

Cat Grooming



General:

Cat grooming is very important, yes they tend to like to groom themselves it would appear and they always seem to have a neat and tidy appearance, but you would be surprised with all the different and unwelcome things you will find if you start poking around in their fur.

Coat:

Grooming a cat's coat should be done at least once a week or more often in the case of long fur cat's. Start by using a comb with widely spaced teeth so when you come across mats they are easier to remove, once you feel that most of the mats are gone from their coat then move to a comb with narrower teeth and finish.

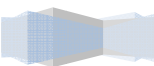
Try not to resort to using scissors or clippers when removing the mats from your cat's coat as their skin is very sensitive and can be easily cut. If you have recently added a new cat to your household it would be a good idea to get them used to the grooming process as early as possible so it becomes a part of their routine as well as yours.

Claws:

First things first, the Humane Society of Atlantic County recommends that cat's be indoor pets as they tend to have a healthier life and live longer, but even more so the HSAC wants it to be clear that we in no way, shape or form do we support declawing your cat and believe the act in itself to be **inhumane**.

How to trim your cat's claws:

1. The best time to trim your cat's claws is when they are relaxed, preferably after a nap.



2. Make sure to have cat claw trimmers or clippers handy, these are easily obtained for around five to ten dollars at your local pet store, also if you can get it, pick up a small bottle of clotting-powder in case you cut the quick in the cat's claw.
3. Get your cat in a position that is comfortable for them and get their front paw between your thumb and your index finger then gently press so their claws and our and clearly visible to you.
4. Practice this with your cat so they become more comfortable with the situation.
5. Make sure to be mindful of the quick in your cat's claw as it contains blood vessels and nerves and if cut can cause pain and dampen your cat's attitude towards getting its claws trimmed.
6. Don't panic if you cut the quick, get a moist cotton swab or sterile gauze with some clotting powder and hold firmly against the claw for several seconds.
7. Depending on the cat, claws need to be trimmed every two to six weeks.

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