

Pictorial Guide to Grooming a Field Spaniel
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Before starting, this dog has a very shaggy appearance.



A #10F blade is used on the top of the head, going with the grain.



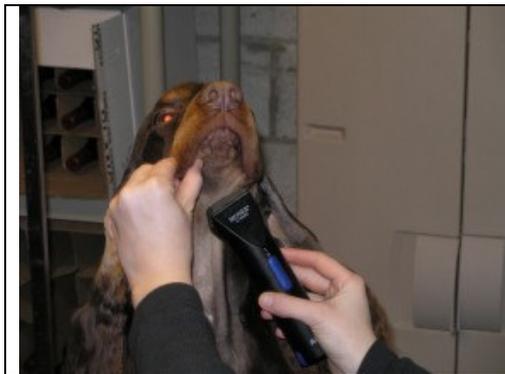
Clipping with the 10F blade continues down the cheeks on the foreface. Tops of the ears are trimmed as well. Use a 10F blade going with the lay of the hair on the ears; you will clip about 1/3 of the way down the ear.

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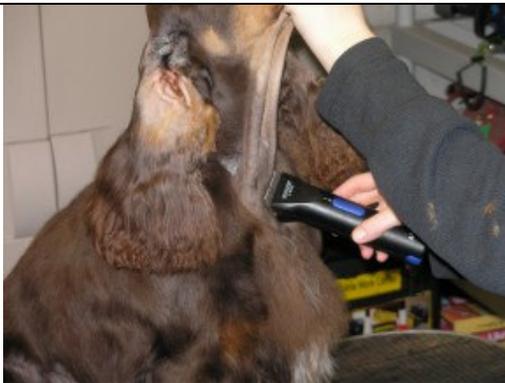
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Shave really close near the bottom lips.



The inside of the ear, around the ear canal opening is trimmed very close. This allows the ear to “breathe” and the air flow helps keep the ear dry which prevents ear infections.



Using a 10F blade, the neck is shaved against the lay of the hair. You will create a V-shape with the tip of the “V” ending about 1 inch above breast bone (prosternum).

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Now that the head is completed, it is time to move on to the neck. Notice how shaggy this neck appears!



This is what thinning and striping and about 2 hours of work looks like. This goes all the way on the sides of the dog throughout and slowly blends into the throat where the dog was previously clipped.

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These front legs and feet are very shaggy.



Following grooming, the front legs appear neater.



This close-up shows the trimming that has been done to neaten the foot.

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Before grooming, these feet are shaggy and unattractive.



This photo shows the foot at the left untrimmed while the paw at the right is groomed.



Notice the shaggy bottom of the foot. With the footpad covered by hair, the dog has little traction when walking, running or playing.



After trimming, the footpads are easy to see. This is important so that the dog has good traction when ambulating.

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	<p>This rear leg is very shaggy. The hock hair is too long as is the hair between the toes.</p>
	<p>Notice how different the rear leg looks when trimmed. The hair on the feet has been trimmed. The hair on the hock has also been shortened neatly so that it is left slightly longer at the top of the rear hock.</p>
	<p>This view shows how the rear legs appear from behind when trimmed neatly.</p>

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This shaggy tail is beginning to show a “flag” (hair growth beneath the tail). Some Field Spaniel fanciers like the look of a flag; groom the tail as it suits you.



Now the tail has been trimmed and neatened. Notice the blending that has been done near butt and the sides of the thighs into the tail., so that there are no sharp lines apparent.