



Expert Grooming Article



# Bearded Collie

*This breed is gaining popularity at shows around the globe. This hardy and active working dog ancestry tells you his coat has to be able to withstand a fairly rigorous and cold climate. The Beardie has a double coat with a soft furry undercoat and a close, harsh textured flat outer coat. It ought to fall naturally to either side and the length and density to provide a protective coat to enhance the dog without obscuring the natural lines of his body. No trimming allowed. (read more over page..)*



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Regarding the preparation of this coat between shows is of great importance to maintain the health of the coat lengths and you can go no further than the **Plush Puppy Seabreeze Oil** to do just that. Use at a dilution rate of 1 tablespoon to 1 gal/4 L bucket of water and slosh well through the coat or sponge through getting right down to the skin. This is an all-natural product from Evening Primrose Oil and Calendula oils etc. Just marvellous. It won't soften the coat but will keep it protected from dehydration and maintain the elasticity of the coat. This is an active working dog so he will tend to be an outdoorsy dog if he is allowed to be himself and this will ensure minimum wear and tear.

For show preparation, start with the **Plush Puppy Herbal Whitening Shampoo** for all your blacks and blues as this will not soften but will tone any unwanted warm tones keeping that nice blueish, silvery overtone to the coat. For the browns and fawns use the **Plush Puppy All Purpose Shampoo** with Henna for shine and good depth to the light reflect on the hair. Neither of these will soften the coat and dilute for easier dispersion at a ratio of 5 parts water to one-part shampoo. Should you have any colour fade on the blacks or blues, use the Whitening Shampoo for tonal effect to deepen the colour slightly. For greater whitening or stain removal use **Plush Puppy Wonder Blok**, this product is one of our proudest achievements in helping to maintain a white stain free coat. It's not a bleach and contains no harmful chemicals but with the use of modern technology and high amounts of naturally sourced vegetable surfactants and glycerin this product is designed to remove gently unwanted warm/red tones to the coat. Best used on a damp/wet coat. Gently rub into the areas requiring allow time (5-10 minutes) and rinse. For maximum effects repeat or allow a longer time for this amazing product to work. As with all products take care around eyes.

For dogs with a soft coat and needs to have more texture try **Plush Puppy Texture +Shampoo**, another product formulated using the latest technology to retain and improve coat texture. Recommended to thoroughly yet gently cleanse and deodorise the coat of Terriers and other wire, harsh or coarse coated breeds without softening or compromising texture. It's ideal for boosting body and coarseness in coats of all colours and coat types. Formulated to be pH controlled, creates/ maintains texture, easy to rinse out and low irritant with a subtle apple fragrance. Incorporates Gentian Root Extract, Juniper Fruit Extract, St John's Wort Leaf Extract, Norway Spruce Leaf Extract, Hayflower Extract, Lemon Balm Leaf Extract, Arnica Flower Extract. Use dilute up to 1:10 or apply undiluted directly to areas requiring cleansing. Rinse thoroughly.



Around the head and face use **Plush Puppy Let's Face It**, an amazing product for face's using the very latest of technology combined with natural holistic properties. It's tearless formula with anti-inflammatory benefits is hypoallergenic. Key ingredients are Blue Cypress extracts, panthenol and Pro Vit B. Apply a golf ball sized amount directly to the face and eyes, massage in without causing any irritation.

In your final rinse water, add 1 tablespoon of **Plush Puppy Blow Dry Cream** and 1 tablespoon **Plush Puppy Swishy Coat** to a bucket of water and liberally apply, saturating the whole of the coat. The Blow Dry Cream will flatten the coat and the Swishy will help eliminate the wave and assist with reducing the fly away effects of static. Should the coat be really too voluminous or a puppy coat which doesn't sit flat, then a bit more Blow Dry Cream can be added to the mix. If the coat is really dehydrated, then a light touch of **Plush Puppy Silk Protein Conditioner** can be added into the bucket mix as well. I tend to avoid any conditioner on this type of coat as conditioners will soften the texture. Now work into the mid lengths and ends, a good handful of Plush Puppy Reviva Coat.

You can use a treatment to the coat to put some extra assistance down into the hair shaft with **Plush Puppy Coat Rescue** 1 tablespoon to 500 ml (16oz) of water. This won't soften but will re-hydrate and strengthen the coat. Treat as a mid-week treatment. Apply and leave in.

A revolutionary and innovative addition to any tack box is **Plush Puppy FAST** Blow Dry Spray, combines the latest active ingredients together to dramatically reduce drying time, adds moisture and conditions while protecting the coat. It contains a recently discovered ingredient from the Australian Native Flame Tree that makes dry or old coat feel and look perfect. It also protects the coat from damage from sun and heat. It contains a slight hold ingredient for better coat management and a special active ingredient that eliminates static electricity and stops the flyaway's. FAST is probably the most technically advanced formula in the Plush Puppy Range to date.

Never use a bristle brush to work through wet coat. It will stretch and snap the coat over time. The coat is at its most vulnerable when really wet. Once you can

readily work the comb through the coat, section up the top part of the coat and start blow drying the underneath lengths with a cool dryer and a **Plush Puppy Ultimate Pin Brush**. This won't give you the ultimate in straightening but will be kind to the coat till it is ¾ dry and then switch to an oval cushioned ½ bristle ½ dialon brush such as the **Plush Puppy Ultimate Anti-Static Porcupine Brush**. This will give you the smoother finish you require. **Plush Puppy's Professional Grooming Combs** are built for absolute ergonomic comfort in various sizes. The lightweight oval shaped spine combining fine and coarse pins made of hardened stainless steel with anodic oxide finish that reduces drag and static to the coat. Perfect for use for this breed of dog.

**Plush Puppy OMG** is a revolutionary grooming spray that lives up to its name. OMG is the perfect product for this coat type when used correctly. A light spray of OMG and brushing in allows this product to refresh the coat leaving it feeling wonderful it separates the coat and leaves the most amazing finish. Using an approximate mixture of 1-part OMG to 30-40 parts water using this break down from the OMG concentrate. The stronger the mix the stronger their effects. Using OMG can be a one off at shows or during the drying process after bathing. An amazing product for regular brushing also as it hydrates the coat and reduces stress and coat loss. OMG and as its active ingredients smooth the cuticle and protect the coat. For this coat type that you still wish to retain the texture at a higher breakdown will still allow you to brush the dog and refresh to coat without over softening. OMG never builds up, never goes stringy. A product that took years to develop using the latest of technology for maximum effects. A true necessity for the tool kit. This is a great moisturiser and reduces tangles and snarls in the coat.

At times due to various reasons including the weather static electricity can create flyaways. If this occurs use **Plush Puppy Anti-Static Coat Control**. This is a lightweight spray using the latest technology is infused with organic extracts of Witch Hazel Leaf, Linden Flower, Birch Bark and Nettle. It also adds to the protection, include a UV filter to stop sun damage and protect against heat strength for the perfect finished look of the coat. This amazing product is idea for this breed and a must for your tack box.

**Plush Puppy Wonder Wash** for last minute clean ups and always keep that blow dryer handy. I know it is a lot of time consuming work but this dog is sensational when presented beautifully and if you want to win the big stuff then you have to do big stuff to get there.

**Plush Puppy Puffy Dog+**, is a doggy styling mousse for lift and hold, approx. a tennis ball amount to your hand and work through all the coat of the top of the head from root to end. Brush up and against the growth till 3/4 dry and then lightly comb into place without flattening.

You want the illusion of putting air into it for fullness and height, allowing you to see that lovely Bearded eye and expression. You can further hold in place by applying **Plush Puppy Sit N Stay**, just a touch to the fingertips, warmed through by rubbing together till tacky and then applying at the roots by grabbing down into the coat and clenching the fingers and dragging up to the mid lengths.

For more coat use **Plush Puppy Volumising Spray** a 'Ready to Use' for quicker, easier and fuller coat results. Perfect either before blow drying or used to 'fluff' up the coat at the show. A light even spray, brush in until dry or use a dryer. Produced for easy use and scientifically balanced for all coat types. This is a hair thickener to add volume - not a hair stiffener and not easily detectable as it leaves the coat with a natural fuller look and feel.

To calm the fly away ends at shows use **Plush Puppy Protein Coat Balm** to both your hands and wipe down the mid lengths to the ends clumping your hands to a fist with a touch extra of the balm to the ends to add a modicum of weight to the hemline.

Now you have prepared your bearded to their very best. This breed is always a contender in the ring.

