



Nail Trims

Step 1: Every day you should work on playing with your kitten's feet (picking them up, playing between the toes and pads). Hold each paw, each individual toe/toenail, and positively reinforce with treats or verbal praise. Remember, start with small short periods, and gradually work up to longer periods of time as your kitten will tolerate it.

Step 2: Have your tools ready. There are different kinds of nail trimmers that you can use to trim your pup's nails. It's also important to have some powder on hand just in case you accidentally quick a nail, cornstarch or flour work well, and are common household items. You can also find a powder such as Kwik Stop at various pet retailers.



(Scissor)

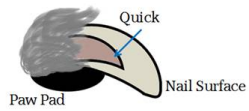


(Guillotine)

Step 4: Start small. Don't feel pressured to trim all of the nails in one sitting. Trim a few nails, reward with treats, and take a break if needed. ***Your kitten may cry or protest during this time, not because they are in pain, but because holding still can be such a hard task.***

Tips and Tricks:

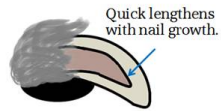
- Most kittens are born with dewclaws-don't forget to trim those too!
- Nails on the back feet are often shorter than those on the front.



The **quick** is the sensitive part inside the nail containing blood vessels and nerves. Cutting into the quick is very painful and will cause bleeding.



Cut the nail just in front of the quick. Trimming the nail tips often will cause the quick to recede over time.



As the **nail grows longer**, the quick lengthens. Take extra care not to cut long nails too short. Keep quick stop on hand in case bleeding occurs.



Keep dog nails short. Establish a weekly schedule to inspect and trim dog nails and smooth away rough edges with a nail file.

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