



The Gnomon Workshop – Creature Grooming Techniques in Houdini

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Learn to make convincing creature grooms in Houdini in this 3-hour class by Groomer from Digital Domain, Luis Cadavid. A discussion of the principles and tools utilized during the workshop will be discussed at the beginning of the workshop before Luis dives into Maya to look at his model. In this phase, it's all about understanding the materials that will be used in the process to make the groom for the creature. This requires observing a variety of sources prior to exporting the model into Houdini.

In the film Houdini, Luis provides an explanation of the process by which Houdini creates hair. He creates all the objects and then creates the different VDBs. He then splits the mesh to make the groom. Learn how to use the tools Luis often uses, such as Curve Advect Tool, Curve Advect Tool Guide Process Bend and Set Direction Guide Process Lift, Length Curve Mask, and the Nose Mask. Additionally, you'll learn how to design your own shortcuts that you can customize to help make your workflow more efficient as well as more effective.

With a thorough understanding of the tools, Luis then starts the process of making guidelines for the appearance of the werewolf. creating volume and form to the guides with various characteristics. He designs hair in various sizes and groups before making guides for the body, legs tail, and ears. The groom also draws the characteristics which he later blends with the groom's attributes. When the first run of the groom has been completed, Luis shares how he test HDRIs, materials, and other materials. He also prepares the camera to see how the groom's work is going.

After completing this course you will be able to cover all the necessary bases for you to create the groomers of your dreams. This course is designed for those with a beginner to moderate knowledge of grooming.



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