

Clipper Blade Selection Guide

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

an introduction to CLIPPER BLADES

If the thought of selecting the right clipper blade has you running for the groomer, you're not alone. With so many to choose from, figuring out which blade works best can be intimidating. However, recognizing the difference between blades can make the process a lot less complicated.



BLADE NUMBER

Select the blade number according to how long you want to leave the coat. The lower the blade number, the longer the hair will be. For example, a #5 blade will leave a hair length of 1/4", while a #30 blade will leave a mere 1/100". A #10 is one of the most commonly used blades because it works well for trimming the body of most breeds. Other blades that work well with most breeds include the #15, #5, and #7 blades. For slightly matted hair use a #5, for heavy or very matted coats select a size #7, and for pads use a #15.

BLADE CUT

The cut refers to the length of the hair that's left after cutting against the natural lie of the coat. Therefore, if the cut is 1/4", the length of your dog's hair will be 1/4". Going with the grain will leave approximately twice as much hair as going against the grain.

BLADE CATEGORIES

Many blades are categorized as skip tooth blades, finishing or finish cut blades, and wide or T blades. Skip tooth blades are often used before bathing and for quickly cutting through dense, matted hair, while finishing blades are commonly used after bathing to complete the cut and for blending areas of longer and shorter hair together. The wide or T blades feature a wider size to quicken the cutting time of large breeds.

Clipper Blades		
 <p>Andis UltraEdge Replacement Clipper Blades</p>	 <p>Oster Blades and Accessories</p>	 <p>Andis Ceramic Edge Blades</p>