ADVANCED CLIPPER CUTTING FOR MEN

Cosmetology I
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<th>Evelyn Lauder, American businesswoman, socialite and philanthropist</th>
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<td>“One of the most important things about looking youthful is to have a modern haircut.”</td>
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Men’s Haircuts

- Business opportunities are endless
- Men cut their hair every 3 to 5 weeks
- Loyal clientele

Ask your students the following questions:

- Would you like a business filled with a loyal clientele that consistently comes back every 3 to 5 weeks?
- Can you think of 3 to 5 men that get their hair cut once a month?
- What are some important details men look for in a haircut?
Show students a few tapered photos of latest trends in men’s styling.

Address key terms in today’s lesson and how they relate to the photos.
Clipper Cuts and Trimmers

- Clipper-over-comb
- Clipper cutting with attachments
- Men's clipper cut
- Trimmers

Clipper over-comb - hair technique similar to shears over-comb, except the clippers move sideways across the comb rather than bottom to top

Clipper cutting with attachments – a quick and easy way to create short haircuts using the length guard attachments

Men's clipper cut – the hair is cropped close along the bottom and sides and becomes longer as you travel up the head

Trimmers – a smaller sized clipper, usually cordless, used to clean necklines and around ears
Remind students of the safety and sanitation procedures before they begin working on a client.

Click on the photo to view Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation’s 10 most common violations. Use this as an eye opener for students to understand how important it is to practice state law.

**Cosmetology Administrative Rules**

These standards include:

- clean and disinfect equipment, tools, implements and supplies before use on each client
- use clean towels for each client
- use clean cutting and shampoo capes for each client
- use a sanitary neck strip or towel
- employ good hygiene habits while providing cosmetology service

Demonstrate:

- draping for wet styling (explain purpose)
- sanitation - hand sanitizer and hospital grade Environmental Protection Agency registered disinfectant
- safety - shielding the client’s face from the spray bottle with cupped hands
- how to keep hair and setting lotion out of the client’s eyes

Explain the importance of keeping pointed implements away from the client’s face.
As a working cosmetologist, you will be spending many hours on your feet.

Good posture and body positioning will help you avoid back problems in the future and ensure better haircutting results.

**Position your client** – make sure your client is sitting up straight and legs are not crossed  
**Center your weight** – keep body weight centered and firm  
**Work in front of your section** – stand or sit directly in front of the area you are cutting

Demonstrate the correct way to stand.

**Correct body positioning** - rolling your shoulders back and standing directly (parallel) in front of the section on which you are working

Allow students to stand and demonstrate the correct way to position themselves in front of a client.
Demonstrate a proper draping on a volunteer student.

Emphasize the importance of the cape staying on throughout the haircut and how the cape is your client’s first line of defense from loose hair.

Failing to secure the neck strip will result in an uncomfortable experience for your client.

- **Neck strip** - secure a neck strip around the client’s neck
- **Cutting cape** - place a cape over the neck strip and fasten in the back

Be sure to fold the neck strip down over the cape so that no part of the cape touches the client’s skin.
Handling Scissors

- Haircutting shears
  - Place thumb in moving blade (bottom)
  - Place ring finger on top blade
  - Rest index and middle finger on the shank
  - Practice opening and closing blade

Demonstrate the appropriate way to handle your haircutting shears.

**Haircutting shears** - used mainly for removing length and detailing the haircut
Clippers – an electrical device that cuts the hair using two moving blades held in place by a metal plate with teeth

Classic barbering comb - finer-spaced teeth used for detailing, shear over-comb, and clipper over-comb techniques

Distribute a few sets of clippers and combs and let students practice holding the tools correctly.
Proper Sectioning and Guidelines

- Horseshoe Parting
- Moving Guideline

**Horseshoe parting** - a part that starts about two inches below the apex of the head, beginning and ending at the front hairline

**Moving guideline** - guideline that moves as the haircutting progresses, used often when creating layers or graduation

Reference the mannequin to where the apex and parietal ridge is located.

Identify the horseshoe parting that sits just above the parietal - this allows for room when connecting the top to the sides.

Remind students to gradually allow the taper to gain length as they work up to this parting.

Make a horseshoe parting about two inches below the apex of the head, beginning and ending at the front hairline.

Comb the hair above the part forward and out of the way.

The nape area will be the focus first.
**Starting the Guideline**

- Start at the nape area
- Place the haircutting comb against the scalp, teeth up
- Angle the comb 45 degrees
- Cut the hair that extends through the comb

**Hands On Hair Cutting Classes - Part 1 of 3**

(click on link)

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Explain to the students how you must keep the comb at a 45 degree angle, otherwise they can easily create a bald spot that’s hard to blend into the longer lengths on top.

**Clipper over-comb** - hair technique similar to shears over-comb, except the clippers move sideways across the comb rather than bottom to top

Click on hyperlink to view YouTube™ video:

- Hands on Men's Hair Cutting Classes by Ardem Keshishian in North Dallas
  Men's Cut Part 1 of 3
  Salon D Dallas, Texas
**Tapering**

- Blended haircut
- Done with clipper guard attachments
- Use caution along the front hairline

*Men's Hair Cut by Ardem Keshishian - Part 2 of 3*

(Click on link)

**Taper** - an even blended haircut from very short at the hairline to longer lengths as you move up the head

“To Taper” is to narrow progressively at one end

**Guard attachments** - when attached to clippers, allow you to cut the hair evenly to the exact length

Work from the front hairline towards back of the head, using your previous section as your guide.

Repeat on opposite side of the head working from ear to ear.

Caution - be careful when cutting along the front hairline - this area is key to keeping a smooth and blended taper fade

Explain the similarities between a clipper-over comb taper and guard attachments.

Click on hyperlink to view YouTube™ video:
- **Men's Hair Cut by Ardem Keshishian in Dallas**
  Men's Cut Part 2 of 3
  Salon D Dallas, Texas
  [http://youtu.be/y2keTaFBSo4](http://youtu.be/y2keTaFBSo4)
Blending

- A smooth transition from the sides to the top
- Tools
  - Thinning shears
  - Wide tooth comb

Handling thinning shears is no different than handling haircutting shears. Be sure to remind the students on how these scissors work so they can best understand when to use them and more importantly when not to use them.

Cut a narrow guideline at the crown end of the horseshoe parting.

Beginning at the crown, cut the top area with the clipper moving in panels toward the forehead.

Using a thinning shear, remove excess bulk. Work on blending a smooth transition from the sides to the top.

**Thinning Shears** - these tools are great for removing excess bulk and for blending one area with another

**Wide Tooth Comb** - tool used when cutting thicker and longer lengths, where detailing is not required

Click on hyperlink to view YouTube™ video:
- Hands on Men's Hair Cutting Classes by Ardem Keshishian in Dallas
  - Men's Cut Part 3 of 3
  - Salon D Dallas, Texas
Trimmers create the detail that marks a good haircut from a great haircut.

**Trimmers** - a smaller sized clipper, usually cordless, used to clean necklines and around ears.

Using the trimmer, shorten and shape the hair around the ears and sideburns.

Continue to cut around the hairline until the shape of the head and the length of the hair are blending in harmony.
Cross-checking - taking a panel of hair opposite original cutting angle and checking for consistency

Crossing checking should only be used to check for consistency within the haircut. Clean up any sections that are not accurate.

If a section shows unclear uniformity, it’s best to go back to the original cutting line, find the problem, and fix it.

Failing to do this can result in an even more unbalanced section.

Opposite section angle - take a panel of hair opposite the original cutting angle and check for consistency.
Today, we learned how to create a men’s haircut utilizing proper hand techniques, body positioning and posture.

These techniques are universal in creating any tapered style for a customer that might walk in the door at your shop.

Let’s review a few questions. (This review may be used in Lesson Closure)

What cutting angles previously learned, helped us create the basic shape of today’s cut?
• 45 and 90 degree angles

What is a taper and how does it affect the outcome of your haircut?
• Holding the comb closer to the head at the hairline and farther away as you work up the head. It determines the length of hair removed.

How do you appropriately drape a client for a men’s haircut?
• Neck strip and cutting cape.

Why is it important to follow all safety and sanitation procedures?
• To prevent the spread of unwanted disorders and diseases.

How will these techniques help you build a steady men’s clientele?
• Mastering these techniques makes you a versatile stylist prepared to take on any haircut.
Resources and References

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<th>Resources</th>
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<td>Images:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Ardem Keshishian, Master Stylist and Salon Owner: Used with permission from Salon D, Dallas, Texas.</td>
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<td>2. B. Rodriguez, Licensed Cosmetology Instructor: Used with permission from Brian Dangerous Hair.</td>
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<td>3. Microsoft Office Clip Art: Used with permission from Microsoft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Textbook:</td>
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<td>YouTube™:</td>
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