Pig Hair Clipping Guide

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Why Clip Pigs?

- People clip pigs to:
  - Make them look fresher
  - Make them appear cleaner and remove stains
  - Show muscle definition.
When Clipping Pigs

- When clipping pigs remember to be:
  - Patient
  - Stay calm

It may take a few times (days) in order to accomplish the task.
When To Clip

- Depending on your method of clipping:
  - You can clip right before the show.
  - Clip 15-30 days before the show and let the hair grow out.

- Keep in mind a pig might get bug or fly bites after clipping them.
Methods to Hold the Pig Still

- Clip while feeding the pig.
- Clip the pig when it is resting.
- Snare the pig.
Equipment Used

- A Pair of Clippers
- Sharp Blades
- Clipper Guards
- Extension Cord
- Brush
- Scissors
Pattern Clipping

- **Blue** is with NO Guard.
- **Yellow** is with a ½ inch Guard.
- **Green** is with a ¾ inch Guard.

**Goal:** Blend the hair so it appears normal.
Wash Your Pig

- Clipping works best when the pig is clean.
- They shouldn’t have manure or mud stuck to the hair.
- Try not to clip the hair damp.
Clipping Ears

- **With NO Guard:**
  - Remove all excess hair inside the ear.
  - Trim around the ears and clean out the ear notches.
  - Remove hair on the backside of the ear.
  - Remove the ear hair back to the pigs neck.
Clipping the Head

- Using NO Guard Trim:
  - Hair on the cheeks.
  - Hair under the Jowl.
  - Hair on the forehead.
  - Hair up to the level between the ears.
  - Hair around the Lips.
  - Hair around the nose.
Clipping the Underline

- Using NO Guard:
  - Removing hair from the underline will show the gilt's teat quality and spacing better.
Clipping the Sheath

- Using NO Guard:
  - Trimming the excess sheath hair on a barrow will make him look trimmer in the belly.
  - Trim the underline hair as well.
Clipping the Legs

- Using NO Guard
  - Remove excess hair on the back of the front and rear legs.
  - You can remove the hair from the front side of the legs if it is stained.
Clipping the Legs

- Remove the leg hair up to the stifle and elbow pocket.
Blocking Out The Legs

- Blocking the legs leaves the hair on the legs.
- This appears the pig has more bone.
- Usually blocking trims a small amount of hair off the back of the legs.
Clipping the Rump

- With NO Guard
  - Trim the base of the ham and connect it to the leg lines you created.
  - Trim the line right up to the anus and tail.
  - Follow the Ham Muscle Lines.
  - Do this on Both Sides!
Clipping the Rump

- Using a ½ inch guard
  - Trim the Hair on the Side on the Ham.
  - Do this on Both Sides!
Trimming the Tail

- Using Scissors:
  - Trim excess hairs on the tail.
  - Keep some hairs at the end of the tail.
  - Remove the stained hair.
  - Trim off hairs sticking up or against the rest of the hairs.
Clipping the Belly and Sides

- Using a ½ inch Guard
  - Trim the hair on the sides.
  - Trim the belly hair connecting it to the underline line you created.
  - Trim the neck hair and connect it to the forehead and jowl lines.
Clipping The Top

- Using a ¾ inch or ½ inch Guard:
  
  - Trim the hair on the top of the pig.

  - You can trim closer on the groove top and tail head dimple.
When Finished Clipping

- You may want to brush off the excess hair.
- Wash and oil the pigs skin.
- Spray with fly spray.
- Keep the pig clean till the show.
Know the Rules

- DO NOT SHAVE THE PIG BALD!

- The packer needs some hair on the pig so it can be removed during harvest / processing.

- Follow Your Shows Clipping Rules.
Do Not Over Stress Your Pig

- Take Breaks
- Do Not Over Stress Your Pig.
- It Could Die with the Stress Gene!
Common Mistakes

- Not Clipping the Face
- Not Clipping the Ear
- Not finishing the whole clipping project.
- Shaving the Pig Bald.

Hair on the Face ➔
Pig Hair Products

- Pig hair is used to make:
  - paint brushes
  - cosmetic brushes.
Successful Clipping Takes Practice, Patients and Time.