

SALON PAMPERING

Valentine's Day is here! Do you assure best care of your four legged kids? How often does your dog get his "nail done", or go to the spa? Dog's nails should be trimmed regularly. It's part of responsible ownership and needs to be worked into your regular routine.

Long nails can grow in a circular shape and back into the dog's paw pads, causing painful infections that turn red and ooze pus. Other problems with untrimmed nails include difficulty walking on hard surfaces and possibly catching on rugs or other items causing them to rip off, this leads to even more serious injury.

How often should nails be trimmed? Some people wait until they hear clicking on the floor, and that's not harmful (except to your floor), but we suggest every three weeks or so. That way, you're just taking off the nail tips, less danger of getting into the "quick," the blood and nerve bundles at the root of the nail. In dogs, the quick goes to about the middle of the nail, thus it's extremely important to not hit the quick. Here at Ms C's we "grind the nail" rather than "trimming it", mostly eliminating this problem.

Not all dogs like having their feet or nails handled, especially if they haven't been handled from puppyhood when it's easier for a dog to make adjustments. Constantly handling the foot, rubbing and massaging it while sitting on the couch, loving up on the dog will assist in this problem. Offering treats and warm praise while grooming, making it a pleasant experience helps immensely.

Call Ms C's to make your dog's "spa appointment" as a Valentine's Day treat. Include a bath, a massage would make it a special gift. Who doesn't love a relaxing, warm bath and massage?