DOG CARE SPECIALIST

Job Description:

**Dog** **Care** **Specialists** groom, feed, and train dogs. They may work at shelters, veterinary offices, boarding facilities, farms, or other dog venues. Your specific job duties vary, depending on your employer. For example, some dog care specialists train dogs to follow commands and stop doing bad behavior, such as biting, while others groom and care for dogs that participate in scientific studies. In this role, you may exercise dogs, clean their living areas, provide obedience training, or interact with customers to demonstrate dog care techniques. Some dog care specialists work nights, weekends, or holidays because many dogs need round-the-clock care.

Job Responsibilities:

* Dematting and detangling hair as required.
* Bathing, conditioning, and drying dogs.
* Trimming dogs’ nails, brushing their teeth, and cleaning their ears.
* Grooming and styling dogs according to dog owners’ instructions or standard grooming styles.
* Accommodating special requests that dog owners may have.
* Identifying health issues in dogs, such as ear infections, skin conditions, or tooth decay, and informing dog owners of these observations.
* Ensuring that all dogs are safe during the grooming process.
* Routinely cleaning work areas.
* Recommending suitable products to dog owners.
* Ability to manage dog’s behavior
* Treat all dog’s humanely
* Performs a hands on dog assessment on all dogs to recommend services and build trust with the dog parents
* Perform dog grooming services to breed standards and to client’s personal preferences
* Maintain a high level of cleanliness, sanitation, and humane conditions for all dogs in the grooming area.
* Ensure the safety and well-being of every dog and associate in the store, taking immediate action whenever necessary
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* Routinely cleaning work areas.
* Recommending suitable products to dog owners.
* Ability to manage dog’s behavior
* Treat all dog’s humanely
* Feed dogs to owners instructions and standards
* Ensure dogs always have clean fresh filled water bowls
* Keep dog’s area clean of urine and stool
* Provide dog bedding as instructed by owner
* Monitor for signs of stress in dog and act accordingly
* Provide scheduled walks, training, and play time for dogs

Job Qualifications:

* High school diploma
* Certification through the National Dog Groomer Association of America required
* Certification through the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers required
* Unencumbered state license may be required
* Experience working with dogs
* Experience as a dog care specialist

Opportunities as a dog care specialist are available for applicants without experience in which more than one dog care specialist is needed in an area such that an experienced dog care specialist will be present to mentor.

Job Skills Required:

* Love for dogs
* Working understanding of dog behavior
* Ability to wash, cut, and groom dog hair
* Ability to provide dog services such as teeth brushing, nail clipping, etc
* Ability to multi-task and prioritize work
* Attention to detail and problem solving skills
* Resourcefulness and ability to problem solve
* Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills
* Ability to not take customer issues personally
* Good listening skills
* Sound understanding of dog behavior.
* The ability to stand for long periods of time.
* The ability to treat all dogs with compassion.
* The ability to lift heavy dogs and equipment.
* Excellent communication skills.
* Exceptional customer service skills.