

## Procedure For Trimming Feline Nails

Start by introducing the clippers by getting the cat accustomed to the look, smell, and sound. When handling the paws, you can hold the clippers in your hand and eventually start to touch the clippers to the paw while always providing positive reinforcement with praise and treats.

There are two types of clippers: guillotine and scissor type.

The **Guillotine** has a stationary hole where the nail goes through, and the blade moves up to cut the nail when the handles are squeezed.

The **Scissor** works like a pair of scissors, opening them and putting the tip of the nail between the blades to trim.

### How to trim:

- Approach the cat calmly making sure you speak quietly.
- Hold the cat in your lap or in a relaxed position (lying down).
- Take one of the cat's toes and massage, then gently press toe pad enough to extend the nail out.
- With the nail extended, look for the pink part of the nail ("quick"). The quick contains a nerve and a blood vessel, cutting it is uncomfortable and will cause bleeding.
- Carefully clip off the sharp tip of the nail, being careful not to cut too close to the quick and release the cat's toe.
- Always provide positive reinforcement with praise and treats.

### Nail cross section

