



Tips to help prepare for your cat's at-home grooming appointment

Cats are highly intuitive creatures, so be sure your energy is calm. If they pick up on your stress or anxiousness before or during the grooming, it can greatly affect the outcome. The most important tip for success is to create a calm environment.

Other people in your household? They'll need to know these tips too, especially about keeping noise and sounds to a minimum.

- ___ Turn off any loud sounds such as the TV or other appliances
- ___ Put on **music created just for cats**
- ___ Play with your cat beforehand to help them release some energy
- ___ Gather their favorite treats and toys
- ___ Minimize any possible escape routes by closing off all doors (especially to bedrooms where they can easily hide under the bed)
- ___ If you use pheromone sprays such as Feliway, spray the area (and/or the towel/blanket)
- ___ Have paper towels nearby
- ___ I will have towels with me, but if there's a special towel or blanket with your cat's scent on it, then have that at ready
- ___ I use a Furminator brush, but if your cat prefers their own brush with their scent, I can use that (however, if your cat has matting, I will have to use the Furminator)

*****Safety comes first. If your cat is known to be "feisty" you will need to administer a calming solution to ease their stress. If using a prescription such as Gabapentin, be sure to administer it 90-120 minutes before the appointment so it doesn't wear off. If you're using a holistic solution such as calming chews, or Rescue Remedy, etc. carefully follow the manufacturer's directions for timing. Cats who exhibit aggressive/fractious behavior during grooming pose a safety risk to themselves and to me. If a cat becomes unmanageable or unsafe to handle, I reserve the right to stop the groom at any point. Fees for attempted/partial grooms are not refundable as time and handling have been allocated. *****

After the grooming session, I recommend keeping the same calming environment for them to decompress. They'll let you know when they're back to normal.

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