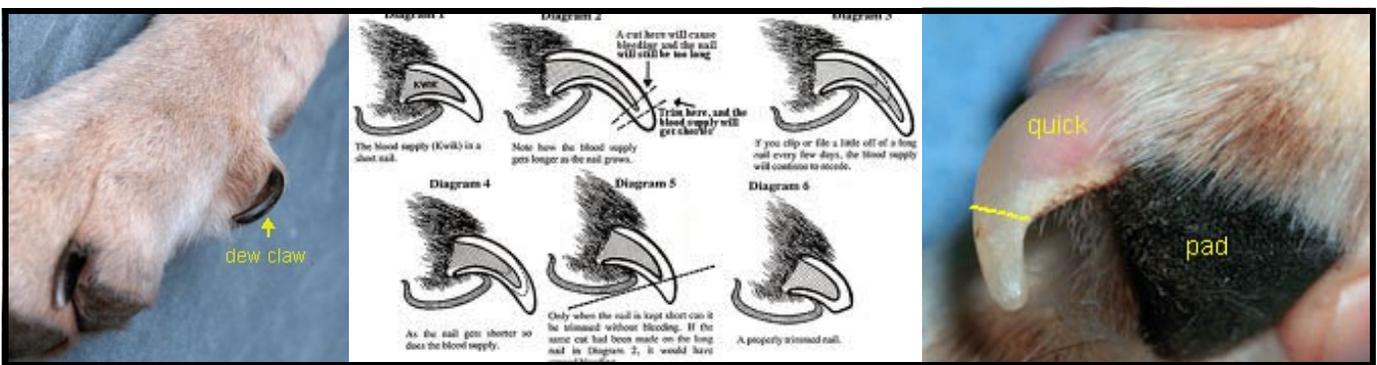




Nail Trim

\$10

Give your dog a pedicure...while you 're away!



*Images courtesy Organic Pet Digest (left and right), and HQ Bullies (center)

Why Should I Trim My Dog's Nails?

Dog nails are constantly growing, just like human nails. Some dogs wear down their nails naturally from walking on pavement, gravel or concrete. However, the majority of today's dogs live indoors and don't spend enough time on these surfaces to keep the nails short. This is especially the case with small dogs (like Chihuahuas and Miniature Dachshunds- two breeds that seem to especially dislike having their paws touched). If left to grow, some dog's nails will curl under and actually start growing into the foot pads. This leads to painful sores and infections. This most often happens to dew claws, the claw on the inner side of the paw. Dew claws do not touch the ground so they are not worn down as the dog walks.

Even if they do not curl under, long nails can make it difficult for dogs to walk, especially on slick surfaces. Finally, long nails can easily get caught on something and become partially torn off or split. This is very painful for your dog, and treating a torn nail may require sedation at your vet's office. Long-term overgrowth can cause difficulty with walking, pain and soreness and eventually contribute to the development of arthritis.

How Often Do I Need to Trim My Dog's Nails?

The answer here depends on your dog. The rate of nail growth versus the amount of natural wear can vary from dog to dog. To determine when it's time for a nail trim, a good rule of thumb is to trim your dog's nails if they touch the floor when he is standing. In general, **most dogs will need a nail trim every month.** The front nails tend to grow faster than the rear nails, so you may only need to trim the rear nails every other time you do the front (or just trim a smaller amount off the rear nails each time). Cut the toenail to within approximately 2 millimeters of the quick. **Nails that are overgrown will need to be cut more often until the quick recedes to its normal location.**

*Information courtesy Jenna Stregowski, RVT. <http://dogs.about.com/od/grooming/ss/How-To-Trim-Dogs-Nails.htm>

We recommend monthly pedicures.