of incorporation, EIN, privacy & opt-out notifications, copyrights
- Business policies and terms/conditions are posted everywhere
- SIGNED agreements and waivers that state clients UNDERSTAND & AGREE kept on file
- Never stop learning! Seek out CE
- Detailed job descriptions, scheduling, employee handbook
- Documented records on behavior/physical state of pets and client communication
- Set expectations with service descriptions, check-in process, & client/pet requirements
- Seek out a mentor/business coach, mastermind, accountability partner
- Utilize technology to stay organized



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