Privacy Policy

A plain-language privacy policy for GroomWatch users.

App: GroomWatch
Effective Date: September 25, 2026
Policy Type: Privacy Policy

GroomWatch is a local-first app. It keeps a working copy of the user's records on their device and, when iCloud is available for GroomWatch, synchronizes supported data through the user's private iCloud database.

Data GroomWatch Handles

GroomWatch handles information entered or created by the user, including client or family and pet profile details, grooming notes, schedules, timer and work-history records, pricing and rate details, report-card information if used, and related app settings. GroomWatch does not require a separate GroomWatch account.

On-Device Storage and Recovery

GroomWatch stores its active working data in the app's protected storage on the user's device. To reduce the risk of data loss during saving, synchronization, recovery, or backup import, GroomWatch also keeps local recovery copies. Those copies can contain earlier versions of records while they are retained. When the user confirms deletion of a profile or record, GroomWatch removes that content from its active data and retained local recovery copies. Corrupt quarantine copies, which cannot be safely edited, are deleted during confirmed deletion. At other times, quarantine storage is limited to the three newest files and files no more than 30 days old.

Private iCloud Synchronization

- Eligible App Store and TestFlight builds automatically use iCloud when it is available for GroomWatch. Supported profile, report, timer, pricing, and settings data synchronizes with the user's private CloudKit database.
- Synchronization supports the same Apple Account across devices and can restore data after the app is reinstalled.
- Synchronized content is stored in encrypted CloudKit record fields. Apple provides and processes iCloud and CloudKit under the user's Apple Account and Apple's terms.
- GroomWatch does not operate its own account system or server for this synchronization.
- Local saving works without a network connection. If iCloud is unavailable, the app remains usable locally and synchronization can resume later.

Manual Backups and Sharing

A GroomWatch backup is a readable JSON file containing the supported app state, which can include profile, notes, pricing, timer, work-history, and settings data. GroomWatch backup files are not password-encrypted by the app. The user chooses where to save or share a backup, and its protection then depends on the selected device location, document provider, service, or recipient.

If the user shares timer records or related grooming information through an iOS share sheet, the user also chooses the destination. Information shared that way is handled by the selected app, service, or recipient.

Tracking, Advertising, and Analytics

- GroomWatch does not track users for advertising.
- GroomWatch does not include third-party advertising or analytics SDKs.
- GroomWatch does not sell grooming records or profile data.

Deleting and Managing Data

Deleting a profile or record removes it from active GroomWatch data and retained local recovery copies. When iCloud synchronization is available, GroomWatch sends the corresponding deletion through the user's private CloudKit database. Backup files previously saved or shared outside GroomWatch are separate copies and are not changed by an in-app deletion.

Uninstalling GroomWatch removes the app's local container from that device, but it does not necessarily delete data already stored in iCloud. Users can manage GroomWatch's iCloud data through Apple's iCloud settings. Backup files saved outside GroomWatch must be deleted separately from the location where the user saved or shared them.

Policy Updates

GroomWatch may update this policy when its privacy practices change. The effective date will be revised when an updated policy is published.