



Expert Grooming Article



Italian Greyhound

The name of the breed is a reference to the breed's popularity in Renaissance Italy. Mummified dogs very similar to the Italian Greyhound (or small Greyhounds) have been found in Egypt, and pictorials of small Greyhounds have been found in Pompeii and they were probably the only accepted companion-dog there. As an amusing aside the expression 'Cave Canem' (Beware of the dog) was a warning to visitors, not that the dogs would attack but to beware of damaging, tripping over or stepping on the small dogs. Gone are the generations that just tossed them from field to showing and expected to win with the mud still clinging to the coat. (read more over page...)



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Plush Puppy® Australia Pty Ltd
info@plushpuppy.com.au
Ph: +61 7 3010 8800
8 Natasha Street, Capalaba QLD 4157
Facebook: PlushPuppyAustralia
Instagram: PlushPuppyAustralia



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It's showtime folks! If you want to cut the mustard with the best of them, then it's time to do what the best of them do. The Greyhound standards call for a short, close and fine coat.

Let's start show bathing.

With this head use **Plush Puppy Let's Face It Shampoo**. This is a hypoallergenic sulfate free low foaming shampoo designed for faces. It's a nil fragrance; no tear formula with the highest quality Blue Cypress Extracts, Panthenol with Pro Vitamin B and SugaNate. These special ingredients clean, sooth, add moisture, aids healing and has anti-inflammatory benefits. A small golf ball sized amounts directly to the face and eye area allows you to thoroughly clean without causing irritation. Can be used in and around ears also with the same benefits. Its low foaming design allows easy rinsing yet complete cleaning.

First is to analysis approach of assessing your dog's coat at this point and then making decisions on what shampoo to use. If the coat is just right, then you choose **Plush Puppy All Purpose Shampoo** with Henna used at a ratio of at least 5:1 (5 parts water to 1 part shampoo) or up to 10:1.

If the coat is too dry, then you will need to get some conditioning into the coat. Use the **Plush Puppy Natural Conditioning Shampoo with Evening Primrose**. Again use at a rate of 5:1 or up to 10:1. The coat should not need a conditioner as such after this but does need to have the moisture content of the coat kept up. Conditioners which are acid balanced will in fact soften the coat, but a moisturiser will keep up the quality and elasticity in the coat preventing dry and brittle coats.

For whites or parti colours use the **Plush Puppy Herbal Whitening Shampoo** diluted 5:1 for that nice white finish to the whites and to tone the unwanted rusty tones of the darker colour of the coat.

For extra whitening and best for stained areas use **Plush Puppy Wonder Blok**. It's not a bleach and contains no harmful chemicals but high amounts of naturally sourced vegetable surfactants and glycerin. This product is designed to gently remove 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 maximum effect try applying the day prior to bath day. Apply and simply leave on.

For your conditioning rinse use the **Plush Puppy Silk Protein Conditioner** at 1:10. Use more on a dryish or damaged coat. You can rinse the conditioner out or partly leave it in depending on your specific coat requirements. It has natural active ingredients to help soften and rehydrate the coat. If you are doing a maintenance bath, then leave the conditioner in. For light conditioning use **Plush Puppy Reviva Coat**. This is a mousse foam that adds amazing hydration to the coat without over softening the coat. It will enable you to have hydration and protection plus shine to the coat. Apply golf ball sized amounts to your hand and work in until the dogs coat is fully hydrated.

For heavier duty protection, you can lightly oil the coat with the **Plush Puppy Seabreeze Oil** - good if your dog is outdoors in a harsh climate. This all may seem extravagant and hard work for a seemingly no nonsense dog, but good presentation is an important



factor these days and your dog has to be a complete picture. Use at ½ tablespoon to 4 L / 1 Gallon of water. Apply with a sponge all over and do not rinse.

A revolutionary innovative **Plush Puppy FAST** Blow Dry Spray dramatically reduces drying time, adds moisture and conditions while protecting the coat. It contains Australian Native Flame Tree extracts that make a dry coat feel and look perfect. It also protects the coat from damage from sun and heat. FAST is amazing on short coats for producing a brilliant shine. A light spray to a wet/damp coat, then brush through before drying.

Then, use the brush once again or the grooming mitt followed by a few wisps of **Plush Puppy Pixie Dust** sprinkled lightly onto the coat for inner shimmer. If you have white areas that need attention, then use the **Plush Puppy Cover Up Cream**, a white paste applied with a damp piece of kitchen sponge. Blend with **Plush Puppy Fairy Frost Regular**. This is an ultra-fine and bright white powder. Plush Puppy Fairy Frost is a more effective and innovative approach to the usual methods of white chalking and adding powder to coats. Fairy Frost will create the brightest white tone that clings all day without clumping. It covers all coats without creating harshness. Fine and easy to use, our formulation makes a little goes a long way. Plush Puppy Fairy Frost Regular is naturally sourced and contains no chalk or talc.

Finish with a light spray of **Plush Puppy Shine and Comb**. Lastly a quick spray with **Plush Puppy Odour Muncher**. It literally munches the odour and works well for smelly problems such as emergencies in transit. Leaves a subtle fragrance - certainly not too much and definitely not too little.

In between shows, continue with the **Plush Puppy Reviva Coat** applied and left in the coat to protect and moisturise.

This is one of the most elegant sighthounds with their refinement and stylish outline makes for a competitive show dog.

