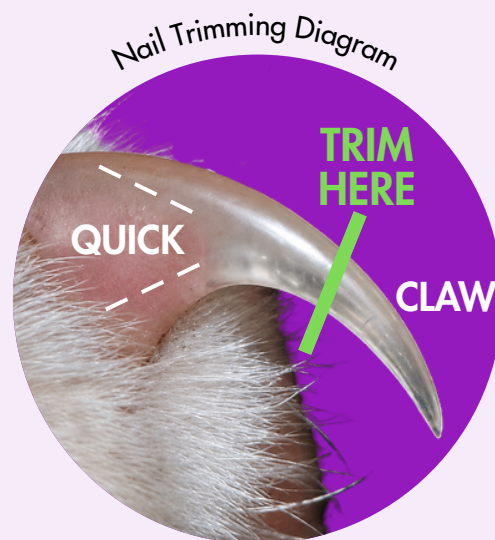


NAIL TRIMMING GUIDE

1. Choose a comfortable place to trim cat nails
2. Gather your nail trimming supplies
3. Enlist the help of a friend or family member if possible. Have them offer a Churu treat to the cat throughout the process.
4. Hold the nail clippers in one hand. With the other hand, gently squeeze your cat's paw to expose the nails.
5. Focus on one nail at a time. Hold the toe between your thumb and pointer finger
6. Snip the hooked white part of the nail only, being careful not to get too close to the quick
7. Trim each of your cats nails, including the nails of any dewclaws

[Watch ASPCA nail trimming tutorial for a visual example](#) 



SCRATCHING IS ESSENTIAL

Scratching is a **natural and essential behavior** for cats. It allows cats to mark territory with their scent glands, provide an emotional release and it's the only way a cat can fully stretch their back and shoulder muscles.

Every cat has their own preferences when it comes to scratching. Some enjoy vertical scratching posts, while others prefer horizontal scratchers. Materials such as sisal, cardboard, carpet and rope are all popular options. Providing a variety of scratching surfaces can help you **discover what your cat likes best**.

Encourage appropriate scratching by placing scratchers in areas where your cat spends time and rewarding them with treats, toys, catnip or praise when they use them.

- Play with your cat near the scratching post using interactive wand toys. Cats often enjoy scratching during and after play sessions
- Don't be afraid to demonstrate! Gently scratching the post yourself can spark your cat's curiosity—cats are excellent observers and often learn by watching

If your cat is scratching something they shouldn't, such as your couch, trim their nails and place a scratching post nearby to redirect them to a more suitable outlet.

