



a Melissa Verplank Enterprises Company

PARAGON TRACKING JOURNAL & PHOTO GUIDELINES



PARAGON TRACKING JOURNAL & PHOTO GUIDELINES

Name _____

	Date	Pet's Name	Breed	Prep	Bath and Brush	Fluff	Guarded All	Bladed All	Bladed/Guarded Body, Stylized Legs	Long Legged Terrier	Short Legged Terrier	Sporting	Poodle	Bichon	Comments (Use back, if needed)
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PARAGON TRACKING JOURNAL & PHOTO GUIDELINES

Name _____

Date	Pet's Name	Breed	Prep	Bath and Brush Y-1	Fluff Y-2	Guarded All R-1	Bladed All R-2	Bladed/ Guarded Body, Stylized Legs R-3	Long Legged Terrier	Short Legged Terrier	Sporting	Poodle	Bichon	Comments (Use back, if needed)
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	Date	Pet's Name	Breed	Prep	Bath and Brush Y-1	Fluff Y-2	Guarded All R-1	Bladed All R-2	Bladed/ Guarded Body, Stylized Legs R-3	Long Legged Terrier	Short Legged Terrier	Sporting	Poodle	Bichon	Comments (Use back, if needed)
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Name _____

	Date	Pet's Name	Breed	Prep	Bath and Brush Y-1	Fluff Y-2	Name					Comments (Use back, if needed)			
							Guarded All R-1	Bladed All R-2	Bladed/ Guarded Body, Stylized Legs R-3	Long Legged Terrier	Short Legged Terrier		Sporting	Poodle	Bichon
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Photo Journal Critique Guide

Taking photos of your work is critical for your personal portfolio. These guidelines have been developed to get the best results for all Paragon students.

The Paragon Distance Learning Program (DLP) offers written critiques from photos for assigned grooms. Send the structured Self Study Photo Journal sheets by the end of each training module to earn your grade in this portion of the Program.

DLP students need to submit photos and fill out the form concerning the details of the trim.. The better the dog stands squarely or assumes a “show stance,” the better we will be able to evaluate the images.

1. A clear **before** photo of the pet – profile or $\frac{3}{4}$ view from the front is preferred.
2. After photo of the pet – profile
3. After photo of the pet – front view
4. After photo of the pet – rear view
5. After photo of the pet – close up of face/head
6. Optional after photo of your choice

Do's and Don'ts for Taking Grooming Photos

The purpose of the photo is to see and evaluate your groomed pets. Images need to clearly show the quality of your work. For your grooms to be evaluated properly, it is important to take photos that allow an Instructor to see your work as clearly as if s/he were standing at your table.

Factors that affect photos and could make a difference in your grade:

Focus – Is the photo in complete and crisp focus? If the photo is blurry, it can be very difficult to determine if the pet is groomed properly, which can have a **negative impact on your grade.**

Distance – Photos taken from too far away or too close will make a difference. The pet should fill the frame so the complete pet can be seen. Taken too far away and details are lost. If taken too close to the pet, it becomes impossible to determine if the trim is in balance.

Obstructions – There should be nothing blocking the view of the pet. Grooming arms, tools, equipment, collars, and bandanas should be removed so the dog is viewed without obstruction. Likewise, brush all hair from the table. Your Instructor will be looking at all parts of the dog – including the feet – so make sure nothing is in the way.

Lighting – If you are grooming a dark dog, make sure there is

enough light so that details are visible. Darker pets are often photographed against a dark background and the pet is barely visible. The same is true for lighter colored pets. Make sure you have enough contrast so that the image isn't “washed out.” If you are using a darker colored dog, be sure to have the dog stand on a white or contrasting surface when taking your photos.

Finish - Make sure the pet is completely brushed out prior to taking the photo. A properly groomed pet should be thoroughly brushed and combed so that it is tangle free.

Pose – Dogs must be standing in a “stacked” position. Photos of dogs in a seated position do not allow for a clear view of the rear assembly.

Angle – Photos should be taken from eye level, not looking down on or up at the pet.

Size – Photos should be sent at full size on your smartphone or sized at least 4x6”.

Photo Submission Examples

Don't

The tail and front feet are cropped out of the image. The angle is also too high.

Do

This could have been used for a head close-up with a closer, more focused shot from eye level.



Don't

This shot was taken a little too closely: the top of the head, nose, and feet are cropped out of the image.

Do

A background and mat that offered more contrast would help the groom stand out from its surroundings and make details easier to see.



Don't

This image is blurry and should be in sharp focus. The angle is too high to be able to see the rear and feet.

Do

The dark color of the table against the white of the pet is a good contrast and makes it much easier to see details of the feet.





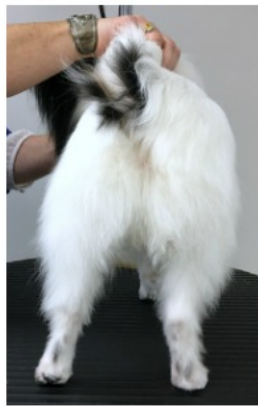
Before: Profile



After: Profile



After: Front



After: Rear



After: Head



After: Choice (3/4 View)

These examples are sized for display purposes, but are examples of proper set-up.

The groom is complete, and the pet is freshly combed out.

The table has been cleared of all hair, tools, and any other obstructions that would make it difficult to see the feet and legs.

The tail has been lifted to the side so that complete rear view is visible.

The dog is completely in the frame so that the complete pet, from nose to tail, can be viewed and evaluated.

