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## GROOMING MARVELLOUS

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### Matted Dog Release Form

Under the animal welfare act of 2006 (updated 2010), section 5 - "all animals are to be protected from pain, injury, suffering and disease."

Matted (lightly tangled & or knotted) coats can cause a variety of skin and health problems. Matted fur does not allow air circulation to the skin, causing hotspots, bacterial and fungal infections. Fleas, ticks, maggots and other parasites may be lurking in the coat causing further skin infections. Stickers, burrs and other objects may be tangled in the coat and often embedded or held against the skin causing pain, irritation and/or infection. Matted fur also pulls and binds the skin causing pain to your pet when they move or lay down. The skin underneath is often raw and inflamed. Matted coats will not dry properly and can lead to rotting fur and skin. Due to matting your pet's hair may need to be shaved extremely short to the skin and may show signs of skin irritation and sores due to matting, wet undercoat and dirty coat. Pets that have not been groomed often enough usually result in long, stressful or painful rooming sessions. Some dogs never recover from that experience.

It is the goal of Grooming Marvellous Ltd to make your pets grooming experience as stress free as possible. Therefore Grooming Marvellous Ltd refuses to de-mat coats that have become matted and tangled as when doing so it may cause stress, pain, injury and/or suffering. Grooming Marvellous Ltd will always strive to act in the animals best interest and remove matted and tangled coats in the most humane manner possible.

If your pet has had their ears clipped short, they are also at risk of haematomas. A haematoma occurs on a dog's ears when the matting has become so tight that it has cut off the blood supply to the ends of the ear. When removed, the blood rushes back in and can often burst the blood vessels. This causes the blood to seep out of the tips of the ears. Grooming Marvellous will do everything to avoid haematomas, but, often as the dog is shaking their head, they can occur hours after the grooming session. If this happens at home we would advise to fold the ears on top of their head and use a sock (with the toe part cut off), to slip over the head to secure the ears in place. Then make sure to phone a vet for further advice.

Due to the condition of \_\_\_\_\_'s (pets name) coat, Grooming Marvellous Ltd has determined that the only humane action that can be taken at this time is a short/shave down. This is a short clip removing all the matting. It is unfeasible to de-mat/brushout a coat in this condition and would cause excessive pain and suffering to attempt to do so. Grooming Marvellous Ltd will be happy to show you how to care for your pets coat in future, however, due to the stress and pain it will undoubtedly cause your pet this is not an option at this time.

There is a chance your pet's skin will become more irritated during the clipping process. We recommend using a medicated shampoo to help soothe any irritation that may occur. Due to the mats being tight against the skin, the only way to remove them is to use a short blade to clip between skin and mats. They may be nicked and/or cut because of the tightness of the matting and the need to work so closely to the skin to remove the coat. In the case of some dogs, protection from the sun/cold may be required after clipping for as long as it takes for the coat to re-grow to a protective length. All possible care will be taken, but the possibility of injury exists and by signing this form and leaving your pet for grooming you acknowledge you are aware of the condition of your pets coat, the possible pre-existing issues and the risk of clipping a matted coat as stated above and you give Grooming Marvellous Ltd permission to proceed.

Grooming Marvellous Ltd is not responsible for injuries sustained due to the condition of your pets coat.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (owners name-print), have read the above and understand that my pets coat will be clipped close to the skin to remove all matting. Should my pet need veterinary care during or after the process, I agree to pay any, and all veterinary fees for my above mentioned pets care. I release Grooming Marvellous Ltd from any responsibility of the above mentioned process and all medical issues that may be uncovered and/or occur during the stripping process while working on my pet.

\_\_\_\_\_(owners signature)

Date\_\_\_\_\_