

Grooming 101: Grooming School E-course

Persian Coat - getting the gunk out

Over the years things have happened to my show coats that meant I had to really get smart or retire my show cat. Hopefully in this class - I will be able to help save you and your show kitty from being retired prematurely.

First and most popular gunk- kitten coat blowing! When this stuff starts blowing- (blowing is another word for shedding- except it sheds much heavier) it can actually dry in the adult coat looking like a HUGE spider web. And if this happens- kiss the coat good bye. A way to help prevent this from happening is to make certain to brush the coat while drying it with a slicker brush. Your adult coat will not grow properly and correct until the entire kitten coat is removed. Kitten coat at this point is nothing more than dead fur- and there is no room for dead fur on a healthy cat. Now - I only brush and or comb coat while I am drying while this stage is going on. All other times- I comb- bath- fully dry and then comb again. Don't over brush and do brush gently. Watch for areas between the legs front chest and arm pits- you might need a comb in the armpits.

Others Gunk's!

Burrs and needles from plants- Your cat can get most of the burrs out themselves- but you might find this tip helpful. Try spraying or applying a little olive oil over the burr and then gently removing each one.

Fleas- normally a bath with soaking in the dishwater - dawn and warm water will pretty much cause most of the fleas to fall off the cat. Once the cat is dried- you might want to consider a flea protector. One suggestion is Advantage- this product is not natural but it works very good. Talk to your vet about it. For ticks call your vet.

Paint, Oil or tar- Wash your cat ASAP in DAWN full strength. Make sure the kitty doesn't lick any of the paint oil or tar and if you notice anything off- call your vet. If you suspect they ingested any of this- call the vet first because cats are highly sensitive to petroleum-based products.

Ink-This one happened to me. I had a beautiful white show female that played with my pen and bit it right where it counted - causing her to have a blue mouth. I washed, I tried the 3% peroxide and I even tried the recipe for the skunk. I must admit- most of it came off- but because of the location and the fact she was a solid white cat- she was retired. If this would have been on a paw- she could have completed her [Grand](#).

Skunk- Hopefully your show kitty never is outdoors- but how about the stray that adopted you or your doggie. The solution for skunk is 32 oz of 3 % hydrogen peroxide and 1/4 cup of baking soda. Place kitty

in a sink of soapy water and pour solution in slowly. This is going to foam! Keep out of kitties eyes as you scoop this over kitty and allow to sit for a few minutes. Next bath the kitty and rinse with Apple Cider Vinegar - dilute 1/4 cup to 1 gallon min of luke warm water. Rinse, Rinse, and Dry as normal. Never store or keep this mixture- it will explode! Mixed and used fresh- it is perfectly safe:-)

Ash- Fireplace ash is a major mess, first comb out all the ash possible with a brush. Next, try a good degreasing bath and use the Healthy Coat shampoo full strength. If this doesn't take the discoloration completely out - make a goop shampoo solution (as shared in class 2) and add a few tablespoons of baking soda to it. Re wash- rinse and dry.

Gum- Peanut Butter seems to do a nice job for this one. Simply rub the hair shafts with the peanut butter and hope it loosens the gum and allows you to pull it off. Some times clipping is required.

Blood- Simply use 3% Hydrogen Peroxide where the blood has left a stain. Simple:-)

A darken coat due to heat, and or shaving, and or hormones- Try mixing up this recipe:

In a quart container add:

- 4 oz of lemon juice
- 8 oz of water
- 2 oz of joy dish detergent
- and 1/4 cup of baking soda (add last)

Pour this over the cats backside before the bath begins and allow to sit for 10 minutes. When adding the baking soda- it will foam- be prepared:-) Then wash kitty and dry as normal. This might need to be repeated several times. I use this on solid creams and blues- it really helps lighten the coat. NOTE: do not use this on a tabby- it will strip the beauty of the defined darken tabby bars.

[Source: <http://www.purrinlot.com/persian-coat-care.htm>]