

EMBARRASSING PETS GROOMER

“The All-American Groomer”



Name: Channing Blakemoore

Age: 34

Location: New Orleans, LA

Backstory: Channing grew up as an only child, and so his very first pet, a dog named Dutchess, immediately became his best friend. Although his love for dogs only grew through the years, he didn't realize he could turn that love into a career until after he graduated college. While he was working as a Visuals Manager for Macy's, he began an apprenticeship with a master groomer to learn a new trade that was constantly in the back of his mind. A couple of years later, he officially left corporate America behind and started his own business.

Day In the Life Today: He is the owner and groomer of Blakemoore Bark, which he describes as a “doggy social club.” The services he offers include grooming, pet-sitting, boarding and even doggy vacations where hosts weekend getaways for his canine clients.

His Approach to Embarrassing Pets: He says that the moment a dog walks into his studio, it's time for play. The dogs don't go into a kennel or a cage, but rather are encouraged to roam free to get a feel for the environment. He will then slowly began assessing their coats, and move onto bathing and cutting when he feels the dogs are ready. He says it's common for owners to be embarrassed when they bring their pet in for an overdue groom, which lends itself to a checklist of must-do's: clipping nails, shaving down matted fur, cleaning out ears and expressing anal glands. Despite the smells and the constant mess, Channing says its just a day in the life for him and he wouldn't have it any other way.