



Nail Trims

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

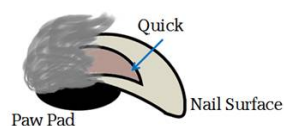


(Grinder)

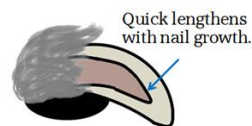
Step 4: Start small. Don't feel pressured to trim all of the nails in one sitting. Trim a few nails, reward with treats, and take a break if needed. ***Your puppy may cry during this time, not because they are in pain, but because holding still can be such a hard task.***

Tips and Tricks:

- Some pets are born with dewclaws-don't forget to trim those too!
- Nails on the back feet are often shorter than those on the front.
- Sometimes the outer nails wear down more than the inner nails. Pay attention, you may not be cutting the same amount off each nail



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.



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



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



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