

## Basic Grooming for an Irish Wolfhound

If your dog has a good harsh, correct, double coat very little grooming will keep your hound's coat in good form. The best toothbrush for an Irish Wolfhound is a good sized bone to chew on. Chewing is best done outside in a patch of sunshine.

### Once a week (or more frequently)

#### Check ears, teeth and under the tail for cleanliness

#### Then use your undercoat rake

- Start at the top of the neck and work your way down the back to the tip of the tail always raking in short strokes in the direction of the hair. Empty the rake as it fills with hair.
- Then back to the top of the neck and work your way down each of the sides of the neck and shoulders then the front of the neck and chest and front legs.
- Then both sides of the body and the outside of the rear legs



#### Next use your pin brush

- I start with the face, gently brush from the tip of the nose to the back of the skull, being careful of the eyes that are pleading with you not to brush the face. Then, brush down both sides of the muzzle. Brush the beard first back toward the body to remove last bits of snack and then forward away from the body so it is ready to be reloaded.
- Next brush the same pattern you did with the rake but this time include under the tail and between the rear legs and the belly. You will have to empty the brush frequently so you are able to properly penetrate the coat to the skin.



### Once every 4 to 6 weeks

#### Use your blunt tip scissors

- trim the hair close to the skin
  - on the feet between the toes and pads
  - on the underside of the tail where it covers the anus
  - the hair around the anus, penis or vulva



#### And, use your nail clippers

- cut toe nails if long



Bathing your hound will make his coat soft temporarily but it will also make him/her more pleasant to hug. So, go ahead and bathe your hound with any harsh coat dog shampoo.

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