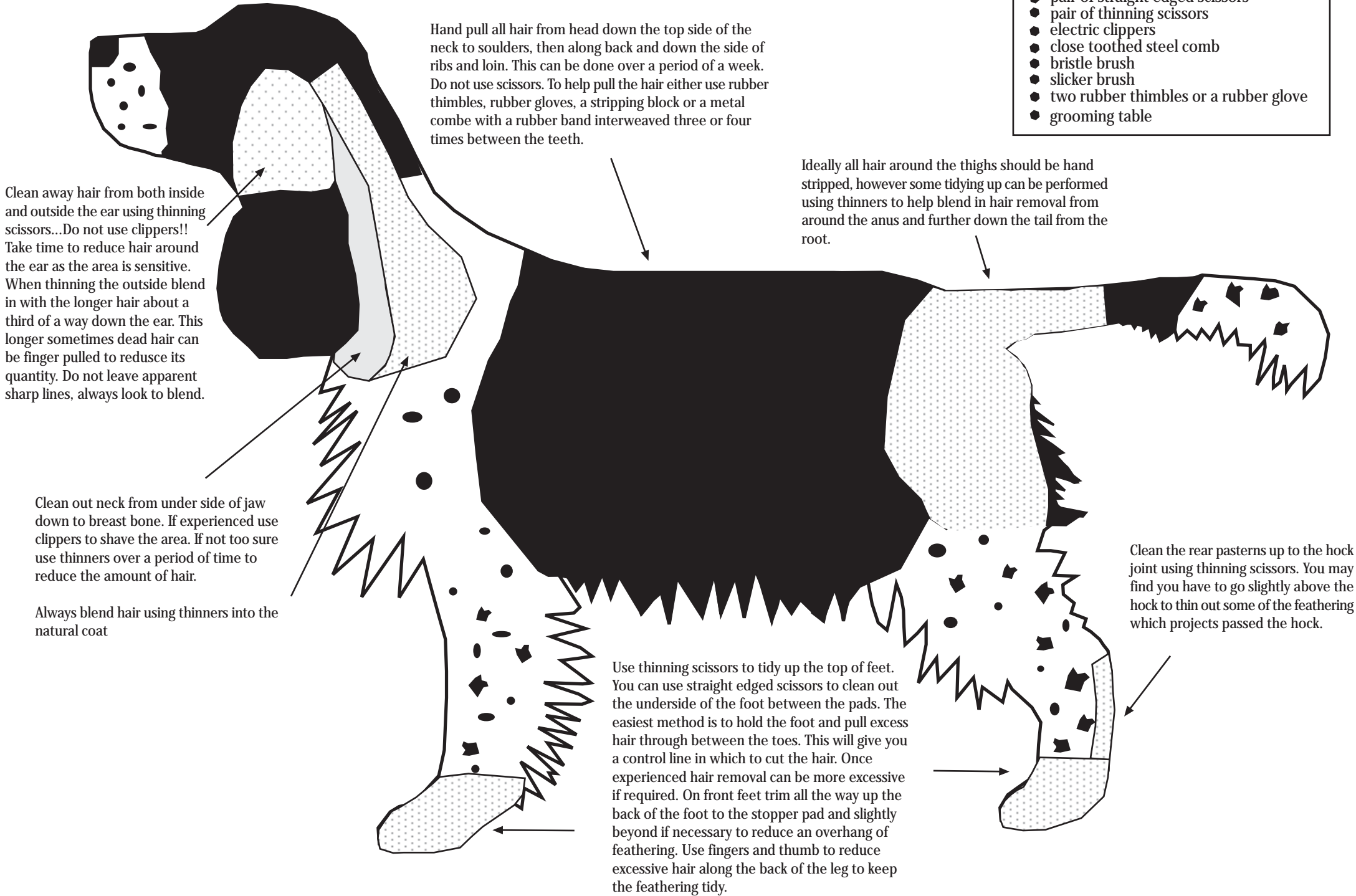


A guide to trimming your ESS

- Equipment required**
- pair of straight edged scissors
 - pair of thinning scissors
 - electric clippers
 - close toothed steel comb
 - bristle brush
 - slicker brush
 - two rubber thimbles or a rubber glove
 - grooming table



Hand pull all hair from head down the top side of the neck to soulders, then along back and down the side of ribs and loin. This can be done over a period of a week. Do not use scissors. To help pull the hair either use rubber thimbles, rubber gloves, a stripping block or a metal combe with a rubber band interweaved three or four times between the teeth.

Clean away hair from both inside and outside the ear using thinning scissors...Do not use clippers!! Take time to reduce hair around the ear as the area is sensitive. When thinning the outside blend in with the longer hair about a third of a way down the ear. This longer sometimes dead hair can be finger pulled to reduce its quantity. Do not leave apparent sharp lines, always look to blend.

Clean out neck from under side of jaw down to breast bone. If experienced use clippers to shave the area. If not too sure use thinners over a period of time to reduce the amount of hair.

Always blend hair using thinners into the natural coat

Ideally all hair around the thighs should be hand stripped, however some tidying up can be performed using thinners to help blend in hair removal from around the anus and further down the tail from the root.

Use thinning scissors to tidy up the top of feet. You can use straight edged scissors to clean out the underside of the foot between the pads. The easiest method is to hold the foot and pull excess hair through between the toes. This will give you a control line in which to cut the hair. Once experienced hair removal can be more excessive if required. On front feet trim all the way up the back of the foot to the stopper pad and slightly beyond if necessary to reduce an overhang of feathering. Use fingers and thumb to reduce excessive hair along the back of the leg to keep the feathering tidy.

Clean the rear pasterns up to the hock joint using thinning scissors. You may find you have to go slightly above the hock to thin out some of the feathering which projects passed the hock.