

From the Bottom-Up: Create a Foundation for Health with Nail Maintenance

Keeping a dog's nails clipped and maintained is one of the most important things for their health. When a dog's nails are not trimmed routinely, the overgrown nails can affect their walking, running and even their stance. Just like people, bad posture can lead to hip, shoulder, elbow and foot problems. Some dogs' nails will even curl under and go into the pad causing much pain and possibly an infection.

For most dogs, I like to start with a nail clipper to get the majority of the length off. I follow up with the nail grinder to smooth and round out the nail to get it as short as possible. For severely overgrown nails, you may want to work on the trimming weekly to get the quick of the nail to recede.

Pro Tip: Some dogs may prefer that you use either the nail clipper or the nail grinder, not both. I encourage you to work with the dog to determine if they are ok with either or both.

