

Student Handbook

Australian Certified Cat Groomer Course

Groomer Nation Pty Ltd and **Cat Grooming Education** have partnered to offer the **Australian Certified Cat Groomer** Certification. This collaboration brings together their expertise and extensive knowledge to provide a comprehensive certification for cat groomers in Australia.

The certification aims to set a professional standard in feline grooming, combining best practices, up-to-date education and industry support.

The theory component is completed online at your own pace.

Step 1: Theory

Acquire the essential knowledge needed to thrive in cat grooming.

This extensive course is tailored for both aspiring and seasoned groomers, offering vital theoretical insights and best practices for safe, effective and compassionate grooming.

Explore feline anatomy, skin and coat health, breed-specific grooming techniques and the unique behavioural traits of cats that can impact each grooming session.

Our all-encompassing curriculum enables you to grasp the science behind grooming, identify common skin and coat problems and choose the appropriate tools and techniques for every feline client. Additionally, you'll learn to recognise feline stress signals, implement low-stress handling methods and create a serene, cat-friendly atmosphere that prioritises safety and comfort.

Module 1: History and Selective Breeding

Discover the history of feline domestication and selective breeding.

Learn grooming techniques specific to different breeds and coat types. Read about the basics of DNA coat colours and how colours affect coat requirements.

- History and Selective Breeding
- Coat Types and Colours
- 2 quizzes

Module 2: Anatomy, Diseases and Conditions and Parasites

Explore the cat's skeletal and organ systems and examine the structure of skin, hair follicles and hair shafts to understand their significance.

Understand diseases and conditions that may affect grooming practices and learn how to handle situations where a cat may exhibit known conditions or symptoms within a professional grooming setting.

Study infectious diseases, zoonosis and parasites, including guidelines for infection control.

- Skeleton
- Organs
- Skin & Hair
- Diseases & Conditions
- Parasites
- Infection Control
- 6 quizzes

Module 3: Behaviour and Handling

Explore the various socialisation periods and their significance in grooming. Understand the different temperaments present in the grooming setting and the appropriate ways to approach each.

Identify behaviours such as displacement, overstimulation and various forms of aggression, along with strategies for behaviour modification.

Gain insights into body language and discover how to enhance your communication skills as a groomer to minimise stress.

Familiarise yourself with handling equipment and techniques for low-stress handling.

- Feline Behaviour
- Feline Body Language
- Feline Temperaments
- Behaviour Modification Techniques
- Handling Accessories and Holds
- 5 Quizzes

Module 4: Tools, Products and Equipment

Learn how shampoo and conditioner function, delve into the basic science of their ingredients and discover different application methods.

Gain a foundational understanding of common grooming product ingredients.

Explore the structure of clippers, blades and scissors along with their necessary maintenance routines.

- Grooming Tools
- Product Choice
- Clippers and Maintenance
- Blades and Maintenance
- Scissors and Maintenance
- 5 Quizzes

Module 5: Business

Gain foundational knowledge and understand the legal requirements for starting various business structures, with practical advice from grooming professionals with over 15 years of experience.

Explore business standards for different types, locations and structures, alongside insights from established cat grooming business owners.

Learn practical approaches to pricing, service packaging and membership programmes.

Acquire essential first aid skills, including what to include in a first aid kit and how to respond to emergencies.

Master the fundamentals of client communication, from drafting policies and creating new client forms to managing preferences, scheduling appointments and handling rebooking.

- Business Basics
- Client Communication
- Australian Legislation and Welfare
- Pricing Services
- First Aid
- 5 Quizzes

Module 6: Bathing

Explore the full range of bathing and drying equipment available for stationary, mobile and house call grooming.

Master de-shedding techniques suitable for all cat groomers, alongside guidance on nail clipping and safe handling practices.

Find age-specific grooming advice for both kittens and senior cats, as well as insights into typical behaviours and conditions encountered in a salon setting.

This module provides step-by-step procedures and video demonstrations for bathing, blow-drying and de-shedding, tailored for both short haired and long haired cats, preparing you for Step 2: Practical Assessments.

You'll also learn specialist techniques for trimming the head and face of Persian cats and watch video guides for grooming hairless and aggressive cats, equipping you for real-world grooming scenarios.

- Bathing Equipment
- Blow-drying Equipment
- De-shedding Techniques
- Nail Clipping
- Kitten Grooming
- Senior Cats
- Short haired Cats Bathing (videos and procedures)
- Long haired Cats Bathing (videos and procedures)
- Hairless Cats (videos)
- Aggressive Cats (videos)
- 7 quizzes

Module 7: Clipping

Access the procedures, guidelines and video demonstrations of the de-matting process, sectional clipping, the classic lion clip, the modified lion clip, the teddy clip and the comb clip.

This module provides safe industry standards for completing Step 2 Assessment Tasks number 3-6 using low-stress handling techniques. The informational videos cover mat removal, style clipping and clipper angulation techniques.

- Clipper Angulation
- De-matting Techniques (videos and procedures)
- Sectional Clipping (videos)
- Classic Lion Clip (videos and procedures)
- Modified Lion Clip (videos and procedures)
- Teddy Clip (videos and procedures)
- Comb Clip (videos and procedures)
- 2 quizzes

Knowledge evidence

Each section has quizzes specified to compare your understanding of the content to real-world industry knowledge requirements.

After finishing all modules, you will complete three case studies designed to assess your grasp of the content and how you would apply it to real scenarios relevant to a cat grooming business.

Competency-based training and assessment:

Once you have finished the theoretical modules and completed the quizzes and case studies, you obtain a Theory Certificate. For the full certification, you can choose to take on the Step 2 Assessment tasks 1-6 whenever you feel prepared, so that you can adhere to industry-standard timeframes and assessment criteria. These evaluations need to be finished within a year of completing Step 1 to receive the 'Australian Certified Cat Groomer' certificate.

Expectations of students

- Adhere to copyright and plagiarism laws and regulations.
- Always follow workplace health and safety standards.
- Comply with anti-discrimination laws, including but not limited to equal opportunities and disability discrimination.
- Maintain behaviour that is appropriate for a professional environment at all times.
- Utilise low-stress handling techniques during training or while certified under this organisation.
- Always adhere to standards for animal health and welfare.

Student support

If you encounter any difficulties while completing quizzes or case studies, please don't hesitate to reach out for support. You can email us directly, and our team will assist you to resolve any issues or answer questions you may have. We're committed to helping you succeed throughout your training.

Recognition of prior learning

Due the extensive knowledge and practical evidence required to complete the full certification, we do not have an RPL option.

Refund Policy

Please note that all course fees are non-refundable. Once payment has been processed and your enrolment is confirmed, no refunds will be issued, including withdrawal from the course or failure to complete the certification. The full theory component is live as soon as payment is received.

We recommend that you carefully consider your commitment prior to enrolling. If you have any questions regarding the course or your suitability, please contact us before making payment.

Assessment Procedures

Assessments are available Online, via Zoom, or in-person by purchasing Step 2: Assessments. Assessment tasks are only available in Step 2: Assessments.

To see the full assessment outline, go to this section on our website.

To enrol, pay and be given access, click here: [Step 2: Assessments](#).

International Students

Are you not located in Australia and want to complete this certification? We accept students worldwide. Contact us to be added to our international course.

Contact Information

For any questions about Online, Zoom, In-Person assessments or have any questions about the course, contact Groomer Nation at info@groomernation.com.au

Support materials and resources are available in the online student portal.

Termination Policy

Participation in the certification program may be terminated under the following circumstances: if a student is found to have breached our integrity guidelines, displayed inappropriate or unsafe behaviour in a professional setting, during assessments or failed to comply with Groomer Nation's code of conduct or any animal welfare guidelines.