

## How To Groom A Newfoundland

This is probably the best and most comprehensive article on how to groom a Newfoundland I have ever seen and is courtesy of Logrus Newfoundlands.

### What you need:

- shampoo
- conditioner
- dry towels
- blowdryer
- grooming table
- cotton-wool for cleaning ears
- nail clippers
- metal comb
- pin-brush, soft
- straight scissors
- thinning scissors (with one blade with cutting teeth) n°46
- dematting comb (we will use it for another purpose)



Before grooming dog MUST be bathed, thoroughly dried and combed.

### Bathing:

Show dogs must be bathed a day before every show and in between shows every 15-20 days for black and browns and every 10-15 days for black & whites. Frequent bathing removes oil from the coat, so shampoo, conditioner and other grooming supplies used must be of especially good quality. To start bathing, dilute shampoo in an approx 2-3 gallon bucket of water. Wet dog thoroughly with warm (!!!) water. After wetting, lather dog with the diluted shampoo and massage it into the coat. Make sure to wash the dog's face, muzzle, between the eyes and under the ears. Be careful not to get shampoo in the dog's eyes or ears. Next rinse all the shampoo out. Rinse, rinse, rinse and when you think you are done, rinse again. This step is extremely important as soap left in the coat is dulling and causes dandruff like flakes. If the coat is very dirty you can lather and repeat. Once the dog is thoroughly rinsed, apply conditioner, wait a few minutes and rinse. If showing your dog the following day, rinse out pretty much all of the conditioner. If not showing, you can leave a bit on the coat. After rinsing out conditioner, let the dog drop a minute and shake. Then start towel drying. While drying it is very important not to RUB the dog with towels. Always squeeze the excess out of the coat into the towel. You will need several thick towels for this part. Once the dog has been towel dried, he can be put on the grooming table to begin drying and grooming.

### Drying:

Use a high powered cool air blow dryer to dry the coat of your Newfie. Start to blow out all water from the coat, be careful around eyes, nose and ears. Next start to dry (always blowing the coat downward, with exception to the top of the head). Start along the topline from the upper part of the neck, back and then croup. If your dog's coat has a bit of a wave, you can brush and dry the coat at the same time, but be careful and don't scratch the skin. Next dry the lower part of the neck and left flank, after this belly, right flank, forequarters, backquarters and tail. Dry the coat between the toes upward, as well as the front legs to help give the appearance of more bone. At last blow dry the coat on the dog's head starting from the back of the head and blowdry it forwards. Carefully dry the ears and under the ears and cheeks. When dog is completely dry you can start to brush and

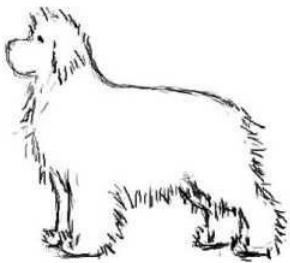
comb it.

## Brushing and combing:

Start with brushing all of the coat and then comb it thoroughly to remove any mats, paying close attention to rear pants, the stomach area back between the rear legs, under and behind the ears and under the armpits. Starting at the rear feet, lift the hair up and away from the skin and comb the remaining hair in a downward motion, working a section at a time, moving upwards to the top of the dog's hindquarters. Repeat the process with the second leg and then between the rear legs (carefully!) and then the tail from tip to tail set. Next, start on the topline working from the croup to the neck, and then flanks from belly to topline. Remember to comb thoroughly under the armpits. Lastly, comb forequarters, neck, under and behind ears and head. Now cut the nails and clean the ears.

## Grooming:

Before



by Logrus

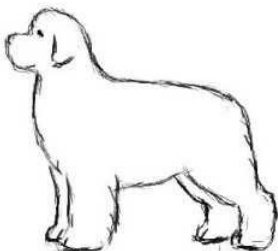


by Logrus



by Logrus

After



by Logrus



by Logrus



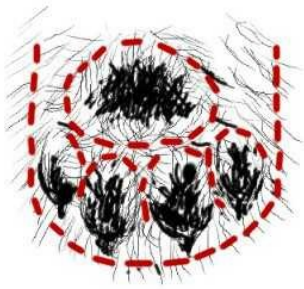
by Logrus

You can start to groom your dog when it is completely dry. If this is your first attempt at a show trim, don't do it just before a show or practice on a non-show dog. If groomed incorrectly, it will need time to grow out. Rule number one – It's always better to cut less, than too much! Always comb, trim a little, comb again and see what it looks like before trimming more. For a good trim job, good quality scissors are very important. Remember to comb coat thoroughly before trimming.

A Newfoundland, must have a medium – long coat, without over-long and wispy bits of hairs. Trimmed dogs MUST still have a natural looking appearance, be careful to not overtrim or leave cut lines in the coat. The standard states that the Newf may be “trimmed for neatness” but overtrimming is to be avoided.

## Paws

Start with the front paws. First under the paw, cut hair that grows between the pads. Do not cut farther back on the foot than the very back edge of the large circular pad as it will cause the feathers to be too short.



by Logrus

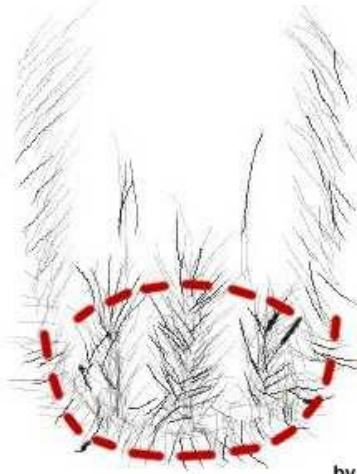


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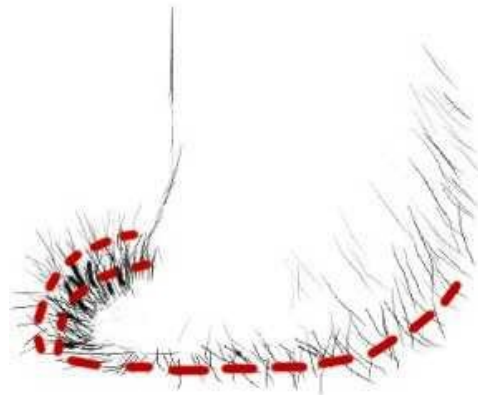
before

after

Lift the hair between the toes combing upwards and cut using straight scissors to make a nice, compact round “cat-like” foot, but don't cut too much off the top of the foot or around the sides. . Nails should not be visible nor should you be able to distinguish each toe. On the rear part of foot towards the feathers, the hair must touch the ground and gently curve upward to blend with the feathers.

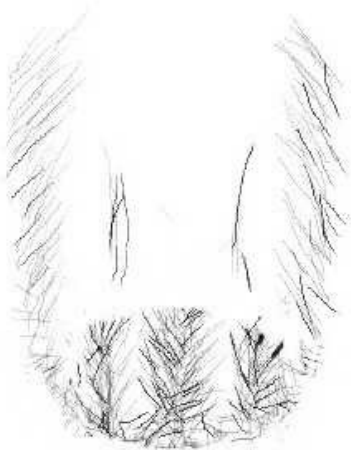


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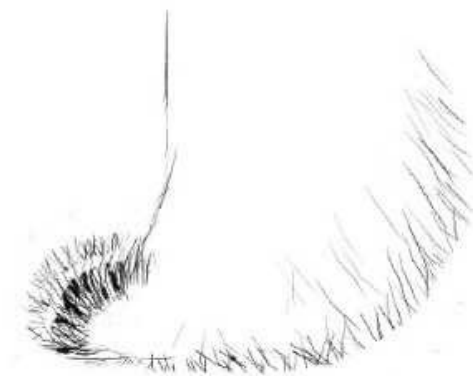


by Logrus

before (above) & after (below)



by Logrus



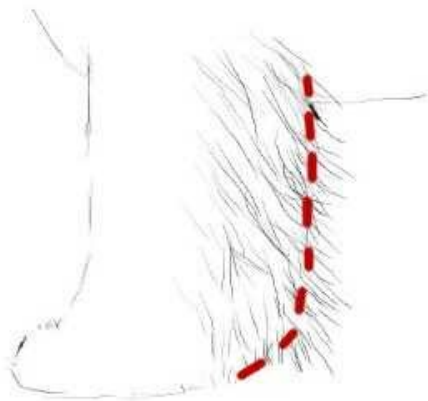
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Cut the rear feet in the same manner.

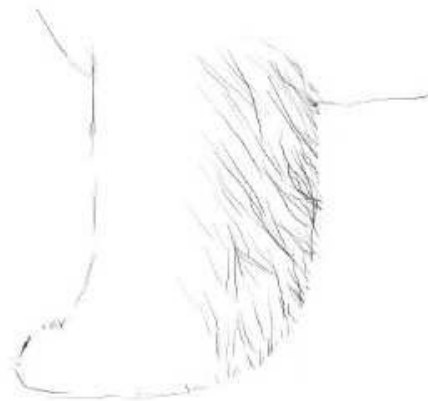
Change scissors to thinning and from now use only them and the comb. Cut only in direction of hairs, never upwards - comb the hairs in the part you are working and cut, comb and cut. Cut the coat in this manner when cutting on other parts of the dog.

### **Forequarters**

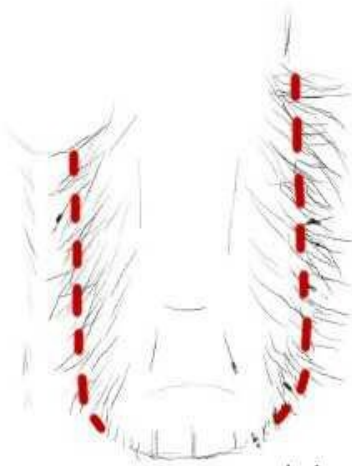
First carefully trim just the scraggly edges on both feathers, trimming both to equal length. Trim the feathers on the back part of the leg first, next outside and then inside. Cut more on the inside if dog has narrow chest, but don't exaggerate!



by Logrus



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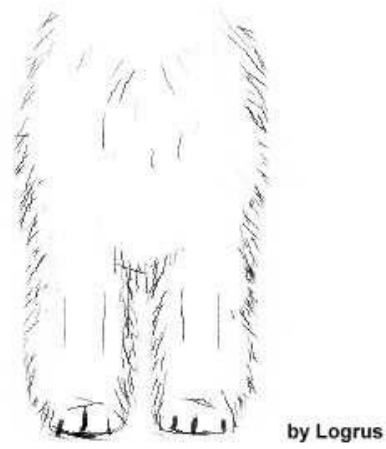
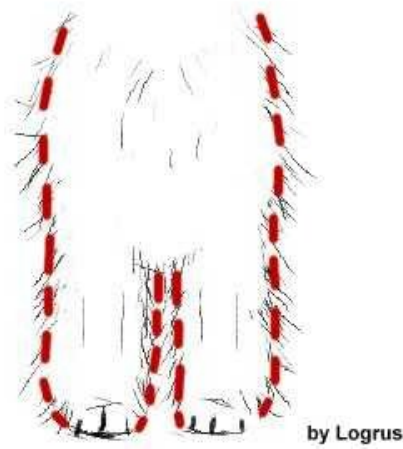


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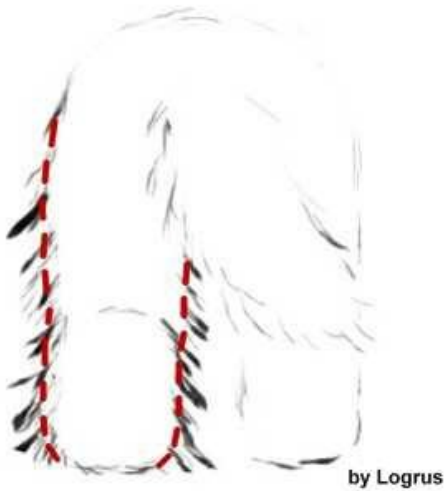
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Front When viewing from the front, the front legs must appear as a continuation of a straight line from the point of the shoulder to the ground with proper layback of shoulder and upper arm. Make sure there are no over-long hair in these areas, especially on the elbows! Trim all undesirable long tips of hair on the shoulders, upper arms and elbow to make "clean" lines.

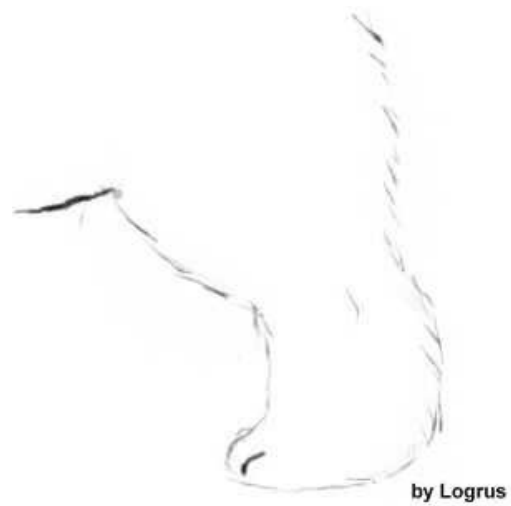
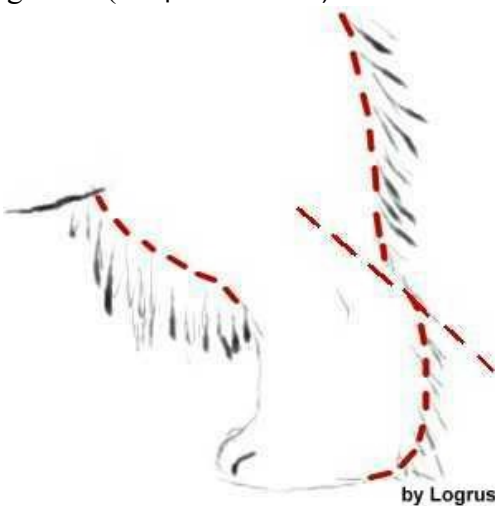


### Hindquarters

Same rule applies to rear legs, look from behind and trim hairs downward from croup to feet. Cut more if dog moves close behind, less if it moves correctly.

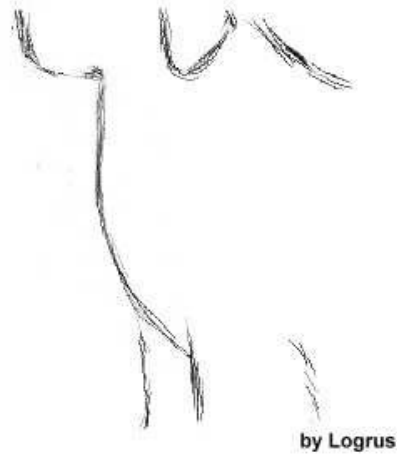
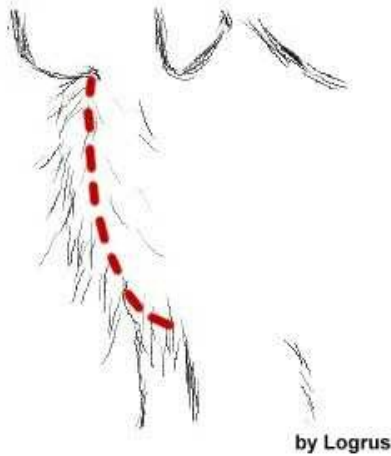


Looking at angulation from the side, cut excess hairs under knee and hock. Because Newfoundland must have short heels (hocks) trim hairs starting from the hocks downward in angle of 45°, and lower part vertically to the ground (see picture below).



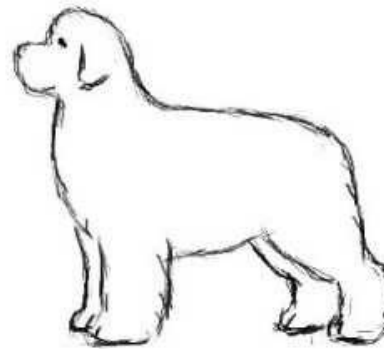
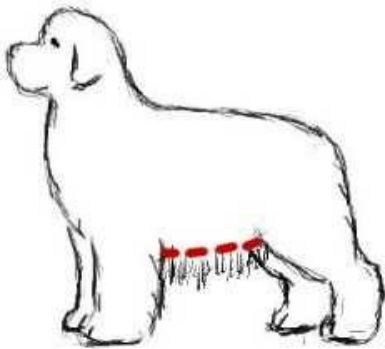
## Chest

Hairs on the chest very often grow too long and need to be carefully trimmed quite a bit. Especially on the throat, trim accurately. If hairs below the breast-bone are very long it creates an illusion of short forelegs, so trim the long hairs to make a soft curve. Trim excess coat on the sides downward from ears to the breast, too.

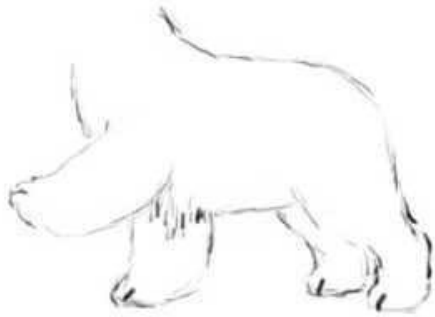


## Underline

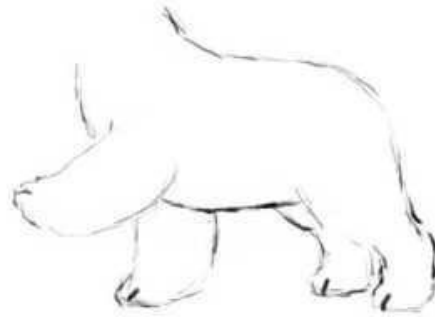
Start from the back working towards front, first left flank, next right flank. Trim hairs on the belly and breast starting from hindquarters ending at armpit and angling scissors in a downward fashion. Don't cut too much making impression of too long legs or too less (short legs). Ideally leave hair no shorter than several inches below elbow. This will depend on individual dog. News should appear substantial and slightly longer than tall when viewed from the side. Too long or too short of a belly trim can create an undesirable optical illusion.



Pick up foreleg and trim under armpit connecting the line of chest with underline. Repeat it with second foreleg  
See picture below.



by Logrus



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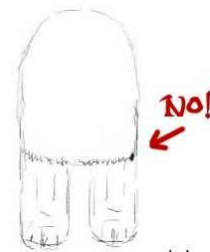
Now imagine body of your dog in breadth section. Shape of underline must be rounded to flanks, it is insufficient to trim only the underline.



by Logrus



by Logrus



by Logrus

before

after

not like this!

Trim more behind armpits, if you don't the over long hairs will be visible when the dog is moved in the ring.

### Topline

Sometimes it doesn't need any correction. However, sometimes hairs on the neck and croup are very thick so dog appears to have a mane and/or too high in the croup. To correct this, use a demating comb to eliminate excess of undercoat. A Mars coat king, used carefully, works very well.



by Logrus



by Logrus

before

after



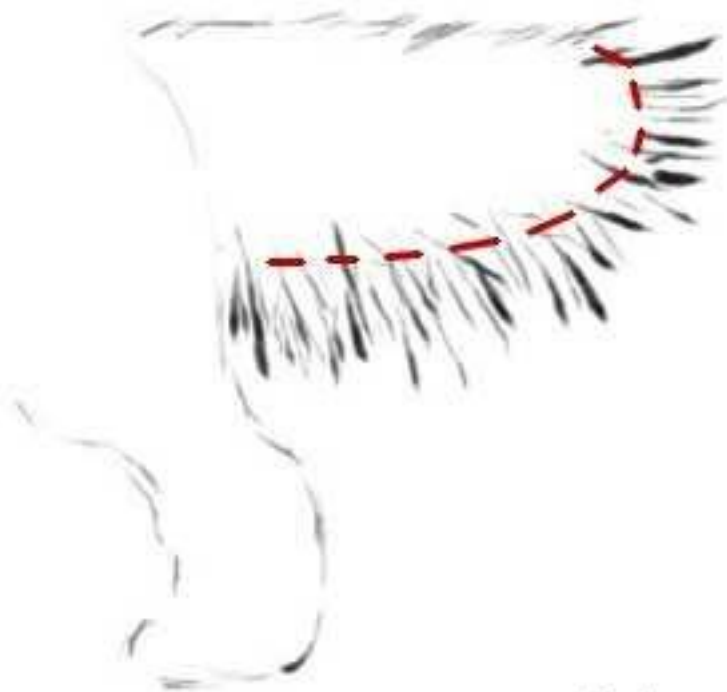
before



after

### **Tail**

Trimming a tail is not always necessary, only if it forms a flag.



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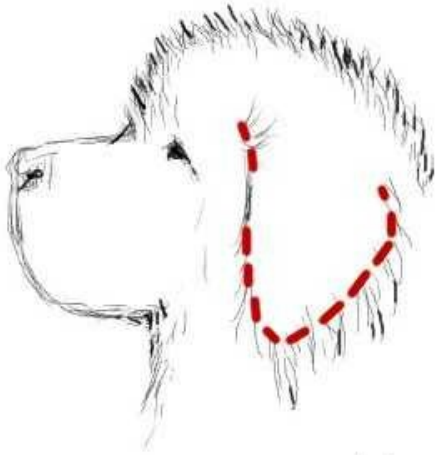


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### **Head**

Start from the ears. Trim hair on ears until they don't project past the edge of the ear combing always downward. Tip of the ears must be rounded not pointed.



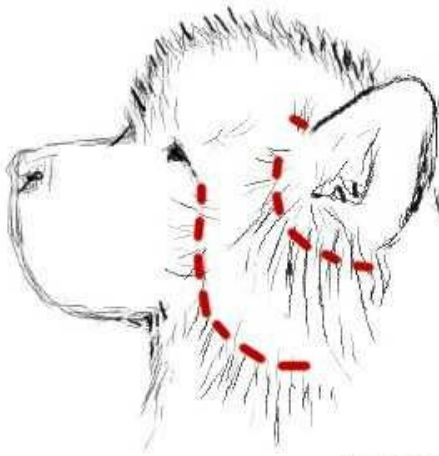


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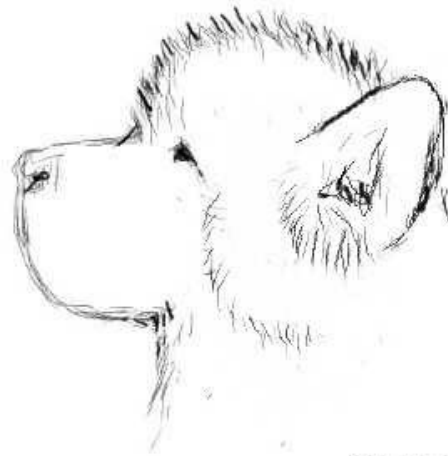


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Now under the ear. Trim all greasy hair growth under the ear, trim hair growth on the cheek..

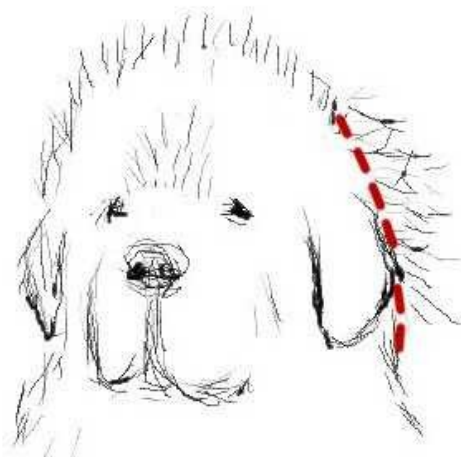


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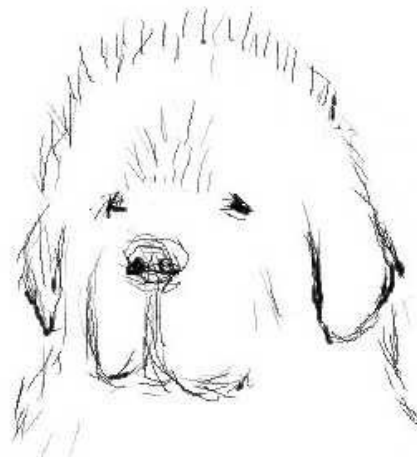


by Logrus

Often hair behind the ears is very soft and overly long thus ruining the shape of the head. Trim it downward from earset, blending into neck.



by Logrus



by Logrus

For excessively long hair on the top of the head, comb it upward and trim to obtain a rounded shape.



by Logrus



by Logrus

Stand the dog on the ground and ask somebody to gait (move) it. Any areas that need additional trimming will be immediately evident.

Show dogs need to be trimmed every 2-3 weeks