

Nail Trim Protocol

Hints:

- ⊕ Targeting: dog touches object with nose or paw
- ⊕ Tools you will need: a clicker, a baste bag (pouch to store treats in) and good treats that are easily broken into small pieces
- ⊕ Do not move onto the next step until your dog will reliably and comfortably offer the behavior 8 out of 10 times
- ⊕ If your dog is becoming stressed at the step you are on, back up to step ONE and start over
- ⊕ If you have never used a clicker with your dog, start by clicking and giving your dog a treat 10-15 times, so they get the connection that clicker equals treat

Nail trim

- ▣ Start by having your dog target the closed nail clippers on the floor. When your dog touches the nail clippers, immediately click and treat.
- ▣ Have your dog target the closed nail clippers in your hand, click and treat.
- ▣ Have your dog target the open nail clippers in your hand, click and treat.
- ▣ Next place your dog in a down stay. Touch the clippers to your dog's paw. Click and treat the dog for not reacting. At this point the dog will no longer be rewarded for touching the clippers.
- ▣ While in a down stay hold the dog's paw in your hand and touch the clippers to the paw. Click and treat the dog only if they do not react, and do not pull their paw away.
- ▣ Next while in a down stay hold paw and cut ONE nail. QUIT immediately after this and give lots of reward.
- ▣ Repeat the last step daily, doing ONE toenail a day.
- ▣ If your dog is progressing nicely, you may attempt doing more than one toe. Remember DO NOT PUSH YOUR DOG FASTER THEN HE CAN GO.