

SECTION FOUR

Learning How To Read Nails

Understanding how your dog's nails are composed is imperative to knowing how to trim without hurting your dog. It is difficult, if not impossible, to be able to truly tell from pictures of the outside of the nail. It may give you an idea of where the quick begins, but that does not show you the layers that you need to be comfortable with, especially if you want to shorten your dog's overall length.

The links below are going to give you examples of dog nails, the layers, and how to read them. If you are still uncomfortable with reading nails, you can always ask your local groomer or vet to watch a few nail trims so you can see these layers without stressing your dog. If your dog (or a friend's) has any sedated procedures that are upcoming, think about asking to watch the nail trim to inspect and feel the inside of the nail yourself.

Layers of a dog's nail:

<https://youtu.be/Hj7q9AH7Msk>

Dremel tutorial (black nails) showing layers:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nail.maintenance.for.dogs/permalink/576656815812586/>

Video clipper tutorial to find layers (black nails) from Anna Lee Sanders:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nail.maintenance.for.dogs/permalink/595803457231255/>

Step-by-step photo tutorial showing layers on a black nail (be sure to check the comments for all the photos and video):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nail.maintenance.for.dogs/permalink/650107751800825/>

What it Looks Like when you Quick a Dog with a Dremel:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nail.maintenance.for.dogs/permalink/650708575074076/>

What it looks like when you trim too far:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/356060287872241?view=permalink&id=1108153422662920&ref=bookmarks>
