



Best Friends Animal Hospital

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Preventing Grooming Mishaps

Cats and dogs alike can be prone to developing mats. Pet owners often reach for a pair of scissors to remove mats. We do not recommend using scissors to remove mats for a number of reasons:

- It is very easy to accidentally cut your pet while removing a mat. Thick mats make it difficult to feel and see where the mats stop and your pet's skin begins.
- Many times both cats and dogs do not react when they are cut by the scissors. One would think they would jump or holler but that is often not the case.
- Because the pet often doesn't react the cuts can be quite large and the majority of them need to be sutured.

In order to prevent injury to your pet we recommend the following tips:

- Inexpensive electric clippers can be purchased from Target, Walmart, etc... These electric clippers are ideal for removing mats from your pet. They will not cut your pet and the worst that will ever happen is a little razor burn.
- If you must use a scissors place a metal comb into the mat so that the comb is between your pet's skin and the scissors. That way the comb will prevent you from accidentally injuring your pet.