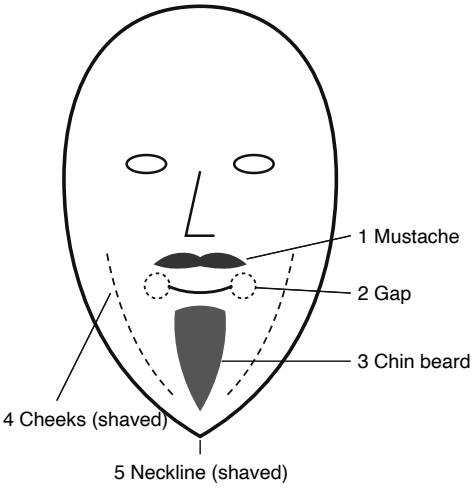
Van Dyke Beard Trim Guide

One-page printable sheet (A4; choose "Fit to page" on US Letter) · Goatee.io · Updated November 8, 2026 · Full guide: goatee.io/blog/vandyke-beard



The five zones (sketch, not to scale)

- **1 Mustache** — separate piece, trimmed to the lip line; ends just past the mouth corners.
- **2 Gap** — clean skin at each mouth corner. No official width. Goatee.io's generator prompt uses 1.5–2 cm; that is our tool setting, not a barbering standard.
- **3 Chin beard** — starts under the lower lip, about mouth-width, narrowing to a point (or rounded).
- **4 Cheeks** — shaved. A slanted line runs from each mustache corner down toward the jaw.
- **5 Neckline** — shaved below a line about 1–2 fingers above the Adam's apple.

Styles at a glance

Style	Chin hair length	Notes
Short (modern)	6–10 mm (Wahl #2–#3)	Quickest upkeep; soft point
Rounded	10–20 mm	Round bottom, easier symmetry
Classic	~25–30 mm (1 in+)	Pointed; no guard on the point
Extended	~50 mm (2 in) or more	Scissors only for the point

Hair length, guard and days to grow (from a clean shave)

Zone / style	Hair length	Wahl guide comb	0.3 mm/day	0.42 mm/day	0.5 mm/day
Short chin patch	6 mm (¼")	#2	20 days	14 days	12 days
Fuller short chin	10 mm (⅜")	#3	33	24	20
Mustache before scissor trim	13 mm (½")	#4	43	31	26
Classic point, early shaping	25 mm (1")	#8	83	60	50
Extended point	50 mm (about 2")	no guard; scissors	167	119	100

Days = hair length ÷ daily growth, rounded. 0.42 mm/day is a planning assumption (12.7 mm per month ÷ 30, rounded), not a measured average; 0.3 and 0.5 are assumed slow/fast growers. A point that drops 4–5 cm below the chin needs more than 50 mm of hair. Guard sizes: Wahl *Home Haircutting Made Simple*, pp. 5–6. Other brands number guards differently — check the length printed on yours. Measure your own rate: shave one cheek, wait 7 days, measure, divide by 7.

Trim in six steps

1. **Grow** without shaving the mustache or chin: ~2–3½ weeks for short, months for a long point.
2. **Comb down and map** the mustache, gap and chin beard.
3. **Set the length.** Short: #2–#3 guard on the chin. Classic/extended: no guard on the chin, scissor stray ends only. Both: mustache to the lip line with scissors.
4. **Shave** the gap, cheeks and neck — outline slightly wide first.
5. **Shape the point**: narrow the sides, scissor the tip; check front, both profiles and a photo.
6. **Finish** the mustache ends; a little wax keeps them clear of the gap.

Weekly upkeep

- □ Re-shave the gap and cheeks every 2–3 days
- □ Re-trim chin and mustache every 1–2 weeks
- □ Re-cut the neckline when stubble shows
- □ Oil or balm if the skin under the chin beard feels dry
- □ Compare left vs right in a photo, not just the mirror

Tell your barber

Short: "A short Van Dyke: mustache and chin beard kept separate with a clean gap at the mouth corners, cheeks and neck shaved. Chin at a #3, tapered to a soft point. Mustache to the lip line. Leave the outline a little wide on the first cut."
Long: "A Van Dyke with a long point: keep the gap, shave cheeks and neck, no guard on the chin — shape the point with scissors and only take the ends off."

Goatee.io — preview a Van Dyke on your own photo at goatee.io/van-dyke-beard before you grow it. The preview shows shape and proportion, not how dense your real growth will be. Name: after painter Anthony van Dyck (1599–1641), e.g. *Charles I in Three Positions*, 1635–36, Royal Collection. Free to print and share unchanged.