



HAIR COAT TYPES

The right brush and brushing technique will depend on your dog's hair type.

- **Short, smooth coats (most Retrievers, Hounds, Chihuahuas, etc.):** Brush with the coat's grain using a soft to medium bristle brush with short, closely spaced bristles.
- **Short, wiry coats (Terriers, etc.):** Brush with the coat's grain using a slicker brush or a firm bristle brush with short, closely spaced bristles.
- **Medium to long, flowing coats (Golden Retrievers, Spaniels, Setters, Lhasa Apsos, etc.):** Brush with the coat's grain using a wire-pin brush or a soft to medium bristle brush with long, medium- to wide-spaced bristles. Use a slicker brush for mats and tangles.
- **Harsh, outer coats with soft, woolly undercoats (Sheepdogs, Collies, Shepherds, Chows, Pomeranians, etc.):** Brush with the grain on the outer coat and against the grain on the undercoat using a wire-pin brush or a firm bristle brush with long, wide-spaced bristles. Use a slicker brush for tangles and mats. e too long could irritate the skin.
- **Thin, delicate coats (Yorkies, Maltese, etc.):** Brush with and against the coat's grain using a wire-pin brush and a soft slicker brush for tangles and mats.

When brushing, be gentle and take your time. Be especially careful when removing mats or tangles. Brushing can and should be a pleasant experience for your pet as the gentle stroking feels good on your pet's skin. It does not take too many painful 'rips' through snarls, however, to make brushing a procedure your pet will try to avoid rather than invite. The best way to build trust and make this a pleasurable bonding time for both of you is to brush your pet often, preferably daily. This prevents problem mats and tangles from developing.