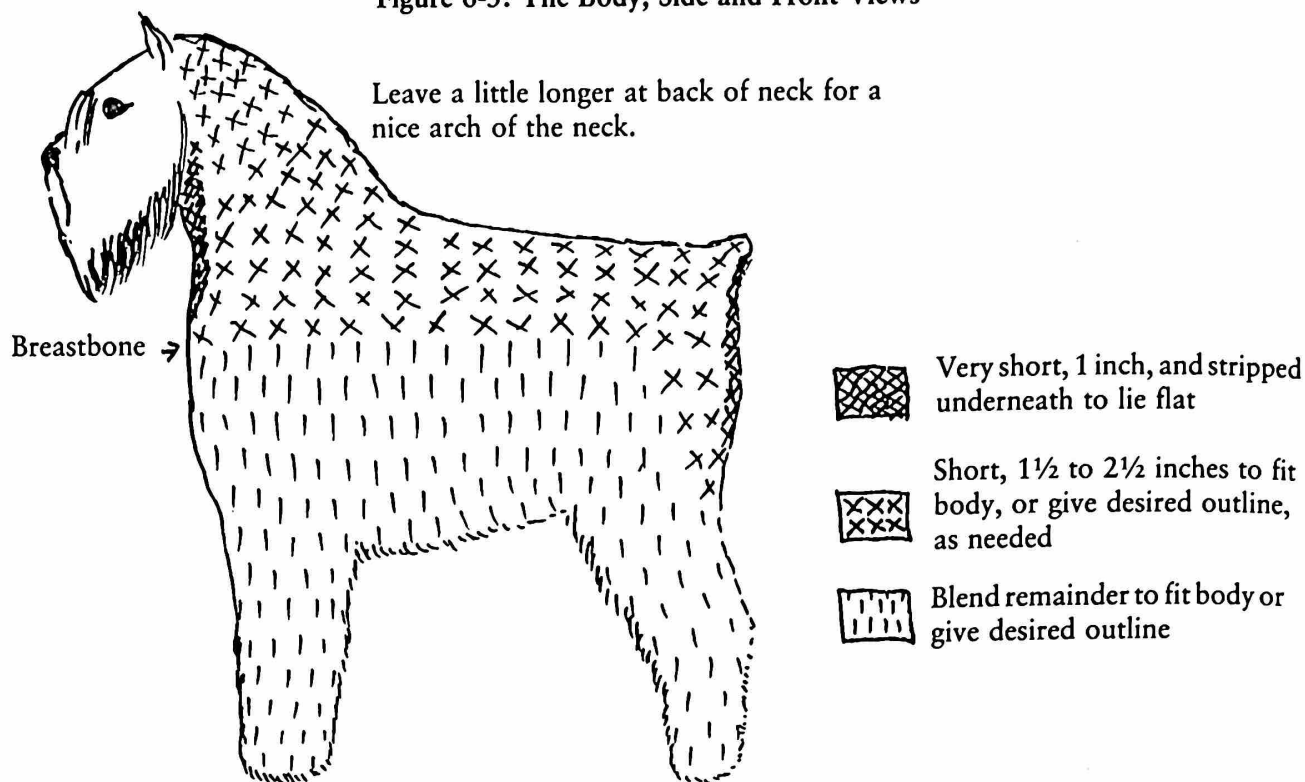


Miss Bowles' sketch of the ideal Bouvier des Flandres.

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Figure 6-3: The Body, Side and Front Views



The finished coat is carefully blended to look natural. There is NO line of demarcation between coat lengths.

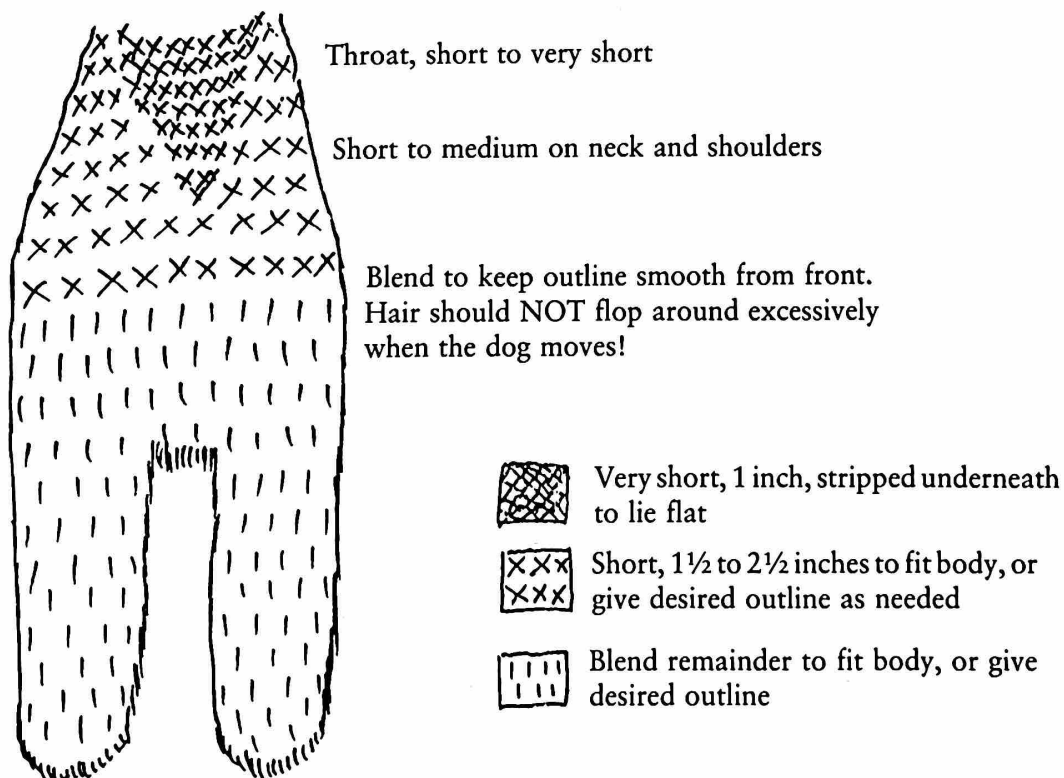
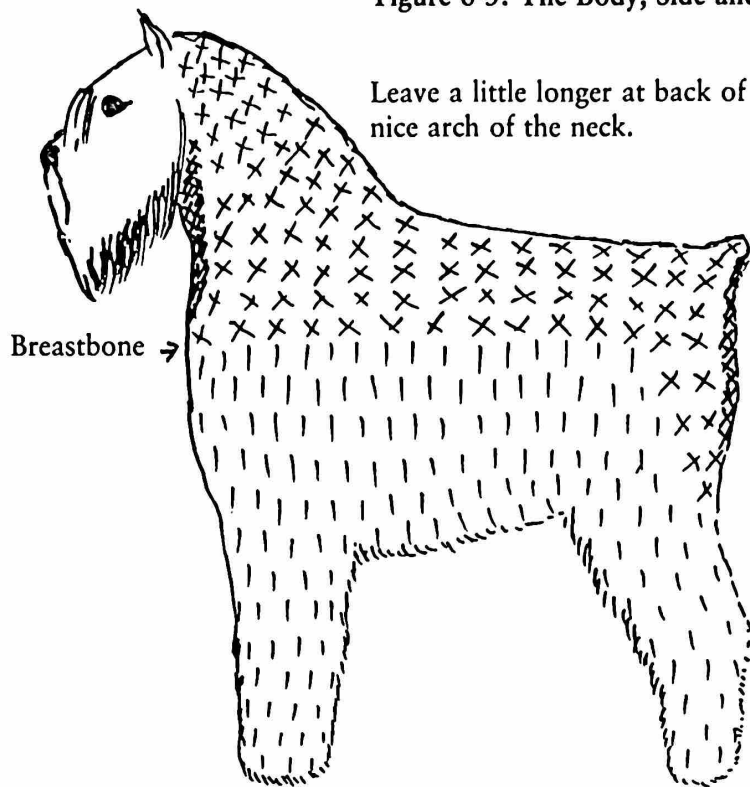





Figure 6-3: The Body, Side and Front Views

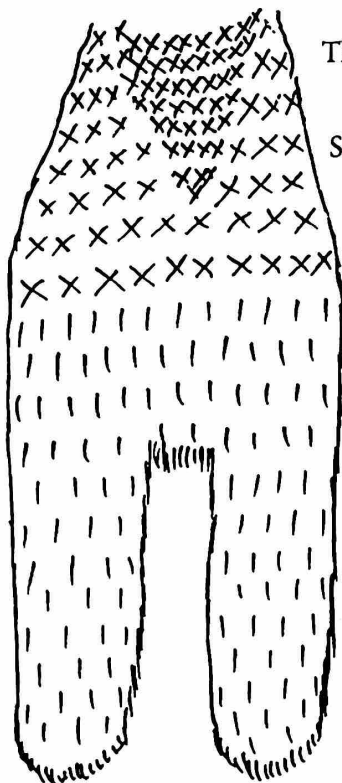


Leave a little longer at back of neck for a nice arch of the neck.

Breastbone →

-  Very short, 1 inch, and stripped underneath to lie flat
-  Short, 1½ to 2½ inches to fit body, or give desired outline, as needed
-  Blend remainder to fit body or give desired outline

The finished coat is carefully blended to look natural. There is NO line of demarcation between coat lengths.



Throat, short to very short

Short to medium on neck and shoulders

Blend to keep outline smooth from front.  
Hair should NOT flop around excessively when the dog moves!




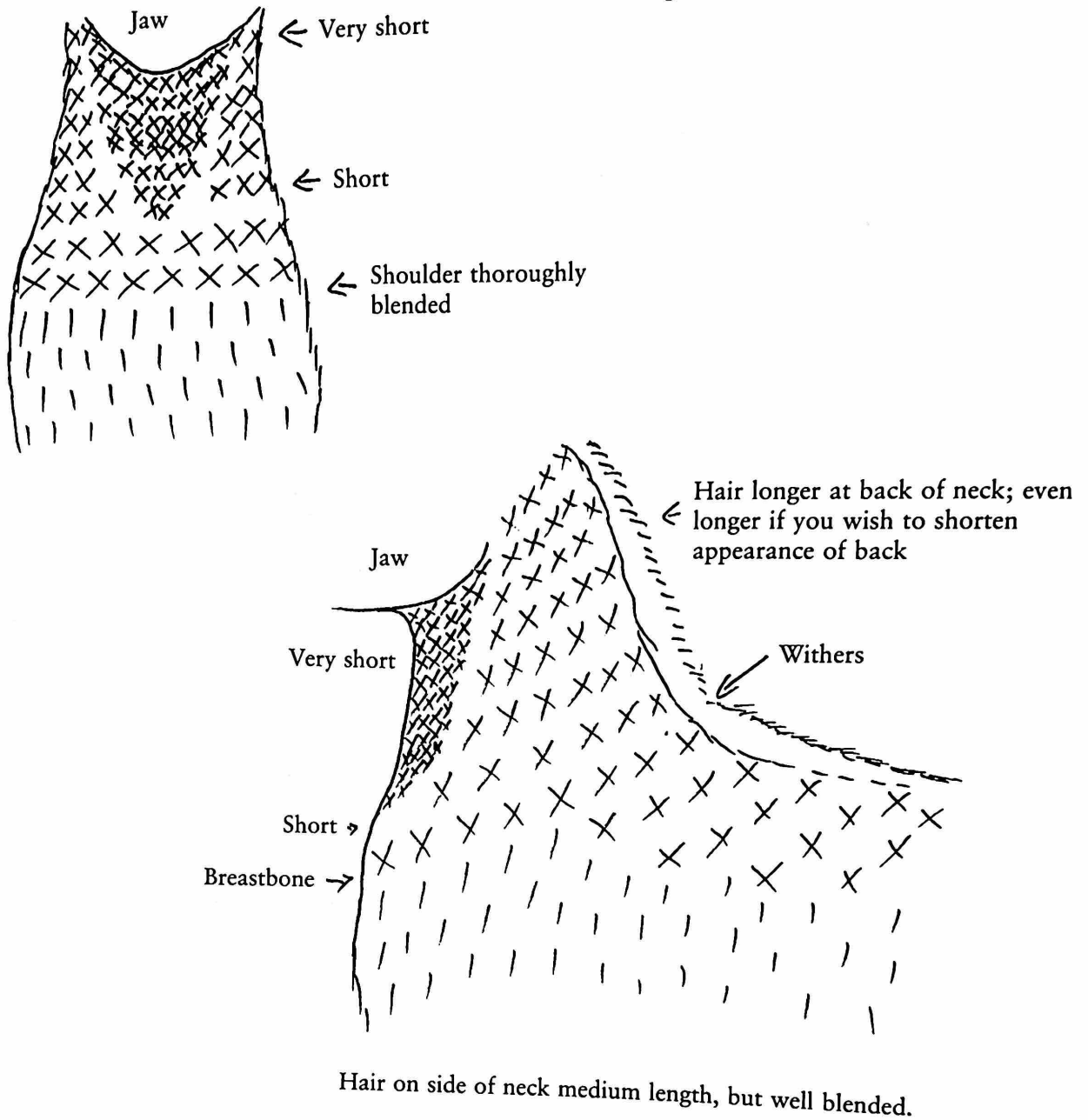
-  Very short, 1 inch, stripped underneath to lie flat
-  Short, 1½ to 2½ inches to fit body, or give desired outline as needed
-  Blend remainder to fit body, or give desired outline

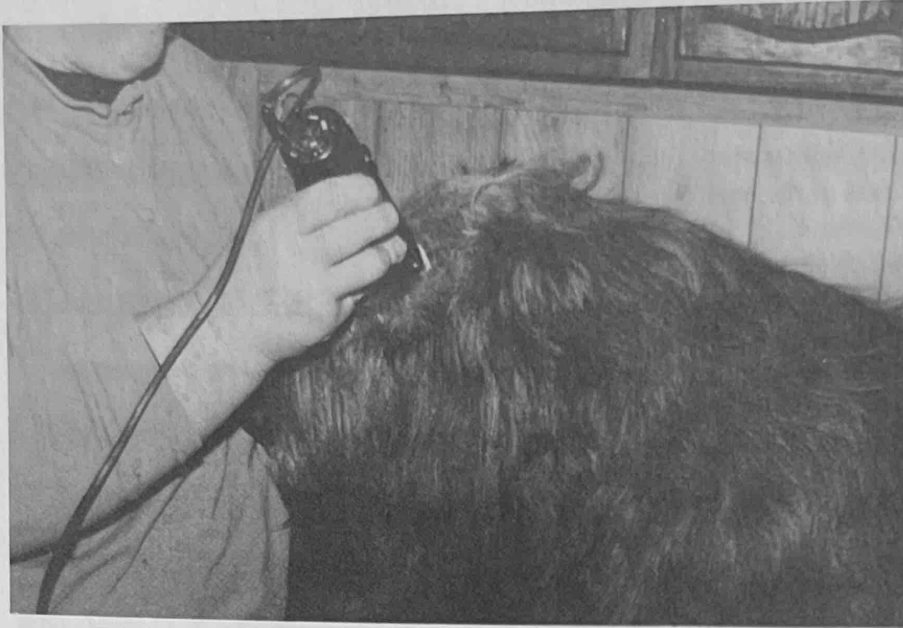
Figure 6-4: The Neck, Front and Side Views





The skull is clipped down the sides to a line from the outside corner of the eye to the outside corner of the ear. As you approach that imaginary line, lift the clipper slowly so there is not a distinct line. *Photo by Linda Schneider.*





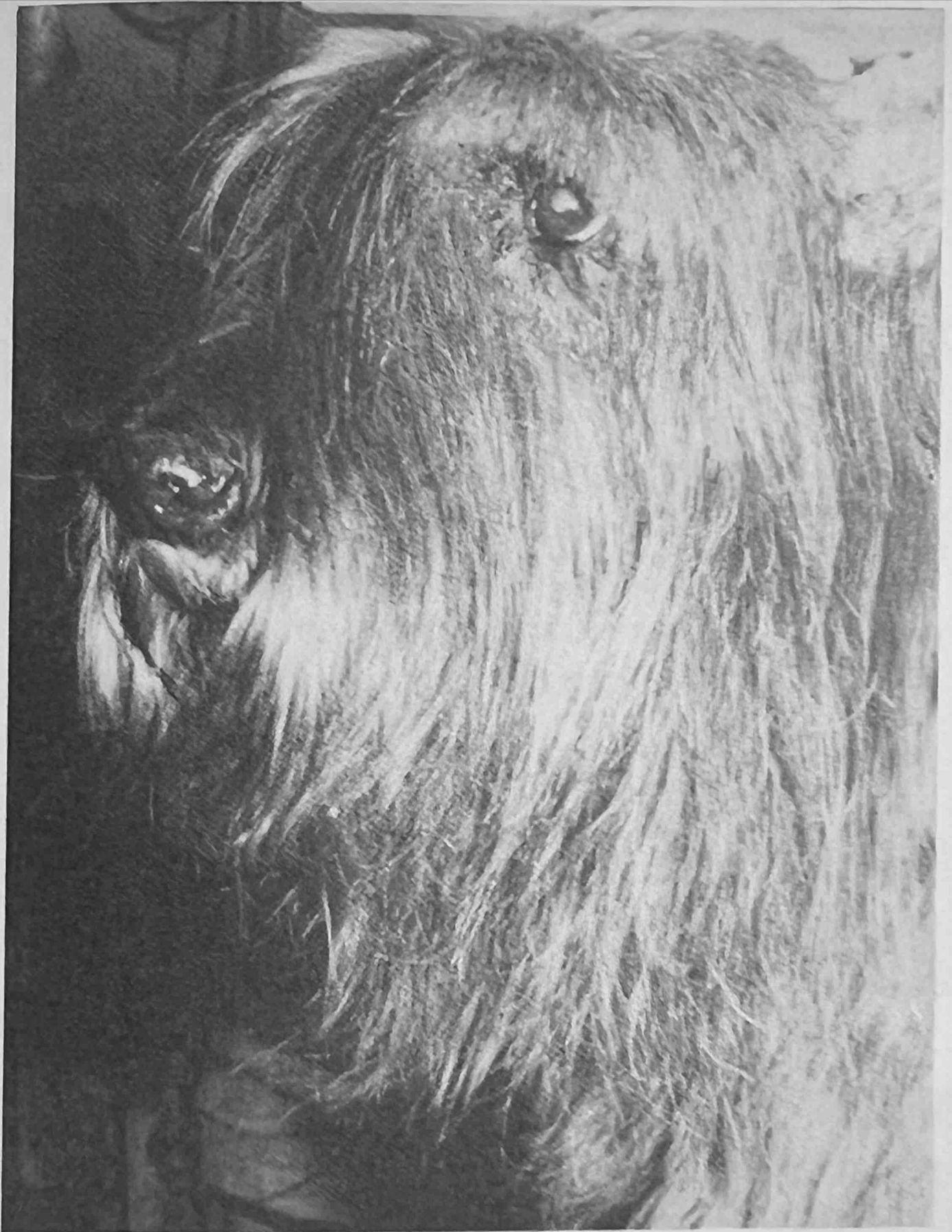
Shave top of head from eye socket towards back of skull with #8½ blade. Leave adequate hair for eyebrows.



Outside of ear is shaved from skull toward tip with a #10 blade. Inside of ear is shaved from tip toward skull with a #15 blade.



Hair for eyebrows and center fall are combed forward before skull is shaved. Here, left ear is trimmed, right ear is untrimmed.



Eyebrow is trimmed with thinning scissors at one angle, closer at outside corner of eye, longer at center fall. It is not cut straight across, but with a slight arch. Center fall is NEVER trimmed.





Using rubber fingertips from the office supply, you can pluck out coat that stands out too far.

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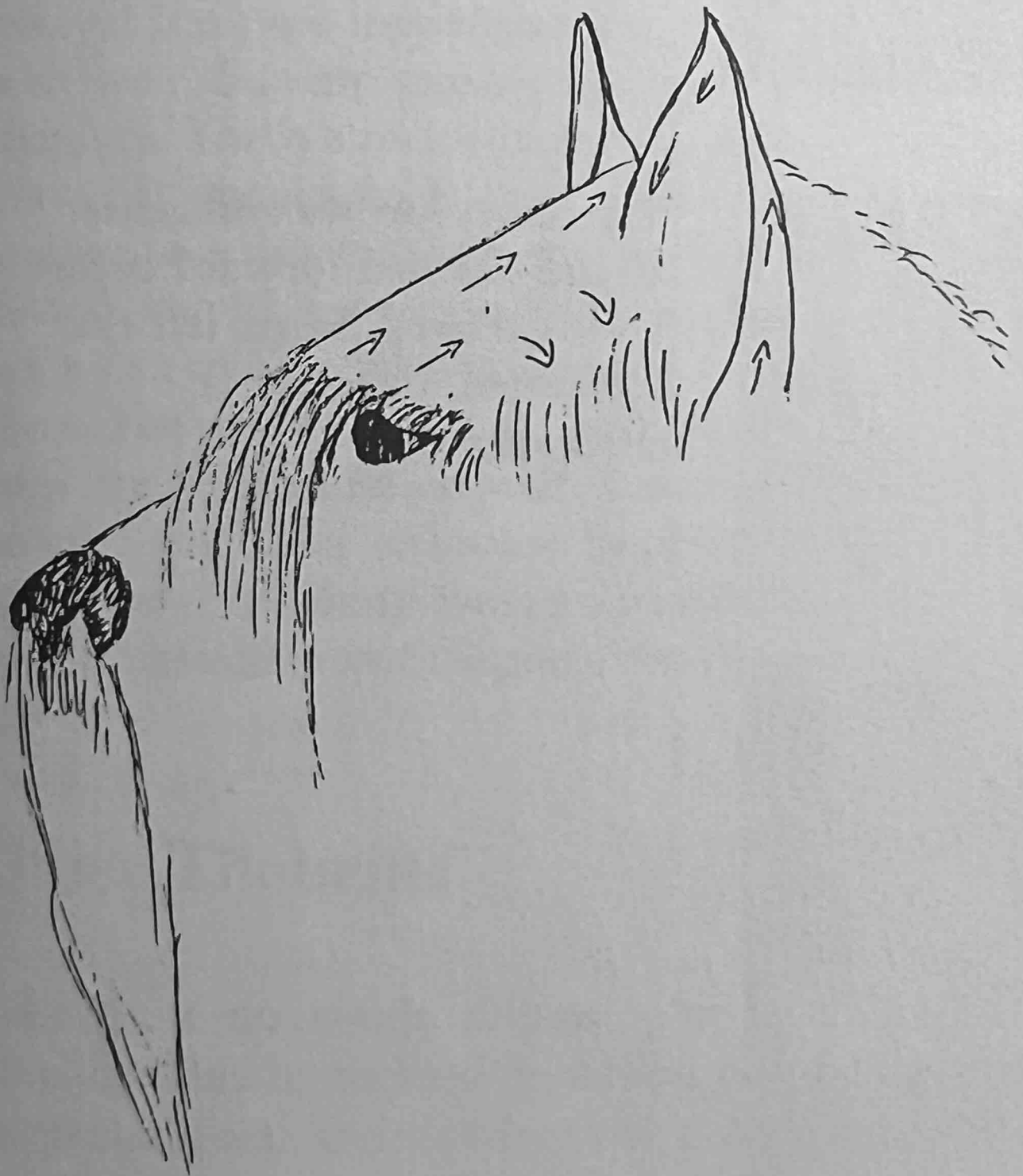


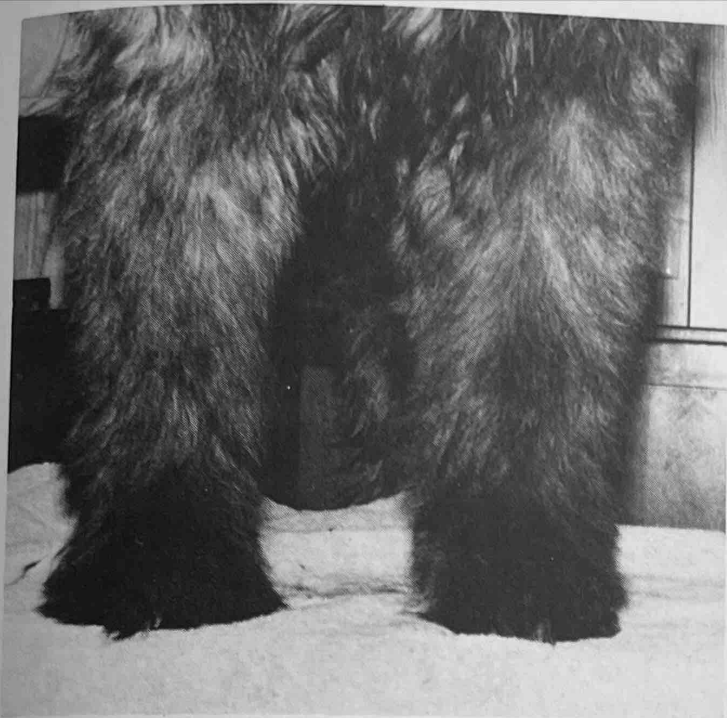
The utility cut.



Doing a utility cut with a plastic clip-on blade over a #30 blade on the clipper. If the dog is not perfectly combed out, this won't work. *Photo by Linda Schneider.*

Figure 6-5: The Head — Direction of Clipping





Untrimmed foot and leg on left, trimmed foot and leg on right. Trimming off wispy ends can make the trimmed leg look fuller than the untrimmed one.

*Photo by Linda Schneider.*

## The Neck

On the neck, I usually use my clippers with a #7 blade for the first cut, because the hair is very thick around the ruff and is hard to trim with the thinning scissors. Comb the hair on the front of the neck and chest outward. By feel, determine where the breastbone is and make note of it, because you will cut no lower than this.

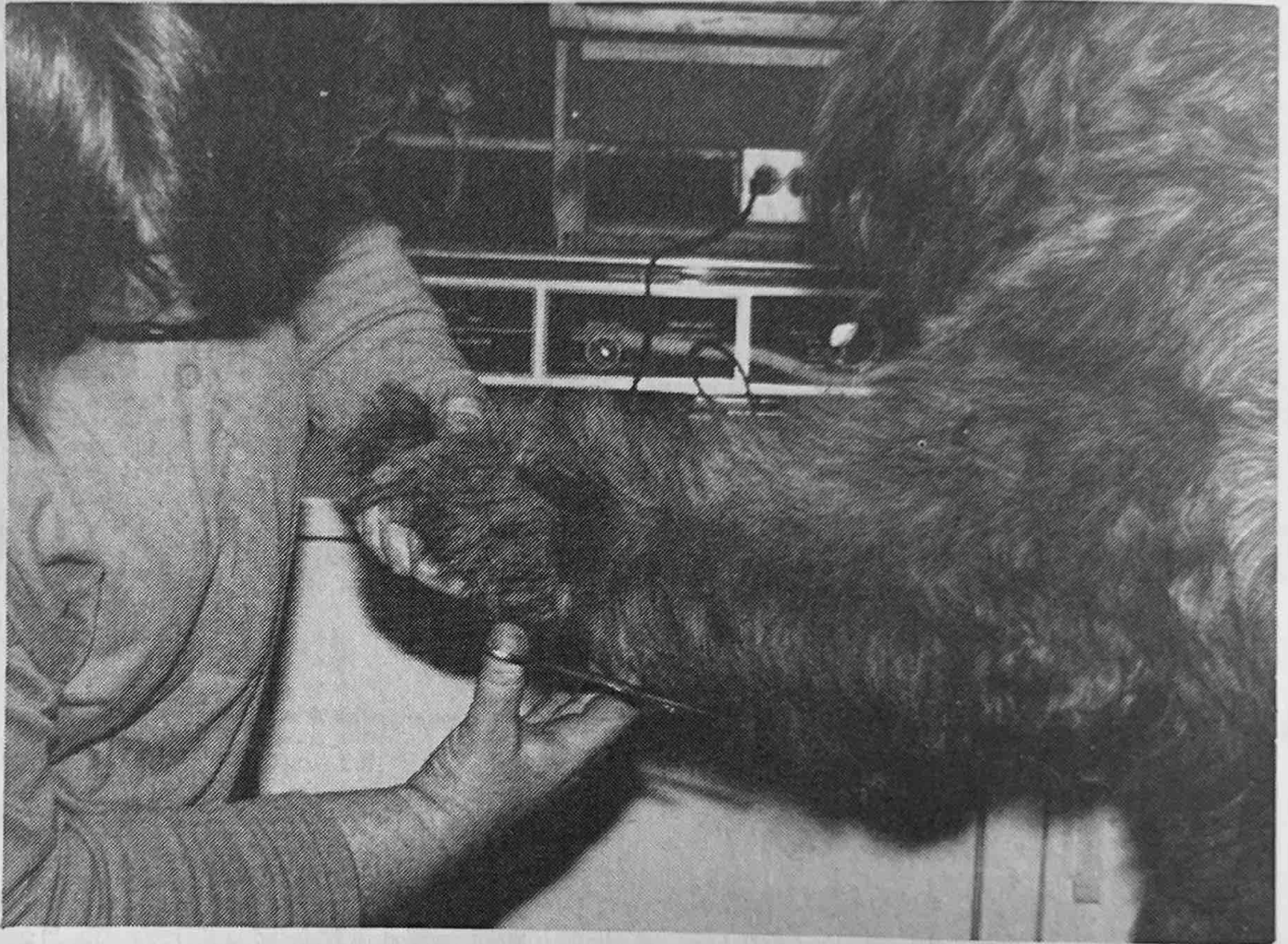
Now, lifting up the dog's chin, feel where the jawline meets the throat. Hold the beard up with the chin and start your cut at the jawline, going downward. Take the blade right down to the skin at the throat (Figure 6-4), and gradually lift it as you travel downward toward the breastbone so that the hair is blended in as you go. Cut the entire front of the neck in this manner — very short immediately at the jawline and gradually blending in when it meets the breastbone and shoulders.



Front view of clipped area of neck before being blended into the shoulder area.

*Photo by Linda Schneider.*



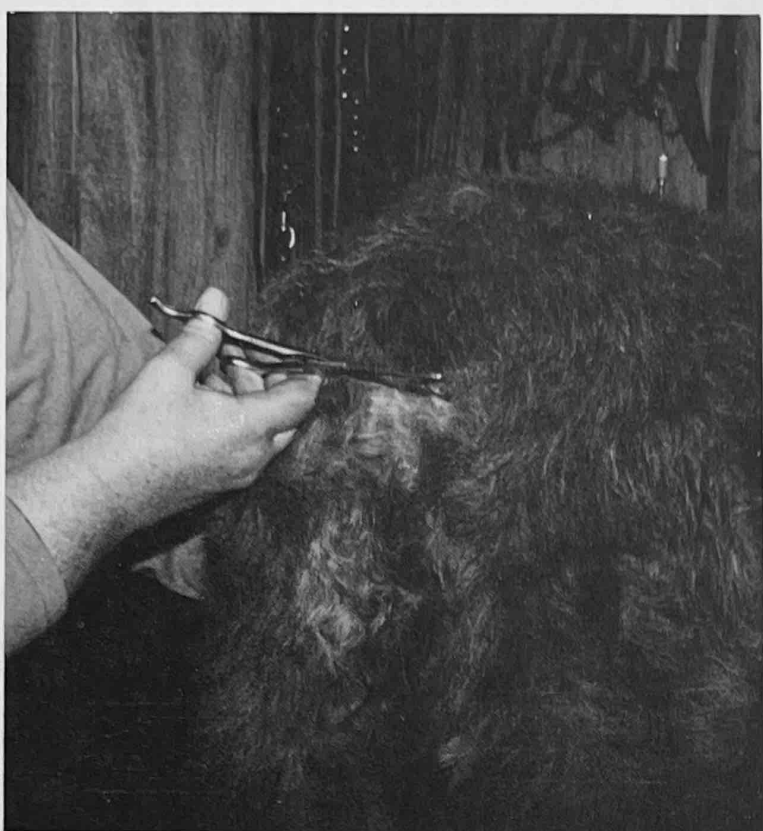


Take your thinning scissors and even out the ends of the hair all around the leg, just cutting off protruding strands and generally neatening.

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Combing the hair toward the end of the tail, trim off the excess with the curved blade scissors so that it is almost even with the end of the tail.

*Photo by Linda Schneider.*



Shave out hair from between the bottoms of the pads using a scooping motion around the large single pad off the foot. *Photo by Linda Schneider.*

Left foot untrimmed, right foot trimmed as closely as toes allow. *Photo by Linda Schneider.*

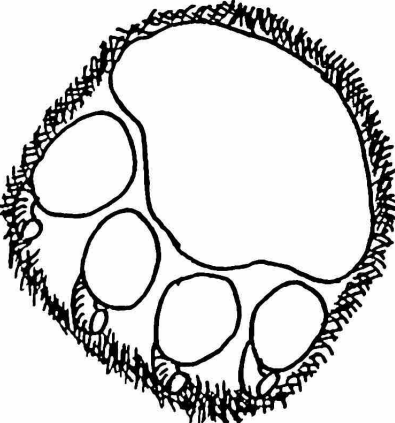


Around the bottom of the foot trim close to the pads with a stright blade scissor. *Photo by Linda Schneider.*

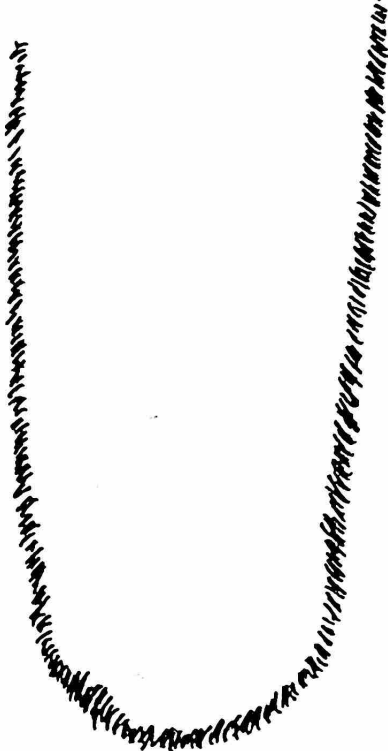


Figure 6-1: The Feet

Bottom View



Front View



Side View

