

# Grooming Your Bulldog



**Ears:** Use a cotton round (not a cotton swab) to clean your bullies ears at least once a week. Apply alcohol or "Bull-doggie Wash" to the cotton round and wipe out the ears or pour a small amount directly into the ear canal.

Mix the following ingredients together for use as an **ear wash, wrinkle cleaner, and tail cleaner**. Used several times per week, it keeps away unsightly tearstains too.

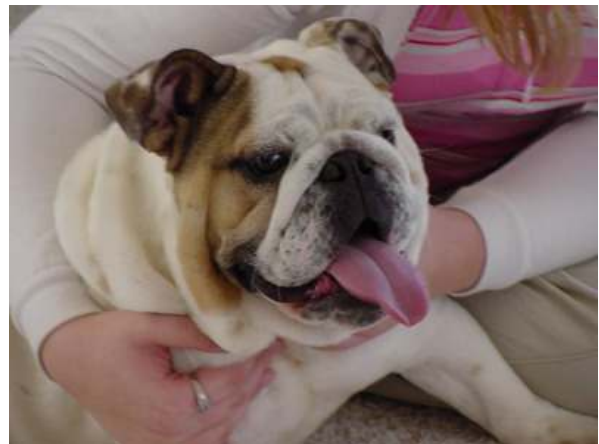
## **Bull-doggie Wash:**

- 1 part peroxide
- 1 part white vinegar
- 2 parts warm water



Stored in a closed container, it will stay good for months.

**Wrinkles:** A Bulldog's face is covered with wrinkles and that is his trademark for sure. This is a trademark that requires **daily** care to keep him comfortable and healthy. Using the Bull-doggie Wash and a cotton round, clean well around and under those wrinkles, making sure not to get any in his eyes. Then dry the area. Used daily, this will eliminate tear stains.





### **Tail:**

Bulldogs have a small indented area underneath the tail. It is commonly referred to as the tail pocket. Special effort is needed to keep the pocket clean and dry. If not properly cared for, your Bulldog may end up with an infection. Use unscented baby wipes to clean under the tail at least a couple of times per week. Your Bullie will most likely be licking the air while you do this (normal but funny to see). For problem pockets, try Malaseb Pledgets.



### **Genital area:**

Unscented wipes are also good for keeping the genital area clean. Use the wipe along with the Bull-doggie Wash to keep the area free of stains as well.



### **Nails:**

Trimming your dogs nails is very important, not only for your comfort, but for your dog's as well. This should be done at least once every 2 weeks. If you are going to use a nail clipper, I recommend Resco clippers. Make sure the blade is always sharp. The nail should be cut from underneath, not from the top downward. Slide the opening over the end of the nail while staying in the whitish part of the nail. The pink area of the nail is the live part and has blood vessels throughout. It's a good idea to have some Kwik Stop on hand in case you cut too short. Be sure not to cut to the quick. A good rule of thumb is to cut just until the curve. Or, use a nail file like the one attached to this Dremel Tool. (This is just like the one the ladies in the nail shops use.) It takes about 3 seconds per nail, once or twice a week, to keep the nails trim and smooth. Your dog's nails will be easiest to trim right after a bath because the water softens them.



**Bathing:** If your bullie sleeps with you, you probably want to bathe him more often than others. Using an adjustable hand-held showerhead in the shower is probably the easiest way to do this. Just walk your dog into the shower and wet from the neck down. Apply shampoo and lather. Carefully, use a small amount of the lather on the dog's face, but stay away from the eyes and ears. Those are cleaned outside of the shower. Rinse well, **very well**. Residue left on the coat can cause dry, itchy skin. This kind of showerhead allows precision.



**If you want to bathe your dog often, your choice in shampoo is critical.** By using an organic shampoo, you can safely bathe your dog once a week. Aubrey Organics Organimals Shampoo & Conditioner are great products available at Whole Foods and most major health food stores.

**Brushing:** Even though bulldogs have short coats, they still require weekly brushing. This will keep the coat looking good and your clothing less hairy! The Zoom Groom by Kong is a great tool for the job! It is gentle...no pulling, yanking or scratching. It collects loose hair like a magnet!



**Tooth Brushing:** Start by wetting a washcloth and rubbing the dog's teeth with it, twice a week. When your bullie is okay with you in its mouth, work your way up to a pet finger toothbrush. Let the dog lick off the doggie toothpaste and then proceed. (Never use human toothpaste on dogs. Fluoride can be toxic to dogs.) Gently rub the toothbrush against your dog's teeth and gums.

