



**Australian Government**

# **ACMGRM404A Provide creative styling for dogs**

**Release 1**

## ACMGRM404A Provide creative styling for dogs

### Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
1	ACM10v3	Initial release

### Unit Descriptor

This Unit of Competency covers the process of preparing and styling dogs using creative styling trends rather than show or breed standards. The Unit covers grooming, colouring, clipping and decorating dogs using a range of products and techniques as well as the selection and application of accessories that are not harmful to animals, allow normal dog movement and don't impede vision or free movement of legs, tail or ears.

### Application of the Unit

This Unit is applicable to those working in the companion animal industry sector where specialist dog grooming services are provided. In addition to legal and ethical responsibilities, all Units of Competency in ACM10 Animal Care and Management Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled gently and calmly. The individual is required to exhibit appropriate care for animals so that stress and discomfort is minimised.

### Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this Unit at the time of publication.

### Pre-Requisites

- ACMCAS306A Provide grooming services for companion animal comfort
- ACMCAS307A Provide companion animal hydro-bathing services
- ACMGRM301A Perform dog grooms on different coat types

### Employability Skills Information

This Unit contains employability skills.

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Determine styling requirements	1.1 Coat characteristics and condition are evaluated. 1.2 Dog's history and experience of clipping is investigated. 1.3 Style requirements are clarified in conjunction with the general health and condition of the dog. 1.4 Individual dog's <b><i>creative styling</i></b> is planned.
2. Select coat dying techniques	2.1 Risks associated with the application of dyes and other colouring agents are evaluated. 2.2 Dyes and pigments are selected for coat and <b><i>dog breed characteristics</i></b> . 2.3 Dog coats are prepared for application of dyes. 2.4 Dyes or colouring agents are applied. 2.5 Stencils are prepared and applied. 2.6 Dyed or coloured coats are maintained.
3. Apply creative styling techniques	3.1 Safety risks when using grooming equipment and decorations on dogs are identified and managed. 3.2 Animal <b><i>style themes</i></b> are selected and performed. 3.3 Style colouring is selected and produced. 3.4 Clip style is selected and completed. 3.5 <b><i>Decorations and accessories</i></b> are evaluated in relation to dog safety and style theme relevance. 3.6 Decorations and accessories are selected and attached.
4. Complete post styling procedures	4.1 <b><i>Techniques for maintaining breed and coat types</i></b> between styling sessions are explained to clients. 4.2 Records are updated. 4.3 Equipment is cleaned and maintained. 4.4 Styling area is cleaned and waste disposed of with consideration to <b><i>environmental and biosecurity hazards</i></b> .

## Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this Unit.

### Required skills include:

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#### Ability to:

- apply a range of industry recognised pre-clip preparation and clipping procedures for different creative styling techniques with consideration to dog comfort requirements
- apply problem solving skills using available information and resources and prioritising daily tasks
- complete relevant work-related documents
- employ interpersonal skills to work with others and relate to people from a range of cultural, social and religious backgrounds and with a range of physical and mental abilities
- employ safe, humane and environmentally responsible organisational systems and procedures when working with and handling animals
- follow sequenced written instructions, record accurately and legibly information collected and select and apply procedures to a range of defined tasks
- follow workplace policies, procedures and requirements
- explain creative styling themes
- identify dog behavioral characteristics and use dog handling and restraint techniques to ensure dog and staff safety
- identify dog coat types and determine coat characteristics
- identify dog grooming and styling tools and equipment, selecting and using for specific purpose and maintaining in accordance with manufacturers' specifications
- maintain the highest standards of hygiene and infection control at all times to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection
- select and apply pre and post clipping products for different coat types and conditions
- select and fit accessories and decorations for creative coat styling
- select and perform creative styling clips for different themes
- select and apply dying or colouring agents that are safe for use on dogs of different coat and skin types while taking into consideration physiological characteristics of different breeds
- plan grooming and styling for different themes
- use literacy skills to read and follow organisation policies and procedures, including workplace health and safety, infection control and waste management procedures
- use oral communication skills including questioning techniques, active listening, asking for clarification and consulting with supervisors
- use numeracy skills to estimate, calculate and record routine and more complex workplace elements
- use safe manual handling techniques and/or equipment
- use safe, hygienic and environmentally friendly waste handling and disposal procedures.

### Required knowledge includes:

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**Knowledge of:**

- dog anatomy and physiology related to grooming and clipping procedures
- industry recognised grooming and clipping establishment, maintenance and restoration techniques, procedures and equipment for dog coat types and conditions
- creative styling techniques, decorations and accessories
- dog behavior traits, signs of distress or illness
- organisation policies, procedures and requirements, including workplace health and safety and emergency procedures, hygiene standards and waste disposal regulations
- principles of animal ethics and welfare
- pre and post clipping products, techniques and services
- relevant recordkeeping systems
- workplace health and safety and animal welfare legislative requirements and codes of practice
- safe dog handling and restraint techniques and procedures
- safe work practices
- use and maintenance of a range of grooming and clipping equipment
- lifestyle and activity related considerations for creative styling of dogs
- workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials.

## Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

### Overview of assessment

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this Unit

The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this Unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy all of the requirements of the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge and the range statement of this Unit. Assessors should ensure that candidates can:

- assess health and condition of animal's coat and evaluate breed characteristics to select grooming, styling, dying and decoration techniques that do not compromise the health and welfare of the dog
- plan creative styling themes
- follow workplace instructions to apply industry recognised grooming and styling techniques to colour, clip, decorate and style dogs for creative themes
- handle dogs in a safe and humane manner
- select, use and maintain grooming and styling equipment and supplies in accordance with organisational standards and manufacturers' specifications
- communicate effectively with clients regarding techniques to maintain styling between sessions
- maintain records and follow-up with clients as required.

The skills and knowledge required to provide creative styling on dogs must be transferable to a range of work environments and contexts and include the ability to deal with unplanned events.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment of this Unit is to be practical in nature and will be most appropriately assessed in companion animal organisations that offer creative dog styling services or competition or in a situation that reproduces normal work conditions.

There must be access to a range of dogs and coat types as well as relevant information, equipment and/or resources to enable one to demonstrate competence.

Method of assessment	<p>To ensure consistency of performance, competency should be demonstrated, to industry defined standards, on more than two occasion covering a range of creative styling applications. Assessment must take place over a period of time in order to cover a variety of circumstances, cases and responsibilities, and over a number of assessment activities.</p> <p>The assessment strategies must include practical skills assessment. Suggested strategies for this Unit are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• written and/or oral assessment of candidate's required knowledge</li><li>• observed, documented and firsthand testimonial evidence of candidate's application of practical tasks</li><li>• simulation exercises that reproduce normal work conditions</li><li>• third-party evidence</li><li>• portfolio records that provide evidence of practical skills</li></ul> <p>This Unit may be assessed in a holistic way with other Units of Competency relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role.</p>
Guidance information for assessment	<p>Assessment methods should reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy and numeracy demands) and the needs of particular target groups (e.g. people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, women, people with a language background other than English, youth and people from low socioeconomic backgrounds).</p>

## Range Statement

The range statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

<b><i>Creative styling</i></b>	<p>Creative styling applies to styling where dogs are groomed, clipped, dyed and decorated to look like breeds other than their own, other animals, machinery, equipment or natural objects or in other ways used as part of a creative scene</p> <p>Before undertaking creative styling the operator must ensure the health and welfare of the animal will not be compromised</p>
<b><i>Dog breed characteristics</i></b>	<p>Dog breed characteristics may include physiological or behavioural characteristics that may be adversely affected by the use of dyes, decorations, costumes, ornaments, props, clipping styles or products including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• skin, eye, mouth, foot or other body part irritation caused by toxins or non-dog safe components that may pull on or in other ways affect dog comfort</li> <li>• exposure to the elements due to reduced fur or hair covering</li> <li>• overheating due to costume or styling products</li> <li>• reduction in mobility, vision, hearing.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Style themes</i></b>	<p>Styling themes include the planned incorporation of a dog by using a grooming and clipping style that transforms the dog into a different dog breed, other animal or as part of a scene using clipping, grooming, dyeing, decorations and costumes.</p>
<b><i>Decorations and accessories</i></b> may include:	<p>Decorations and accessories may include embellishments used to complete themes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• decorative objects such as ribbons, bows, beads, glitter rhinestones or other items</li> <li>• hair extensions</li> <li>• costume or ornaments that do not hinder dog vision; mobility of action, ears, legs or tail and are removable for inspection for grooming and styling.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Techniques for maintaining breed</i></b>	<p>Techniques for maintaining breed and coat types may</p>



<b><i>and coat types</i></b>	<p>include use of grooming tools and techniques for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• grooming for coat types and body areas and to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lay coat</li> <li>• remove and prevent knots and mats</li> <li>• remove debris</li> <li>• volumize coat</li> </ul> </li> <li>• washing for coat and skins conditions, to remove stains, to control parasites</li> <li>• protection to reduce tangling and exposure to debris or dirt by:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• banding</li> <li>• snooding</li> <li>• wrapping.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b><i>Environmental and biosecurity hazards</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• allergies or skin conditions associated with the use of shampoos and other products</li> <li>• burns from the use of chemicals or hot clipper blades</li> <li>• electrical and fire risk from equipment</li> <li>• pollutants and biohazards resulting from chemicals, water and dog waste</li> <li>• transmission of disease between dogs and/or humans via:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• biting or scratching</li> <li>• presence of contagious health conditions</li> <li>• recycling of washing water</li> <li>• tools and equipment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Unit Sector(s)

Grooming