



Australian Government

ACMGRM405A Carry out styling on cats of different breed and coat type

Release 1

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
1	ACM10v3	Initial release

Unit Descriptor

This Unit of Competency covers the process of styling the different coat types that occur in Cat breeds. The Unit covers identification of different breeds and coat types, selection and application of equipment and techniques required to style and maintain cats according to breed standards.

Application of the Unit

This Unit is applicable to those working in the companion animal industry sector where cat specific grooming services are provided. Domestic cats are not identified in this Unit as a breed or classification even though they may compete in cat fancy competitions. However their care and styling management will relate to the various coat types identified in cat breeds in Australia. Clipping of cats is usually performed as a hygiene and comfort procedure rather than for establishing and maintaining cat breed characteristics so clipping techniques in this Unit (apart from breed specific trimming) generally relates to clipping of cats to restore matted coats or to reduce the risk of matting and skin conditions that could impact on cat health and mobility. 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
ACMSPE305A	Provide basic care of domestic cats

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. Identify cats within the cat breed group 1 as recognised in Australia	1.1 Classification of cats as group 1 breeds is determined. 1.2 Range of cats and coat types within group 1 are identified. 1.3 Requirements of cats within the Cat breed group 1 for grooming to show standards are identified.
2. Identify cats within the cat breed group 2 as recognised in Australia	2.1 Classification of cats as group 2 breeds is determined. 2.2 Range of cats and coat types within group 2 are identified. 2.3 Requirements of cats within the Cat breed group 2 for grooming to show standards are identified.
3. Identify cats within the cat breed group 3 as recognised in Australia	3.1 Classification of cats as group 3 breeds is determined. 3.2 Range of cats and coat types within group 3 are identified. 3.3 Requirements of cats within the Cat breed group 3 for grooming to show standards are identified.
4. Prepare cats for styling	4.1 Risks associated with grooming cats are determined and minimised in accordance with Workplace health and safety and animal welfare requirement. 4.2 Coat condition and impact on general health of cat are evaluated and discussed with client to determine the cat's styling needs. 4.3 Styling is planned for individual cat's needs 4.4 Cats are restrained for styling and monitored for signs of stress. 4.5 Nails are trimmed and nail caps applied, if requested. 4.6 Cats are clipped to remove mats if it is determined that this is the best option for cat health and comfort, or if a full-clip has been requested by client. 4.7 Cats are groomed to remove excess coat, knots, mats and debris. 4.8 Sanitary or belly clip is performed, if required. 4.9 External evacuation of anal glands is performed, if required. 4.10 Face trim is performed as required by breed standard, if required.
5. Wash and dry cats	5.1 Cat bathing products are selected and prepared according to skin and coat types. 5.2 Bathing techniques and products are used to clean cats and enhance coat properties. 5.3 Eyes, ears and face wrinkles are cleaned. 5.4 Coats are dried according to coat types and breed requirements. 5.5 Post wash grooming products are applied to manage coat and skin characteristics.
6. Groom and style cat coats	6.1 Clip styles for cat breeds and coat types are identified. 6.2 Techniques used to establish and maintain clip types for cat

breeds and coat types are performed.

6.3 Scissoring and ***hand finishing techniques*** are used to complete styling of cat breeds.

6.4 ***Grooming techniques*** are used to complete cat breed standards and coat types.

7. Complete post styling procedures

7.1 Techniques for maintaining breed and coat types between styling sessions are explained to clients.

7.2 Records are updated.

7.3 Equipment is cleaned and maintained.

7.4 Styling area is cleaned and waste disposed of with consideration to ***environmental and biosecurity hazards***.

Required Skills and Knowledge

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

Required skills include:

Ability to:

- apply a range of industry recognised styling procedures for different cat coat types and breed standards
- apply problem solving skills using available information and resources and prioritising daily tasks
- complete relevant work-related documents
- differentiate between show standard and comfort styling techniques for cats
- 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
- identify cat behavioural characteristics and use cat handling and restraint techniques to ensure cat and staff safety
- identify cat coat types and determine coat characteristics
- identify grooming and styling tools and equipment, selecting and using for specific purpose and maintaining in accordance with manufacturers' specifications
- introduce kittens and inexperienced cats to grooming and styling procedures
- maintain the highest standards of hygiene and infection control at all times to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection
- select and apply styling products for different coat types and conditions
- 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 others
- 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:

Knowledge of:

- cat anatomy and physiology related to grooming procedures and products
- cat grooming and styling products, techniques and services
- cat behaviour traits, signs of distress or illness

- Cat Council of Australia cat breed standards
- industry recognised grooming and styling establishment, maintenance and restoration techniques, procedures and equipment for Cat fancy and non-show cat coat types and conditions
- workplace health and safety and animal welfare legislative requirements and codes of practice
- 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
- relevant recordkeeping systems
- safe cat handling and restraint techniques and procedures
- safe work practices
- show grooming requirements for cat fancy breed standards and coat types
- techniques used to introduce kittens and inexperienced cats to grooming and styling
- use and maintenance of a range of grooming and styling equipment
- 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 determine styling requirements with client/owner
- follow workplace instructions to apply industry recognised grooming and styling techniques to:
- establish/maintain/restore coat, breed and conformation features for cats
- establish/maintain/restore coats for non-show cat care and comfort
- remove excess coat, mats or knots to restore coats for cat comfort and hygiene
- handle cats in a safe and humane manner
- select, use and maintain grooming and styling equipment and supplies in accordance with organisational standards, manufacturers' specifications and cat welfare considerations
- build relationships and communicate effectively with clients relating to the on-going management of grooming and styling of their cat
- maintain records and follow-up with clients as required.

The skills and knowledge required to carry out styling on cats of different breed and coat type 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 specialist cat grooming and styling services aligned with Australian cat breed standards as well as general cat care or in a situation that reproduces normal work conditions.

	There must be access to a range of cats of different breeds and coat types from cat breed groups 1, 2 and 3 as well as relevant information, equipment and/or resources to enable one to demonstrate competence.
Method of assessment	To ensure consistency of performance, competency must be demonstrated, to industry recognised grooming and styling technique standards, on more than one occasion, covering at least two of the following three coat types: • short-haired • long-haired • dense-thick coat, and demonstration of the following clip types: • sanitary • full underline/belly area • full body. 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. The assessment strategies must include practical skills assessment. Suggested strategies for this Unit are: • written and/or oral assessment of candidate's required knowledge • observed, documented and firsthand testimonial evidence of candidate's application of practical tasks • simulation exercises that reproduce normal work conditions • third-party evidence • portfolio records that provide evidence of practical skills. This Unit may be assessed in a holistic way with other Units of Competency relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role.
Guidance information for assessment	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).

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.

<i>Breed groups as recognised in Australia</i>	There are several bodies that manage cat breeds in Australia but for the purpose of this Unit the cat breeds recognised by the Coordinating Cat Control Council of Australia standards will be used.
<i>Risks associated with grooming cats</i> may include:	• allergic reactions to chemicals in products • cats escaping during styling • disease transmission from cats to people or other cats • distress caused by cats being handled in unfamiliar locations or in areas with distractions caused by other animals, noise or a busy atmosphere • injuries to cats or groomers during handling or styling • skin cuts from clipping or scissoring.
<i>Products</i> may include:	• anti static spray • baby powder • corn starch • de-tangler • deodorising • degreaser • dry cleaning shampoo, • parasite treatments • shampoo for specific coat and skin types.
<i>Clip styles for cat breeds and coat types</i> may include:	• the range of clip styles for managing short and long coat types • introducing kittens and inexperienced cats to clipping • trimming to enhance breed features in cat fancy competitions • managing matted or damaged coats or skin conditions • providing comfort coat care for non-show competition cats: • belly trim • sanitary trim

	• lion cut • mowhawk cut • mane trimming • friction area trims around legs • for creative styling.
Hand finishing techniques may include:	• plucking, tweezing or scissoring techniques for various body parts • blow drying • stripping.
Grooming techniques	Techniques for maintaining breed and coat types may include: • use of grooming tools and techniques for grooming • use of hands and fingers for grooming • considering different coat types and body areas and to: • remove and prevent knots and mats • lay coat • remove debris • oil hairless cat breeds • volumize coat • washing for coat and skin conditions, to remove stains, to control parasites.
Environmental and biosecurity hazards may include:	• allergies or skin conditions associated with the use of shampoos and other products • burns from the use of chemicals or hot clipper blades • electrical and fire risk from equipment • pollutants and biohazards resulting from chemicals, water and cat waste • transmission of disease between cats and or humans via: • biting or scratching • presence of contagious health conditions • recycling of washing water • tools and equipment.

Unit Sector(s)

Grooming