

WHAT TO EXPECT WITH YOUR FRESHLY SHARPENED BLADES

As a mail-in customer, your sharpener has not seen your clippers as he would if the job were done at your salon. Even though you may think everything is OK with them, there could be some unforeseen clipper problems when you start using the blades. Your blades are clean and set to factory specs on tension which should be a little tighter than a dull blade. This new tension could bring out some hidden clipper problems you didn't see when using the blades before they were sharpened. This is why blades don't cut after they have been sharpened even though they did when dull.

Passing blades around the shop to see if they cut on another groomers clippers is not a good test. They may have clipper problems as well causing the same problems as you are experiencing. We want to know why that blade doesn't work on your clipper. Different hinges are different widths and could cause rattling.

If there is any free play in your clippers drive assembly the blades may drag. This is caused by a loose link or worn lever in the Oster, and a broken or very weak blade drive in an Andis, or even a worn hinge on both Oster and Andis. Blades cut a "Corn row" type pattern when the hinge is worn and loose, you change the hinge and this symptom goes away.

Notice how clean and shiny the blades are right now, especially the cutting surfaces. Did your blades have a black or red buildup on them before you sent them off to be sharpened?? The black buildup is caused by pet dander melting on a hot blade. Cat dander does this almost immediately as the hair is cut because its so fine. The reddish buildup is caused by miss-using spray coolants. The coolants contain a propellant, a high-grade solvent, some water, and finally a little oil. There is not enough oil in most of these sprays to replenish the lubrication on your blades. Most say to use clipper oil along with the coolant.

Coolants work by spraying a solvent on the back of your hot blade. As it evaporates, it takes the heat from the blade along with it. Spraying the teeth of the blade will eliminate most of the lubrication there and the heat forms that reddish buildup. By spraying the teeth you will think its actually lubricating the blade, but in actuality, it's just dissolving that red buildup causing the clipper speed to increase, thus you think it's lubing everything. This practice works for about 10 minutes then your spraying again, and again when the buildup solidifies. Plus, most are very flammable and could cause an unsafe act by spraying on a running clipper Clippers use brushes that spark in the motor, and most coolants use propane or butane as the propellant. Turn the clipper off when using a spray coolant. READ THE BACK OF THE CAN.

Use "Old School" methods for longer blade life. Clean the hair and buildup off your blades at least once a day, more if you can by using your choice of blade cleaner. Then Oil the blade good. Keeping oil on the blades keeps the heat down and saves the edge. Oil the blade during your groom, it can be done without getting any oil on the coat. You can control how much money you spend on sharpening, why throw your money away?