

Simply Pets Online:

EDUCATION RESOURCES:

HERE ARE A FEW TOP CAT NAIL CLIPPING TIPS:



- **Cut nails at a time when both you and the cat are relaxed** – do not disturb the cat while he/she is eating or napping

- **Most cats do very well with a less-is-more approach; ie, minimal restraint.**

Position the cat calmly on your lap, facing away from you and hold the paw gently and extend the claw outward by pressing the top of each toe. Elderly cats may have some arthritis so do be very gentle.

- **It may help to just touch his/her feet for a few weeks before you start**, occasionally extending the nail and rewarding the cat for letting you do this.

This way cats get used to their feet being touched and associate it with good things

- **Cats have a lot more nerve endings in their feet and claws than humans and dogs, so always remember to be gentle and not to force anything**

- **Some cats may become aggressive (through fear).** If they are in urgent need of having their claws trimmed, they can be wrapped in a towel with one leg free.

However, it may be best to visit your veterinary nurse to help you rather than turning it into a battle!

- **If your cat becomes anxious, it is important to stop.** My own cat normally has his claws trimmed in a few sittings of two to three toes at a time
- **If your cat simply won't cooperate, a trip to the vet might be necessary:** Take your KittyNails with you!

Have the nails trimmed as frequently as necessary, as overgrown nails can embed in the paw; this is painful and can cause nasty infections

- **In younger cats, the back claws don't normally need cutting** but in elderly cats they can get hooked in carpets, so it might be necessary to trim the nails on all paws
- **Do not forget to offer a tasty treat immediately after each clip to help the cat associate nail trimming with a pleasant reward.**

Courtesy of the November Issue 2017 of the International Cat Magazine: icatcare, and the excellent article by Lynette Bonnema RVN, featuring the KittyNails



Paul and Sarah

Dr P Proctor BVSc (Hons) MRCVS & Dr S Middleton BVSc MRCVS GPCert (FeIP)

Co-founders: Simply Pets Online Ltd,

"Two Vets - One mission Happy Healthy Pets.."