

Nail Trimming for Dogs

What tools and techniques are best for trimming your dog's nails?



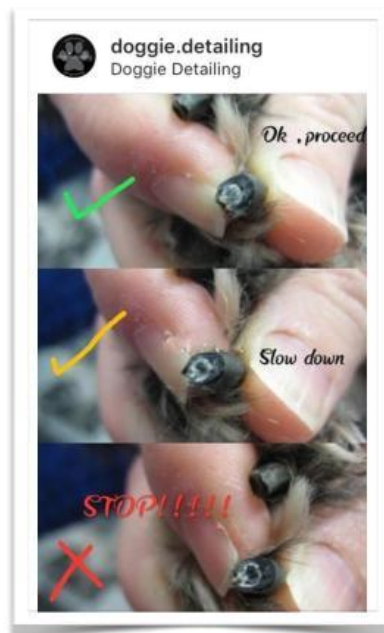
Set the stage for success:

Start with handling your dog's paws while not doing any nail trimming. Give treats and praise with the nail trimmers near by and while touching the trimmers to your dog's paws.

When you are ready to start trimming, find a comfortable location with plenty of light. Have your nail trimmers, treats and styptic powder at hand. Remember to be gentle yet confident while holding your dog's paw so you can clearly see the nail.

Make a small, clean cut at least 3mm from quick (see images provided). Then give your dog praise. At the grooming salon, if we have a food motivated dog that is a challenge for nail trimming, we will give a treat per nail or per paw to encourage their cooperation. Repeat.

If you cut the quick, do not panic. Stop any bleeding immediately by applying styptic powder with moderate pressure. The amount of time between nail trims varies for each pet. We typically recommend trimming every 4-8 weeks.



Nail Trimmers

Choose nail trimmers that are quiet, sharp and fit your dog's nail size



Styptic Powder

Styptic powder is a blood coagulant used for minor bleeding



Treats

Reward your dog for being good!