

### Create a simple Top Knot

Learning to do your own top knots is a cinch!

You can use a rat tail comb for perfect lines or just use a simple dog comb or brush.

1. Gather a small thickness of hair from above the nose and above eyes into a pony tail sticking up on top of the head. *Make sure it's not too tight and pulling your dog's eyes open or not allowing for comfortable blinking. It looks better and feels better to the dog if the hair is a little bit 'poofy-loose'. Secure the band well though using an elastic (order these specifically for your dog...you can find sources on our links page. Get clear or order your favorite colors); or you can use an "ouchless" ponytail holder/band for girls...no metal or anything on it that will tangle or tear hair.*
2. Next gather and band a back section as thick as you want, match to the front section for a pulled together look and band them together. Waa lah!

Play around with thicknesses & widths of sections. You can do it!!

For more specific directions ask us, your groomer, or read articles at <http://www.doggiebowties.com/>

For fun & variety try creating "piggy tails" over each ear instead.

### "Locking" in a Bow

Want to "lock" in a bow on your dog's top knot? Here's a handy tip to keep that bow in longer than 2 minutes! I have even had the bow last beyond a week or 2 with this technique. (Watch for matting though! Take down the top knot at first sign of matting and re-do to prevent hair loss.

Remove the bow *carefully* to avoid pulling & tearing top knot hair, cutting the elastics out rather than trying to save them.

1. Prepare to create a top knot using 2 sections that will be separately banded; a front and a back section. (These sections can be equal  $\frac{1}{2}$  sections; or a smaller front section and a thicker back section.)
2. Attach the bow to the front section.
3. Now band the back section to the front section with a 3<sup>rd</sup> band just above the bow. If you can, also slip that band a time or two *under* the bow as well. Yea...this bow is "locked"!! Enjoy!