

**GADSDEN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE  
CONTINUAL EDUCATION  
COVID-19 EMERGENCY LESSONS**

Teacher Name: Mr. Garrett Dowdell  
Dates of Instruction: March 30 – April 13, 2020  
Lesson Title: Men Haircutting and Styling  
Grade Levels: 10 – 12; adult  
Subject Area: Barbering

**Assignment:** After reading the material on men haircutting and styling, the student will be able to: identify and perform trimming/shaping of hair (cutting) with scissor, clipper, and razor; prepare the client and determine needs and desires (consultation); select and utilize hair cutting implements and techniques (shears, razor, clippers, texturizing implements); section hair and proceed with wet or dry hair cut utilizing all elevations (solid form, graduated, layered, over-directed) and combinations with or without blends; edge and clean neckline with razor, clipper, or shears; sanitize cutting implements using universal sanitation procedures.

**Lesson Instructions:**

Week of March 30 – April 3, 2020, read Chapter 15 topic lessons 1 – 5 on pages 390 – 452.

Week of April 6 – 13, 2020, read Chapter 15 topic lesson 6 – 8 on pages 452 – 480.

**Practice Activities:**

Week of March 30 – April 3, 2020, Chapter 15 topics 1 – 5 workbook review questions on pages 127 - 135.

Week of April 6 – 13, 2020, answer Chapter 15 topics 6 – 8 workbook review questions on pages 135 – 143.

April 14, 2020 answer Chapter 15 test questions 1 – 50 on pages 335 – 339.

April 15, 2020 answer Chapter 15 test questions 51 – 100 on pages 339 – 343.

**Instructional Materials:**

1. Barbering Chapter 15 Men Haircutting reading material packet.
2. Barbering Chapter 15 Men Haircutting workbook material packet.
3. Barbering Chapter 15 Men Haircutting test questions packet.

**Special Notes from Instructor:**

ALL paper work should be kept in your folder, signed and dated to reflect completion date(s) prior to bringing them to class with you on April 16, 2020. If there are any questions, I can be reached at (850) 875-8324; ext. 5123 or email [dowdellg@gcpsmail.com](mailto:dowdellg@gcpsmail.com).

**Mission Statement**

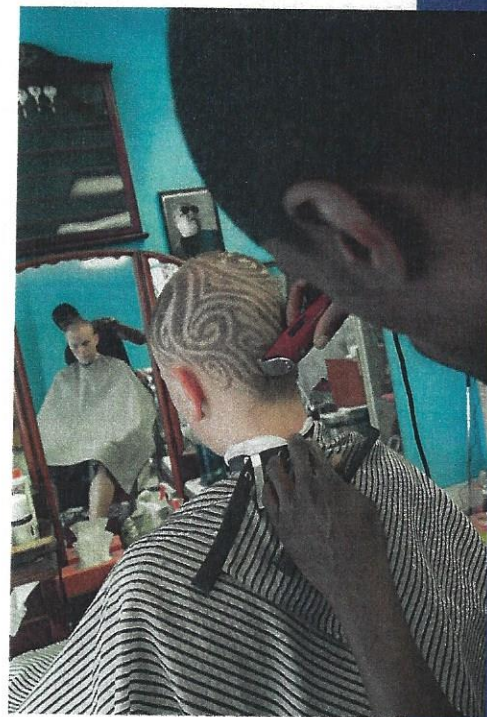
The mission of Gadsden Technical Institute is to recognize the worth and potential of each student. We are committed to providing opportunities for basic and advanced instruction in a conducive learning environment. The Center encourages academic and technical curiosity, innovation and creativity by integrating applied academic skills in all occupational areas. We strive to instill the attitudes and skills necessary to produce motivated, self-sufficient individuals who are able to function effectively in our ever-changing, complex society.



## ✓ Learning Objectives

AFTER COMPLETING THIS CHAPTER, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- 1 Discuss the art and science of men's haircutting and styling.
- 2 Discuss the term *envisioning* and the importance of the client consultation.
- 3 Discuss facial shapes and anatomical features.
- 4 Identify and name the sections of the head as applied to haircutting.
- 5 Understand the fundamental terms used in haircutting.
- 6 Demonstrate basic cutting techniques: fingers-and-shear, shear-over-comb, freehand shear cutting, freehand clipper cutting, clipper-over-comb, and razor cutting.
- 7 Demonstrate shaving the outline areas.
- 8 Demonstrate disinfection procedures.
- 9 Demonstrate basic hairstyling techniques.
- 10 Discuss safety precautions used in haircutting and styling.



## Key Terms

PAGE NUMBER INDICATES WHERE IN THE CHAPTER THE TERM IS USED.

angle / 398	freehand clipper cutting / 412	razor rotation / 425
arching technique / 410	freehand shear cutting / 410	reference points / 396
blow-dry styling / 471	freehand slicing / 424	rolling the comb out / 409
clipper-over-comb / 412	guide / 401	shear-over-comb / 407
crest / 396	hair-locking / 477	shear-point tapering / 410
cutting above the fingers / 403	horizontal / 398	stationary guide / 401
cutting below the fingers / 403	layers / 401	tapered / 401
cutting line / 400	outlining / 402	tension / 402
design line / 401	over-direction / 402	texturizing / 402
diagonal / 398	parietal ridge / 396	thinning / 402
elevation / 399	part / 400	traveling guide / 401
envisioning / 393	parting / 400	vertical / 398
facial shape / 393	projection / 399	weight line / 402
fingers-and-shear / 403	razor-over-comb / 424	



## TIP FROM THE NABBA

“Always treat a client like it's their first visit to the shop.”

Connie Skaggs,  
Ohio State  
Barber Board

The art of haircutting involves individualized and precise designing, cutting, and shaping of the hair. Mastering this art requires the competent use of a variety of tools, implements, techniques, and methods to achieve the desired result.

A good haircut is the foundation of a good hairstyle. The importance of this simple truth cannot be overstressed. Thorough instruction in the proper way to cut, blend, and taper the hair using clippers, shears, and razors provides the basics of this skill. Practice and application under an instructor's guidance are necessary for the achievement and refinement of those basic skills while in school. Later, when working in the barbershop, each client will present new challenges and learning opportunities that form the basis for future success.

The hairstyle, and therefore the haircut, should accentuate the client's best features and minimize the weakest ones. Hairstyle design requires the barber to consider the client's head shape, facial contour, neckline, and hair texture. The barber also needs to be guided by the client's preferences, personality, and lifestyle as well.

✓ L01 Complete

## The Client Consultation

A thorough client consultation helps to eliminate any guesswork about the haircut or style to be performed and provides the perfect opportunity to perform the scalp and hair analysis. This is the time when the barber must determine just what it is the client is asking for in the way of a haircut or style. Phrases such as “a little off the top” or “over the ears” are not specific enough for haircutting purposes. How is “a little” measured? Is it a quarter inch or one inch? Does “over the ears” mean covering the ears or cutting around the ears? These interpretations are just two examples of why the consultation is so important to both the client and the barber.

Once the client has been seated and draped, the barber should be analyzing the client's hair and scalp during the conversation that leads to knowing what the client desires in the way of a service. This is the time to discover scalp conditions that may prohibit moving forward with the service, hair conditions that may require special conditioning or treatment, or hair texture and density issues that limit or enhance cutting and styling options. With this information the barber can make a professional judgment about what can or cannot be done in terms of services and the client's expectations.

Some basic questions that can be asked before the actual cutting begins that will assist the barber in envisioning the desired results include:

- *How long has it been since your last haircut?*

Knowing that the average hair growth is about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " per month allows the barber to envision the preferred length of the hair before it grew out and needed to be cut again.

- *Do you prefer a similar style or are you looking for something new?*

The answer to this question can lead the barber directly to the cutting stage or to further discussion with the client about appropriate styles and options.





- *What is your usual morning routine (shampoo, blow-dry, etc.)?*

The answer will indicate how much time the client is willing to spend on hair care.

- *Are you having any particular problems with your previous cut or style?*

This question provides an opportunity to open dialogue about specific hair-related issues such as problem areas, length, fullness, growth and wave patterns, hair texture, density, and color.

Additional consultation questions should lead to answers that help the barber to determine the length of the sideburns, the shape of the neckline, and whether or not the client desires a neck shave, eyebrow trim, or other services. With practice and experience, barbers learn to ask specific questions that help to provide a clearer picture of the haircut or style the client desires.

**Envisioning** is the process of picturing or visualizing in your mind the finished cut and style based on what the client has told you. With the information gained through the consultation, the barber is better able to visualize the client's expectations of the haircutting service. It is essential to achieve this understanding *before* beginning the haircut.

## Basic Principles of Haircutting and Styling

Each haircut is a representation and advertisement of the barber's work. Remember, a good haircut is the foundation of a good hairstyle!

Hairstyling has been defined as the artistic cutting and dressing of hair to best fit the client's physical needs and personality. Pay attention to details such as client comfort, sideburn length, outlines, balance, and proportion. The consultation should provide sufficient information about the client's life-style and personality to suggest a suitable style, but a study of facial shapes assists the barber in determining the *best* style for a client's features.

 **L02 Complete**

### FACIAL SHAPES

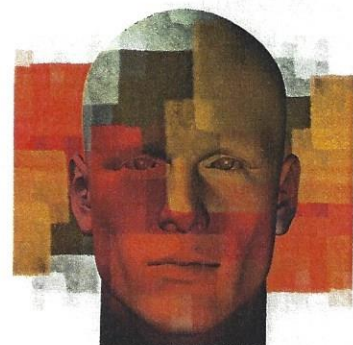
The **facial shape** of each individual is determined by the position and prominence of the facial bones. There are seven general facial shapes: oval, round, inverted triangular, square, pear-shaped, oblong, and diamond. In order to recognize each facial shape and then be able to give correct advice, barbers should be acquainted with the outstanding characteristics of each type. With this information, the barber can suggest a haircut and style that complements the facial shape, similar to the way that certain clothes flatter the body.

The following facial shapes should constitute a guide for choosing an appropriate style.

### TIP FROM THE NABBA

“ Always strive to continue to learn and to make each haircut better than the previous one. When someone asks you when you did your best haircut, be able to say that it was the last one you did. ”

David Jones,  
Chairperson Georgia Board of  
Barbers, NABBA  
past-president

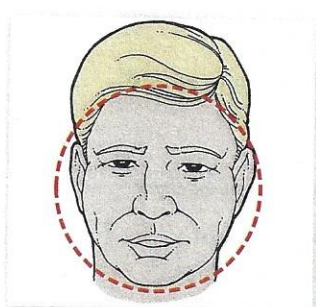






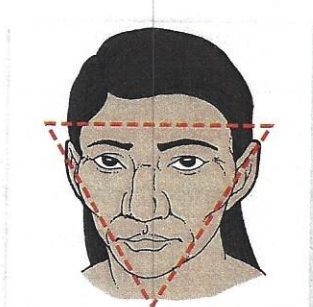
▲ FIGURE 15-1

**Oval:** The oval-shaped face is generally recognized as the ideal shape. Any hairstyle that maintains the oval shape is usually suitable (Figure 15-1). Try changing the part. Experiment, but keep in mind elements such as the client's lifestyle, comfort, and ease of maintenance.



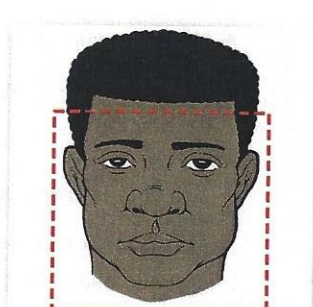
▲ FIGURE 15-2

**Round:** The aim here is to slim the face. Hair that is too short will emphasize fullness, so create some height on the top to lengthen the look of the face (Figure 15-2). An off-center part and some waves at eye level will also help lessen the full appearance of the face. Beards should be styled to make the face appear oval.



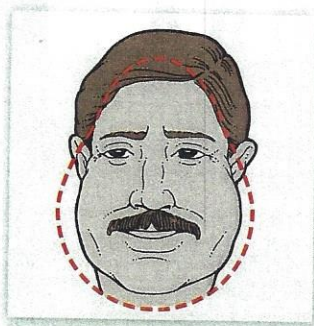
▲ FIGURE 15-3

**Inverted triangular:** The potential problems with this facial shape are over-wide cheekbones and a narrow jaw line (Figure 15-3). Keep the hair close at the crown and temples and longer in back, or try changing the part and the direction of the hair. A full beard helps to fill out the narrow jaw.



▲ FIGURE 15-4

**Square:** To minimize the angular features at the forehead, use wavy bangs that blend into the temples. This softens the square forehead and draws attention to a strong jaw (Figure 15-4). If a beard is worn, it should be styled to slenderize the face.



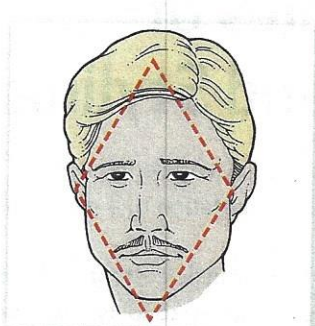
▲ FIGURE 15-5

**Pear-shaped:** This shape is narrow at the top and wide on the bottom (Figure 15-5). Create width and fullness at the top, temples, and sides to produce balance. Short, full styles are best, ending just above the jaw line where it joins the ear area. A body wave or medium-size curl perm is another way to achieve width at the top. If a beard is worn, it should be styled to slenderize the lower jaw.



▲ FIGURE 15-6

**Oblong:** The long face needs to be visually shortened and the angularity hidden (Figure 15-6). Layered bangs brushed to the sides over the temples can camouflage or hide the illusion of a short facial shape. Wearing a mustache also helps to shorten the look of a longer face shape.



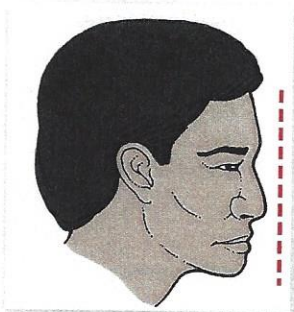
▲ FIGURE 15-7

**Diamond:** The aim here is to fill out the face at the temples and chin and keep hair close to the head at the widest points (Figure 15-7). Deep, full bangs give a broad appearance to the forehead and a fuller back section adds width. A full, square, or rounded beard is also appropriate.



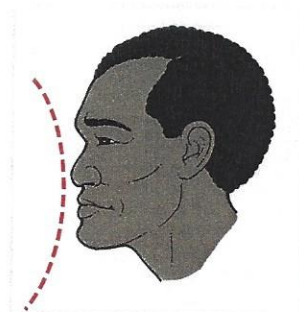
## PROFILES

Always be aware of the client's profile since it can influence the appropriateness of a haircut or style for that particular individual.



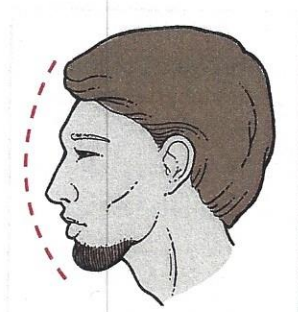
▲ FIGURE 15-8

Straight profiles tend to be the most balanced and can usually wear most hairstyles successfully (Figure 15-8).



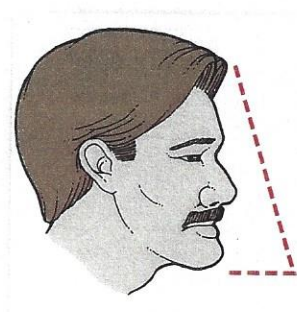
▲ FIGURE 15-9

Concave profiles require a close hair arrangement over the forehead to minimize the bulge of the forehead (Figure 15-9).



▲ FIGURE 15-10

Convex profiles require some balance, so arrange the top front hair over the forehead to conceal a short, receding forehead (Figure 15-10). A beard or goatee minimizes a receding chin.

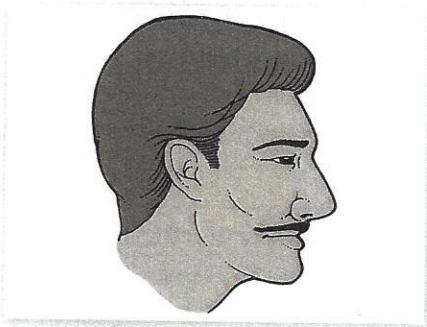


▲ FIGURE 15-11

Angular profiles also have receding foreheads, but the chin tends to jut forward (Figure 15-11). Arrange the top front hair over the forehead to create more balance. A short beard and mustache help to minimize the protruding chin.

## NOSE SHAPE

The shape of the nose influences the profile and should be studied both in profile and from a full-face view.



▲ FIGURE 15-12

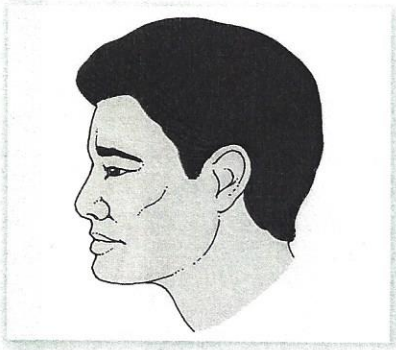
Prominent nose shapes include a hooked nose, large nose, or pointed nose (Figure 15-12). Bring the hair forward at the forehead and back at the sides to minimize the prominence of the nose.



▲ FIGURE 15-13

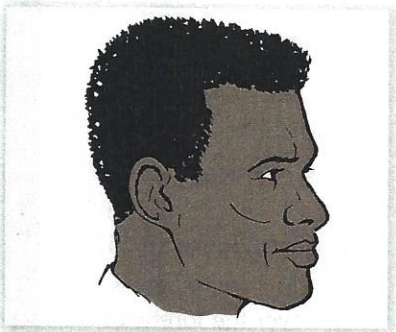
Turned-up nose shapes can usually wear shorter haircut styles because the size or heavy features associated with prominent nose shapes are not an issue (Figure 15-13). Experiment with combing the hair from different part lines, or comb the hair back on the sides.





▲ **FIGURE 15-14**

Long neck.



▲ **FIGURE 15-15**

Short neck.

## NECK LENGTHS

The length of the neck is also a factor in determining the overall shape of the haircut and style. In most cases it is advisable to follow the client's natural hairline when designing a style; however, sometimes an overly long or very short neck limits the options. The length, density, growth pattern, and natural partings of the hair should be considered when deciding on a style that best complements the client's neck length.

Long necks are minimized when the hair is left fuller or longer at the nape (Figure 15-14).

Short necks are best served by leaving the neck exposed to create an appearance of length (Figure 15-15). Work with the natural hairline and perform a tapered cut that creates the illusion of a longer nape and neck area.

✓ **LO3 Complete**

# Fundamentals of Haircutting

The fundamental principles of haircutting should be thoroughly understood. The same general techniques are used in cutting, shaping, tapering, and blending men and women's hair. The differences between the two are usually evident in the overall design line, the contour or shape (which includes volume), and the finished style. The fundamental principles of haircutting pertain to the head form, basic haircutting terms, and different haircutting techniques.

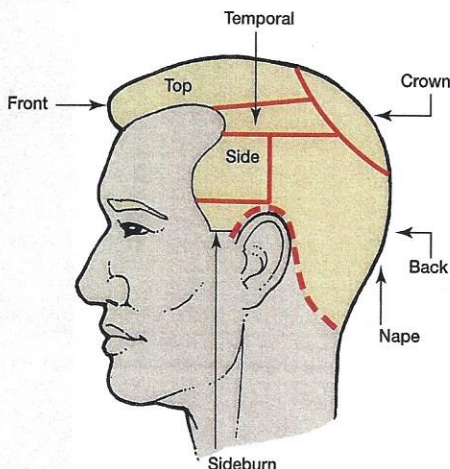
## THE HEAD FORM

In order to create consistent and successful results in haircutting, it is necessary to understand the shape of the head. Hair responds differently in different areas of the head because of the curves and changes from one section to the next. The ability to visualize these sections will assist student barbers in the development of individual cutting patterns, help to eliminate technical mistakes, reduce confusion during the haircutting process, and facilitate easier checking of the final result.

When designing and cutting hair, the barber should envision the sections of the head as depicted in Figures 15-16 through 15-18. These sections include the front, top (apex), temporal (crest), crown, sides, sideburns, back, and nape.

**Reference points** are points on the head that mark areas where the surface of the head changes or the behavior of the hair changes as a result of the surface changes. These points are used to establish proportionate design lines and contours.

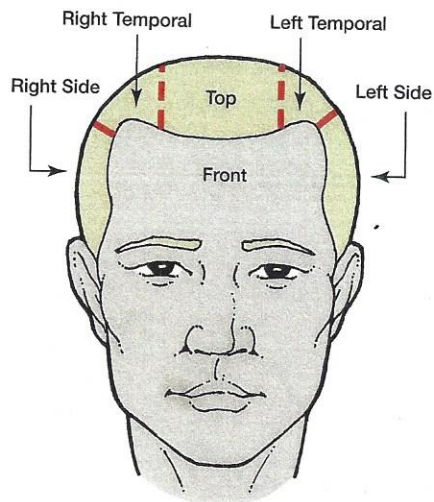
- The **parietal ridge** is also known as the **crest**, **temporal**, **horseshoe**, or **hatband** area of the head. It is the widest section of the head, starting at the temples and ending just below the crown. When a comb is placed flat against the head at the sides,



▲ **FIGURE 15-16**

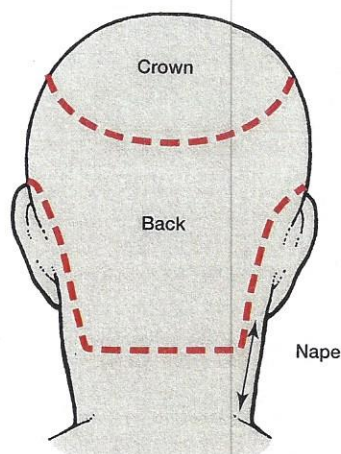
Diagram of sections of head, side view.





▲ FIGURE 15-17

Diagram of sections of head, front view.



▲ FIGURE 15-18

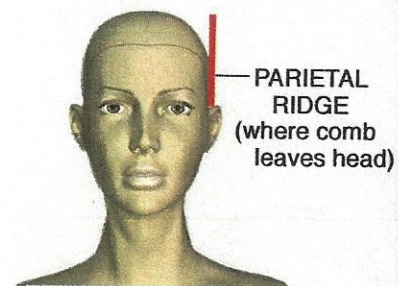
Diagram of sections of head, back view.

the parietal ridge begins where the head starts to curve away from the comb (Figure 15-19). The parietal ridge is one of the most important sections of the head when cutting hair because it serves as a transition area from the top to the front, sides, and back sections.

- The occipital bone protrudes at the base of the skull. When a comb is placed flat against the nape area, the occipital begins where the head curves away from the comb (Figure 15-20).
- The apex is the highest point on the top of the head (Figure 15-21).
- The four corners are located by crossing two diagonal lines at the apex (Figure 15-22). The lines will point to the front and back corners of the head.

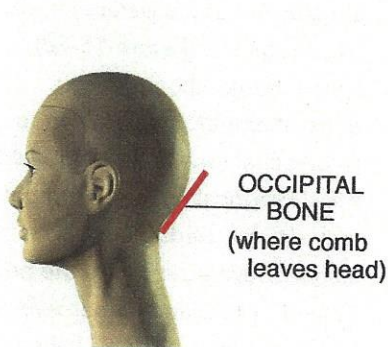
**REMINDER**

➤➤ The temporal section is part of the *parietal ridge* and is also known as the crest, horseshoe, or hatband region of the head.



▲ FIGURE 15-19

The parietal ridge.



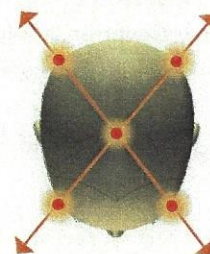
▲ FIGURE 15-20

The occipital bone.



▲ FIGURE 15-21

The apex.



▲ FIGURE 15-22

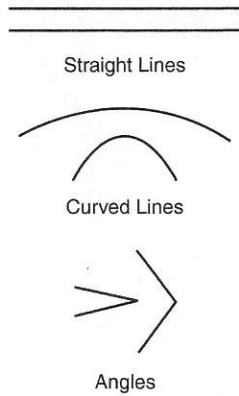
The four corners.

✓ L04 Complete

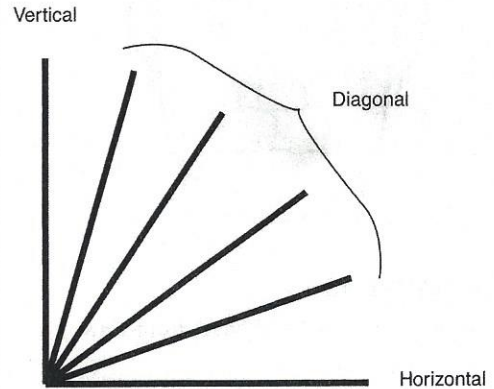


## BASIC TERMS USED IN HAIRCUTTING

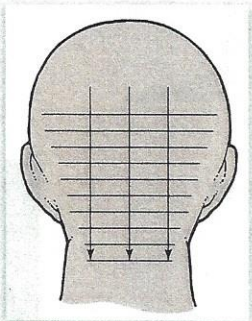
A *line* is simply a series of connected dots that result in a continuous mark. Straight and curved lines are used in haircutting to create design, shape, and direction (**Figure 15-23**). The three types of straight lines used in haircutting are horizontal, vertical, and diagonal lines (**Figure 15-24**).



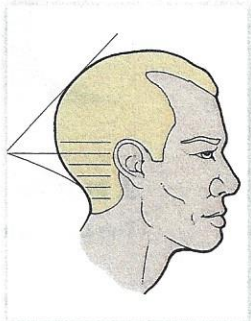
▲ **FIGURE 15-23**  
Lines and angles.



▲ **FIGURE 15-24**  
Horizontal, vertical, and diagonal lines.

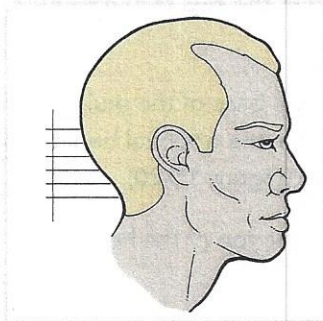


▲ **FIGURE 15-25**  
Weight line at perimeter.



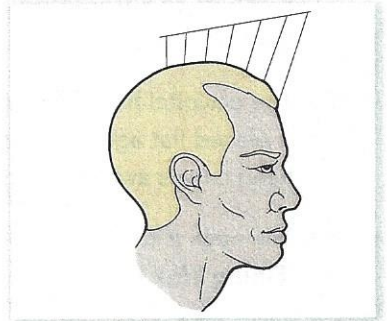
▲ **FIGURE 15-26**  
Weight line at occipital.

Horizontal lines are parallel to the horizon or floor and direct the eye from one side to the other. Horizontal cutting lines build weight and are used to create a one-length look and low elevation or blunt haircut designs. These *weight lines* are usually created at the perimeter or at the occipital area of a haircut (**Figures 15-25 and 15-26**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-27**  
Vertical partings facilitate layering.

Vertical lines are perpendicular to the floor and are described in terms of up and down. Vertical partings facilitate the projection of the hair at higher elevations while cutting. Vertical cutting lines remove weight within the cut and create layers that may be used to cut from short to long, long to short, or uniformly depending on finger placement (**Figure 15-27**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-28**  
Diagonal line within top front sections.

Diagonal lines have a slanted direction and are used to create sloped lines at the perimeter on the design line (**Figure 15-28**). When used at the perimeter, these lines are often referred to as diagonal forward or diagonal back. Diagonal finger placement may also be used to create a stacked, layered effect at the perimeter or to blend longer layers to shorter layers within a haircut.

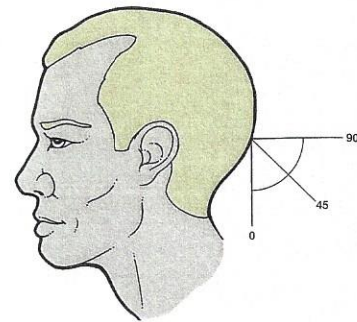
An **angle** is the space between two lines or surfaces that intersect at a given point. Angles help to create strong, consistent foundations in haircutting and are used in two different ways. Angles can refer to the degree of elevation at which the hair is held for cutting—for example, “angle the hair section at a 45-degree projection from the head”; or it can refer to the position of the fingers when



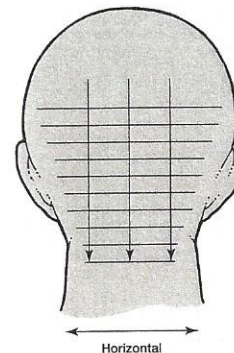
cutting a section of hair (cutting line), as in "using a vertical parting, angle the fingers 45 degrees from the hairline to the occipital" (see Figure 15-32).

**Elevation** is the angle or degree at which a section of hair is held from the head for cutting, *relative from where it grows*. Elevation, also known as **projection**, is the result of lifting the hair section above 0 elevation, or natural fall. This projection of the hair while cutting produces graduation or layers and is usually described in terms of degrees (**Figure 15-29**).

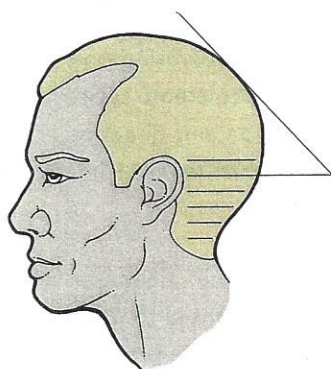
- Zero elevation is the lowest elevation and produces weight, bulk, and maximum length at the perimeter of a hair design.
- To perform a 0- elevation cut, a parting is made in the section to be cut (**Figure 15-30**). After combing the hair straight down from where it grows, it is cut either against the skin (as in the nape or around-the-ear areas) or as it is held straight down between the fingers. Both stationary and horizontal traveling guides are used to create the design or perimeter line. The design line then serves as a guide for all subsequent partings that will be brought to the design (perimeter) line for cutting. This technique creates crisp, clean lines around the hairline on shorter hairstyles and achieves the standard "blunt cut" on longer hair.
- Holding the hair at 45 degrees from where it grows is considered to be a medium elevation. Medium elevation or graduation creates layered ends or "stacking" within the parting of hair from the 0-degree distance to the 45-degree position. Movement and texture are created within the distance between the two degrees, depending on the length of the hair and the position of the angle in relation to the head form.
- Both stationary and horizontal traveling guides are used to achieve the graduated or stacked effect (**Figure 15-31**). Use of a vertical parting projected at 45 degrees, with the fingers holding the parting angled at a 45-degree diagonal, will create a tapered effect (**Figure 15-32**).



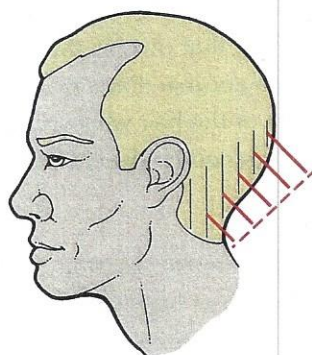
▲ **FIGURE 15-29**  
Elevations relative to the head form.



▲ **FIGURE 15-30**  
Horizontal, zero elevation.



▲ **FIGURE 15-31**  
Horizontal, 45-degree elevation.



▲ **FIGURE 15-32**  
Vertical parting with 45-degree finger placement.

- A 90-degree elevation is the most common projection used in men's haircutting. It produces layering, tapering, and blended effects. When using a 90-degree elevation, the hair is held straight out from the head from where it grows. This requires a

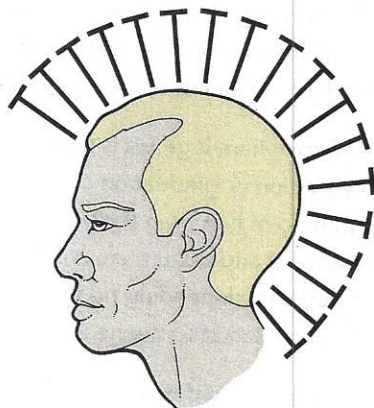


## FOCUS ON...

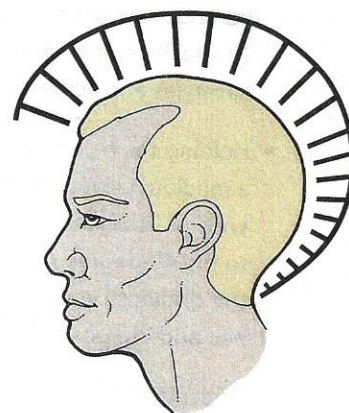
Compare the illustrations in Figures 15-33a and 15-33b and visualize how the hair would lay naturally. Can you envision the different effects of cutting the hair in uniform layers versus tapered layers? Does it make sense that a 90-degree elevation or projection of the hair is used in both cases and that only the angle of the fingers is different?

traveling guide in order to move around and over the curves of the entire head. Lengths in various sections of the head can vary, but the hair will still be blended overall. This is considered to be a high-elevation cut. A 90-degree elevation is used to create uniform layers as depicted in **Figure 15-33a**, where the each section of hair is the same length, or a tapered cut where hair is shorter at the nape and increasingly longer toward the top.

- To create a tapered effect like the one shown in **Figure 15-33b**, the hair is held from a vertical parting and cut closer to the head form in the nape and around-the-ear areas at a 90-degree projection. This requires positioning the fingers at a 45-degree angle from the hairline to hold the hair to be cut and then gradually repositioning the fingers in increments from perpendicular (to the floor) to beyond perpendicular to follow the curve of the head as the hair is blended into the crest and top sections.



▲ **FIGURE 15-33a**  
Uniform 90-degree layers.



▲ **FIGURE 15-33b**  
90-degree taper.



A **part** is a line that divides the hair at the scalp, separating one section of the hair from another. Parts or partings are used to create subsections to gain control of the hair while cutting. The position and direction of a *natural part* is determined by the direction or slant the hair takes as it leaves the follicle.

A **parting** is a smaller section of hair, usually  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick, parted off from a larger section of hair. The use of partings is essential to maintain control of the hair in manageable proportions and to perform precision cutting. Partings may be held horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, with a usual projection range of 0 to 180 degrees. The way that a parting is sectioned off from a subsection and held depends on the desired effect to be achieved.

The **cutting line** is the position of the fingers when cutting a section of hair. Because the shears follow the position and angle of the fingers when cutting, finger placement should be checked before cutting to avoid cutting in an



unwanted line design (such as diagonal rather than horizontal), losing the guide, or cutting off too much hair.

The **design line** is the outer perimeter line of the haircut. It may act as a guide depending on the overall design of the haircut and the method the barber uses to achieve it. A design line can be reflected in the hanging length of a blunt or long-layered cut, along the hairline of a short cut, or along any haircut perimeter (**Figures 15-34a and 15-34b**).

A **guide**, also known as a guideline or guide strand, is a cut that is made by which subsequent partings or sections of hair will be measured and cut. Guides are classified as being either stationary or traveling. Both types may originate at the outer perimeter (design line) of the hair or at an interior section, usually the crown area. Most haircuts are achieved by using a combination of the two types of guides.

- A **stationary guide** is used for overall one-length-looking designs at the perimeter, such as a solid-form blunt cut, or for maintaining the length of one section while subsequent partings are brought from other sections to meet it for cutting, producing either an overall long layered effect or extra length within a section (**Figure 15-35**).
- A **traveling guide** moves along a section of hair as each cut is made. Once the length of the initial guide has been cut, a parting is taken from in front of it or near it, combed with the original guide, and cut. Then a new parting is taken, combed with the second parting of hair, and cut against that guide. It is this use of the previous guide to cut a subsequent parting of hair that makes it a traveling guide. Care must be taken not to re-cut the original or subsequent guides as the barber moves along the section to cut a new parting. When performed properly, the traveling guide ensures even layering and blending of the hair from one section to another. Refer to Figures 15-33a and 15-33b.

Traveling guides are used internally within the cut to create blended layers; they are also used to finish perimeter designs after the hair is cut to the desired length from one section to another. For example, although a stationary guide is used when establishing the length at the perimeter, it becomes a traveling guide when subsequent cuts are made from left to right or right to left around the head form.

**Layers** are produced by cutting interior sections of the hair and can originate from the front, top (apex), crown, or perimeter (usually the design line). Layering can be angled (shorter on top and longer at the perimeter), uniform (even throughout), or fully tapered (longer on top and shorter at the perimeter) to blend or create fullness and/or a feathered effect.

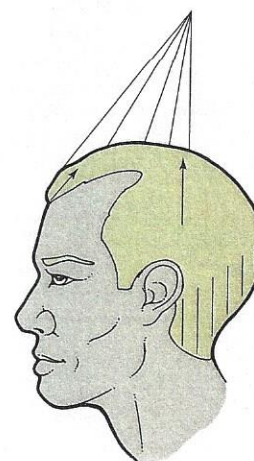
**Tapered**, or tapering, means that the hair conforms to the shape of the head and is shorter at the nape and longer in the crown and top areas. Most men's haircut styles require some form of tapering, and blending of all of the hair lengths is extremely important (see Figure 15-33b).



▲ **FIGURE 15-34a**  
Horizontal blunt cut design line.



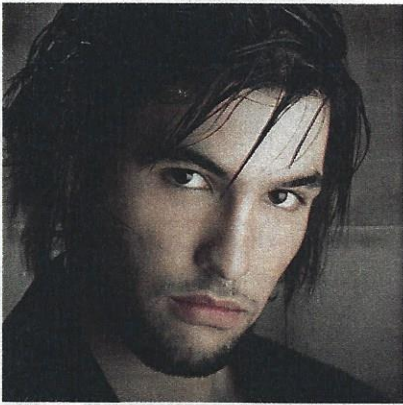
▲ **FIGURE 15-34b**  
Short haircut design line.



▲ **FIGURE 15-35**  
Stationary guide.



A **weight line** refers to the heaviest perimeter area of a 0-elevation or 45-degree cut. It is achieved by using a stationary guide at the perimeter and may be cut in at a variety of levels on the head, depending on the style. In men's haircutting, weight lines may be used in combination with a tapered nape area or for longer hairstyles that look to be one length.



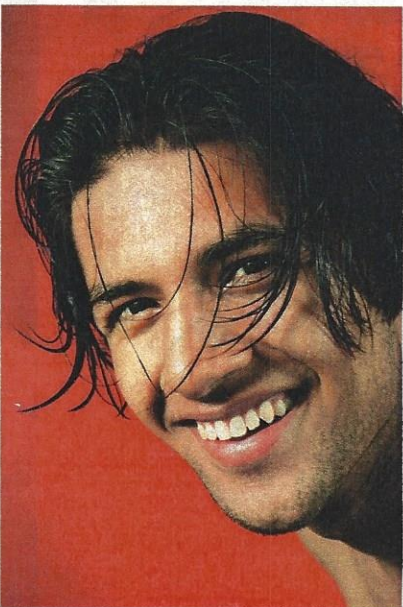
**Texturizing** is performed after the overall cut has been completed. Thinning or notching shears or razors can be used to create wispy or spiky effects within the haircut or along the perimeter.

**Tension** is the amount of pressure applied while combing and holding a section of hair for cutting. Tension ranges from minimum to maximum as a result of the amount of stretching employed when holding the hair between the fingers and the spacing between the teeth of the comb. For example, fine-toothed combs facilitate more tension while combing than wide-toothed combs.

- Use maximum tension on straight hair to create precise lines.
- Use minimal to moderate tension on curly and wavy hair as the hair may dry shorter than intended if maximum tension is used.

**Thinning** refers to removing excess bulk from the hair.

**Outlining** means marking the outer perimeter of the haircut in the front (optional, depending on hair texture), in front of and over the ears, and at the sides and nape of the neck.



**Over-direction** creates a length increase in the design and occurs when the hair is combed away from its natural fall position rather than straight out from the head toward a guide. For example, in Figure 15-35, the front section of hair is over-directed back to the stationary guide at the top of the head.

Hairstyling is the art of arranging the hair in a particular style that is appropriately suited to the cut. Hairstyling may involve the use of styling aids such as hair spray, gel, tonic, oil sheen, pomade, or mousse; appliances in the form of blow-dryers or irons; and implements that include brushes, combs, clips, and so forth.

During the course of your barbering career, you will be introduced to a variety of haircutting terms. Terminology for the most part depends on who is presenting the information or technique and whether or not new terms have replaced former terminology. The same holds true for different style names. The important things to remember are that there are only so many angles and elevations used in haircutting; specific effects are created by using specific angles and elevations; and cut and style trends tend to be cyclical in nature. Variations of design will inevitably occur because history has a way of repeating itself in our industry. For example, crew cuts and boxed fades can be traced back to the years of World War II, finger waves were a hit in the 1920s, and braiding has probably been around since humans first walked the earth.



These examples simply reinforce the fact that barbers must become proficient in the basic skills in order to adapt those skills and techniques to whatever the current trend may be.

## ✓ L05 Complete

### HAIRCUTTING TECHNIQUES

In Chapter 6, you were introduced to the correct holding positions for the comb, shears, clippers, and razor. The terms used to describe how we use these basic tools are *fingers-and-shear*, *shear-over-comb*, *freehand shear cutting*, *freehand clipper cutting*, *clipper-over-comb*, *razor-over-comb*, and *razor rotation*. It is important to note that almost every haircutting procedure requires a combination of techniques and tools. The most important factors that determine the tools used to achieve the haircut are the client's desired outcome, the texture and density of the hair, and the barber's personal preference. As a professional barber you should be comfortable and skillful with using all the tools of the trade.

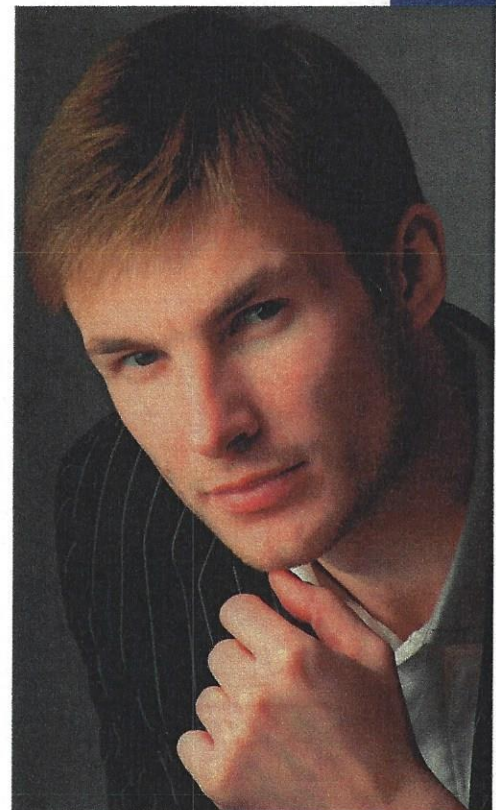
Now it is time to begin your practical training in haircutting. Practice the following techniques and procedures to become familiar with different methods of using your tools.

### FINGERS-AND-SHEAR TECHNIQUES

A **fingers-and-shear** technique may be used on many hair types from straight to curly. The three basic methods for using fingers-and-shear techniques are cutting on top of the fingers, cutting below the fingers, and cutting palm-to-palm.

**NOTE:** The blades of the shears should rest flat and flush to the fingers for these positions. Angling the shear blades may cause injury.

- **Cutting above the fingers** is frequently used in men's haircutting to cut and blend layers in the top, crown, and horseshoe areas (See Figure 15-36). It is also used when cutting hair that is held out at a 90-degree elevation from a vertical parting, such as at the sides and back of the head form (See Figure 15-37). Whether the barber's finger position is perpendicular to the floor or angled at 45 degrees in these sections, the cutting should be performed on the outside (on top of) the fingers.
- **Cutting below the fingers** is most often used to create design lines at the perimeter of the haircut (See Figure 15-38a).
- **Cutting palm-to-palm** may be preferred by some practitioners. Care must be taken not to bend the hair or to project it higher than intended from the head form when using this technique. Also remember that the shears follow finger placement, so avoid curling the fingers inward when cutting unless you want a curved cutting line (Figure 15-38b).



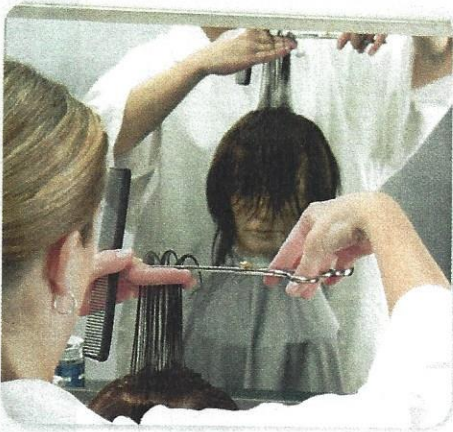


## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this practice session is to introduce you to three forms of finger-and-shear cutting. Only one parting from each of three primary sections of the head will be cut.

### Fingers-and-Shear Technique with Mirror

- 1 Set up a freshly shampooed, conditioned, and combed mannequin in front of the mirror. Pick up the shears and comb in your dominant hand and face the mirror.
- 2 Palm the shears, comb through the top section of the hair, and create a part on the left side of the mannequin. Comb the hair over the top to the right. At the front part of the crown, position the comb at about a 45-degree angle relative to the surface of the head. Use the first few teeth of the comb to part off a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick parting. Comb the hair in front of the parting forward and away from you. With the teeth of the comb facing you, comb through the parting with the first two fingers of the opposite hand underneath the comb as you position the parting just below eye level at a 90-degree elevation. Leave about an inch of hair extending beyond your fingers. The fingers and comb should be in a horizontal position parallel to the floor (**Figure 15-36**).
- 3 Palm the comb in the opposite hand while simultaneously positioning the shears at the tip of the fingers holding the hair section. Check the position of your fingers and shears for parallel placement. Cut the hair projecting from between your fingers from the tips no further than the second knuckle. Be conscious of how you open and close the shears along your fingers as you cut the hair that extends beyond them. This fingers-and-shear placement will be used to cut 90-degree layers within the sections of the head form.



▲ **FIGURE 15-36**

Cutting above the fingers using a horizontal parting.

### Fingers-and-Shear Technique with Mirror: Cutting Above the Fingers Vertically on the Right Side

- 1 Set up a freshly shampooed, conditioned, and combed mannequin in front of the mirror. Pick up the shears and comb in your dominant hand and face the mirror.
- 2 Palm the shears, comb through the hair, and make a part at the top of the crest on the right side of the mannequin. Comb the hair over the top to the left. Comb down through the hair on the right side and part off a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick vertical parting. With the teeth of comb facing you in a vertical position, comb through the vertical section of hair with the fingers of the opposite hand following underneath the teeth



of the comb to position the hair at just below eye level at a vertical 90-degree elevation. Leave about an inch of hair extending beyond your fingers. The tips of the fingers holding the hair should be pointing downward. Both the fingers and comb should be in a vertical position, perpendicular to the floor.

- 3 Palm the comb in the opposite hand while simultaneously positioning the tips of the shears on top of the tips of the fingers holding the hair section. Your fingers and shears should be vertical and parallel to each other as the cutting begins (**Figure 15-37**). Cut the hair projecting from between your fingers from the tips no further than the second knuckle. Be conscious of how you open and close the shears along your fingers as you cut. This fingers-and-shear placement will be used to cut 90-degree vertical layers within sections of the head form, using the perimeter for a guide.

### Fingers-and-Shear Technique with Mirror: Cutting Below the Fingers at the Nape

- 1 Set up a freshly shampooed, conditioned, and combed mannequin in front of the mirror. Pick up the shears and comb in your dominant hand and face the mirror.
- 2 Palm the shears and part off the hair into four sections from ear to ear and from front to nape. Use a clip to secure the hair at the sides. Part off a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " horizontal parting along the hairline from each back section. Secure the hair remaining above the partings in the back sections with clips. With the teeth of the comb facing downward at a slight angle relative to the hair and the fingers of the opposite hand placed on top of the comb, comb through the partings at the nape with no elevation. Leave about an inch of hair extending beyond your fingers. The fingers and comb should be in a horizontal position.
- 3 Palm the comb in the opposite hand while simultaneously positioning the tips of the shears just below the fingertips holding the hair section. The fingers and shears should be horizontal and parallel to each other as the cutting begins (**Figure 15-38a and b**). Cut the hair projecting from between your fingers from the tips no further than the second knuckle. Be conscious of how you open and close the shears along your fingers. This fingers-and-shear placement will be used to cut 0-elevation cuts along the perimeter, as the first cutting step in creating a design line, or to create weight lines within sections of the head form.



▲ **FIGURE 15-37**

Cutting above the fingers using a vertical parting.



▲ **FIGURE 15-38a**

Cutting below the fingers at the perimeter.



▲ **FIGURE 15-38b**

Cutting palm-to-palm.



## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to practice different fingers-and-shear cutting techniques on a mannequin.

### Fingers-And-Shear Technique on Mannequin

Drape the mannequin and proceed as follows:

- 1 Top section.** This practice session begins with learning how to perfect the *cutting above the fingers* technique. Set up a freshly shampooed, conditioned, and combed mannequin in front of the mirror. Drape the mannequin and refer to Figure 15-36. Proceed as follows:

Palm the shears, comb through the top section of the hair, and create a part on the left side of the mannequin. Comb the hair over the top to the right. Start at the front part of the crown and make a horizontal  $\frac{1}{4}$ " parting across the top of the head. Using the dominant hand, comb the parting of hair straight up at 90 degrees from where it grows. Use the first and second fingers of the other hand to secure the 90-degree parting in a position for cutting. Palm the comb and position the fingers and shears parallel to the horizontal parting. Cut the hair to the desired length (be guided by your instructor) along the top of your fingers.

Comb through the parting of hair to check for evenness and fine-tune as needed. When held between the fingers at 90 degrees, the cut hair section should represent a clean horizontal line. You have just created a 90-degree guide for the top section.

**NOTE:** Make sure to palm the shears when using the comb, and palm the comb when cutting with the shears.

- 2** Part off a second parting, comb through it while picking up some of the previous parting, and comb it into a 90-degree position. Remember that the hair you are going to cut should be held at 90 degrees. When holding two partings of hair, the first parting will be very slightly over-directed to facilitate using it for a guide for the subsequent parting, which should be at a true 90-degree elevation. The second parting should be thin enough to see the guide from the first parting. Cut the second parting along your fingers and the horizontal line created with the first parting. Comb through, check, and fine-tune. You have just used the first parting as a traveling guide. Cut the entire top section in this manner.
- 3 Back section.** Next, practice *cutting below the fingers* as in Figures 15-38 a and b. Start at the center of the nape. Create a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick parting at the hairline. Use a clip to secure excess hair out of the way. Comb the parting straight down with no elevation, follow the comb with your fingers, and secure the parting for cutting. Cut below your fingers to the desired length. Comb, check, and fine-tune the cut parting. You have just cut below the fingers and established a guide

### Here's a Tip:

To assist you in developing a rhythm for using a traveling guide, say the following to yourself as you go through the procedure in step 1: part on 1; comb forward on 2; pick up on 3; and cut on 4.



for the perimeter. Continue cutting the perimeter through the back section and around to the sides. Check to make sure the sides are even in length. This perimeter cut becomes the design line. Use the design line as a guide to cut subsequent partings in each section at the perimeter.

- 4 Side sections.** To practice cutting *above the fingers* on a vertical parting, start on the right side. Section off a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick vertical parting from the crest to the perimeter. Comb the parting into a 90-degree projection, holding it straight out from the head form. Finger position should be vertical and perpendicular to the floor as in Figure 15-37. Using the perimeter as a guide, cut the hair that extends beyond the fingers. Repeat this step using vertical partings around the head until all the hair is layered from the design line to the top section. Note the layering that took place during this exercise. You have just created layers by cutting above the fingers using the design line as a guide and vertical partings held at 90 degrees.

**NOTE:** The tips of the fingers should be positioned at the end of the perimeter guide as it is held out at 90 degrees from a vertical parting. When the perimeter length is used as a guide at 90 degrees, the hair cut above it should not influence the overall hanging length of the hairstyle.

When both horizontal and vertical fingers-and-shear cutting techniques have been practiced, refer to Procedure 15-1 to perform a complete haircut using these techniques. See Procedure 15-2 for a variation of this method. Be guided by your instructor in learning other techniques.

The fingers-and-shear cutting method used in Procedure 15-1 produces a well-balanced, evenly blended precision cut that is adaptable to almost any hair type. Some exceptions are excessively thick, bristly hair and very short, overly curly hair. The rule to follow is this: *If a parting can be made in the hair and picked up between the fingers to put into a position for cutting, precision layering can be performed.* The hair should be clean and uniformly moist to maintain control of the hair and to produce the most precise cut.

## THE SHEAR-OVER-COMB TECHNIQUE

The **shear-over-comb** technique is used to cut the ends of the hair and is an important method used in tapering and clipper cutting. The comb is used to position the hair to be cut and acts similarly to holding a section of hair between the fingers. Most shear-over-comb cutting is performed in the nape, behind the ears, around the ears, and in the sideburn areas of a cut. An entire haircut, however, may also be accomplished using this method. Use vertical working panels to cut in the nape and sideburn areas. Cutting the areas behind and around the ears usually requires some diagonal positioning of the comb for safety and easier access to the section. To learn the shear-over-comb technique, practice the following exercises in front of a mirror.

## FYI

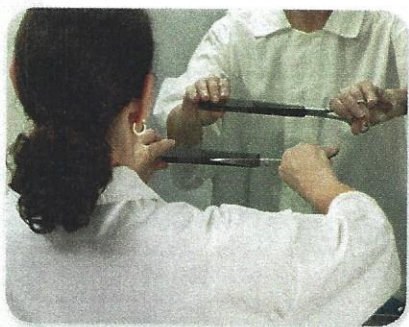
Traditionally, men's hair is not sectioned off with a hair clip unless the length of the hair warrants it. When working with long hair, there are three areas where a hair clip may be necessary to hold some of the hair out the way while cutting: the top section, at the sides, and at the nape when cutting in a design line.



## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to learn how to manipulate the shears and comb in tandem to perform shear-over-comb cutting.

### Shear-Over-Comb Technique with Mirror



▲ **FIGURE 15-39**

Positioning of comb and shears.

- 1 Pick up the shears firmly with the right hand and insert the thumb into the thumb grip. Place the third finger into the finger grip and leave the little finger on the finger-brace of the shears. Practice using the thumb to open and close the shears.
- 2 Pick up the comb with the left hand and place the fingers on top of the teeth with the thumb on the backbone of the comb (Figure 15-39).

**NOTE:** Students should start with the coarse teeth of the comb until competent at rolling the comb out and positioning the hair to be cut. After sufficient skill has been developed, use the fine teeth of the comb.



▲ **FIGURE 15-40**

Open and close the shears in tandem with the upward movement of the comb.

- 3 Practice aligning the still blade of the shears with the comb at the level where the teeth join the back as in Figure 15-39. The shears and comb should be parallel to each other. Next, move the comb upward, opening and closing the shears in tandem with the movement of the comb (Figure 15-40). After several cutting movements, roll the teeth of the comb away from you (as if you were combing a client's hair) by using the thumb and the first two fingers in a key-turning motion (Figure 15-41). Master these techniques before attempting to do an actual haircut.

**NOTE:** The preceding procedures may be changed to conform to your instructor's technique.



▲ **FIGURE 15-41**

Roll the comb using a key-turning motion.





## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to practice manipulating the shears, comb, and hair using the shear-over-comb technique on a mannequin.

### Shear-Over-Comb Technique on Mannequin

Drape the mannequin and proceed as follows:

- 1 Start at the hairline in the center of the nape area.
- 2 With the teeth of the comb pointing upward, comb into a section of hair at the hairline, rolling the comb out toward you (**Figure 15-42**). When performed correctly, the hair should protrude from the teeth of the comb and be in a position for cutting. This is called **rolling the comb out**.
- 3 Hold the comb parallel with the still blade of the shears, as shown in **Figure 15-39**, and control the movement of the cutting blade with the thumb.
- 4 While manipulating the shears, move both the shears and the comb slowly upward at the same time, cutting the hair in the process. Stop at the occipital area.
- 5 Turn the teeth of the comb down when combing the hair down toward the hairline, as shown in **Figure 15-41**.
- 6 Begin the next working panel by including some hair from the center section with the hair to the right or left of center. There should now be two lengths of hair in the comb: shorter hair from the center section and longer hair from the second section. The shorter hair from the center section becomes the guide for the second panel (**Figure 15-43**). Finish one vertical strip at a time before proceeding with the next section.
- 7 To practice cutting along the sides of the neck, position the comb diagonally behind the ear parallel to the hairline. Proceed to trim the hair as described for the nape area.
- 8 Continue to practice the shear-over-comb technique in front of and around the ear. Make sure to blend the hair from the nape section to the sides of the neck and the around-the-ear areas.

Be guided by your instructor to learn other variations of this method, such as beginning on the right or left sides.

Once the shear-over-comb technique has been practiced on the mannequin, refer to Procedure 15-2 to perform a haircut using this method.



▲ **FIGURE 15-42**

Position the hair to be cut by rolling the comb out.



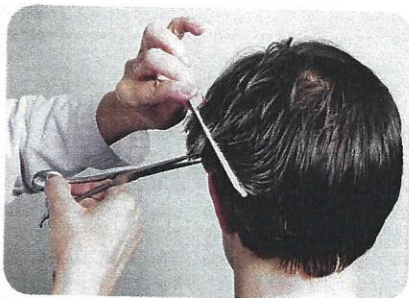
▲ **FIGURE 15-43**

Center point, cut to guide.



## FREEHAND SHEAR CUTTING TECHNIQUE

**Freehand shear cutting** is a technique that does not require the use of the fingers or a comb to control the hair while the actual cutting is performed. Instead, the hair is combed or picked out to reveal stray hairs. The shears are then employed with a consistent open-and-close motion that skims over the surface of the hair to cut any stray hairs protruding from the design. These comb-and-cut steps are repeated as often as necessary in the final stages of a haircut, beard trim, or other procedure to fine-tune the work and are especially effective for trimming very curly hair textures (see Procedure 15-4, step 13 for example).



▲ **FIGURE 15-44**

Shear-point taper in back left section.



▲ **FIGURE 15-45**

Shear-point taper in nape area.

## SHEAR-POINT TAPERING

**Shear-point tapering** is a useful technique for thinning out difficult areas of the hair caused by hollows, wrinkles, whorls, and creases in the scalp. Dark and ragged hair patches on the scalp can be minimized by this special technique. The shear-point taper is performed with the cutting points of the shears (**Figures 15-44** and **15-45**). Only a few strands of hair are cut at a time and then combed out. Continue cutting around the objectionable spot until it becomes less noticeable and blends in with the surrounding hair or hairline.

## ARCHING TECHNIQUE

The **arching technique** is the method used to mark or outline the haircut along the hairline at the bottom of the sideburns, in front of the ears, over the ears, and down the sides of the neck. This portion of outlining the haircut is accomplished with the points of the shears, an outliner, and/or a razor and is part of the finish work of most haircuts.

As with the other techniques in this text, the following practice session is simply one method of performing the procedure. Be guided by your instructor for variations in the method.

### PRACTICE SESSION #5

## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to learn to manipulate the shears in the tighter, smaller areas around ears and to become comfortable in performing the arching technique with this tool.

### Arching Technique

- 1 Hold the shears with the right hand.
  - a. Pick up the shears and insert the thumb in the thumb grip. Place the third finger into the finger grip and the little finger on the brace of the shears.
  - b. Gently tug the client's ear down.

### Here's a Tip:

Before beginning the arching procedure, check to determine if one sideburn is longer than the other. Start on the side with the shortest sideburn to avoid unnecessary repetition of the procedure.



## 2 Arch the right side.

- Start the outline as close to the natural hairline as possible (**Figure 15-46**).
- Start in front of the ear and cut a continuous outline around the ear and down the side of the neck (**Figures 15-47a and 15-47b**).
- Reverse the direction of arching back to the starting point (**Figure 15-48**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-47a**

Arching around the ear in a continuous line.



▲ **FIGURE 15-47b**

Continuing line in back of the ear.



▲ **FIGURE 15-46**

Start outline at hairline.



▲ **FIGURE 15-48**

Reverse the direction of arching.

- Continue arching around the ear until a definite outline is formed.
- Square off and establish the length of the right sideburn (**Figure 15-49**).

## 3 Arch the left side.

- Start in front of the left ear and cut a continuous outline with the shears over the left ear and down the side of the neck (**Figures 15-50a and 15-50b**).
- Reverse the direction of the shears and return to the starting point. Continue arching around the ear until a definite outline is formed.
- Square off of the left sideburn to match the right sideburn (**Figure 15-51**).



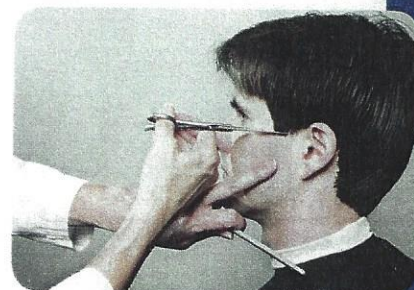
▲ **FIGURE 15-50a**

Beginning of arching on left side.



▲ **FIGURE 15-50b**

Arch over the ear and continue to back of the ear.



▲ **FIGURE 15-51**

Cut left sideburn to match the right sideburn.



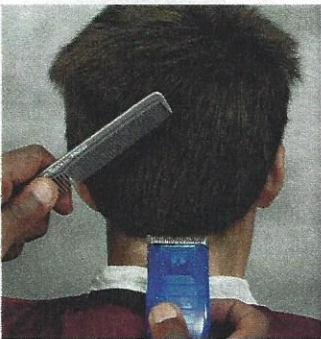
## CLIPPER CUTTING

Clippers are versatile tools that can be used in several ways to cut a variety of hair textures and styles. The standard techniques are **freehand clipper cutting** and **clipper-over-comb** cutting. As a general rule, clipper cutting is followed up with shear and comb work to fine-tune the haircut and/or to perform the arching technique.

## DIRECTIONAL TERMS USED IN CLIPPER CUTTING

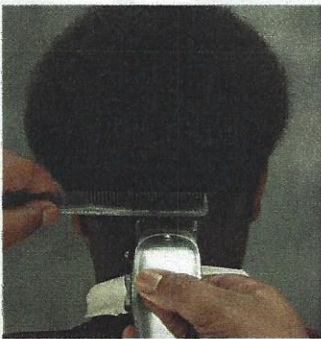
Cutting and tapering the hair with clippers can be accomplished in the following ways:

- Cutting *against the grain* is accomplished by cutting the hair in the opposite direction from which it grows (**Figures 15-52 and 15-53**). Taper the hair by gradually tilting the clipper until it rides on its heel.
- Cutting *with the grain* means the cutting is performed in the same direction in which the hair grows (**Figures 15-54 and 15-55**). When using a clipper on hair that has a tight curl formation, try to cut with the grain or growth pattern. Cutting tight, curly hair against the grain clogs up the clipper blades and may leave patches or spots in the haircut.
- When cutting *across the grain* with clippers, the hair is cut neither with nor against the grain. This direction in cutting is usually performed on transition areas in the crest or side regions. (**Figures 15-56 and 15-57**).
- In whorl areas, or in places where the hair does not grow in a uniform manner (**Figure 15-58**), cutting the hair in a *circular motion* using clippers is advisable.



▲ **FIGURE 15-52**

Cutting against the grain on straight hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-53**

Cutting against the grain on curly hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-54**

Cutting with the grain on straight hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-55**

Cutting with the grain on curly hair.



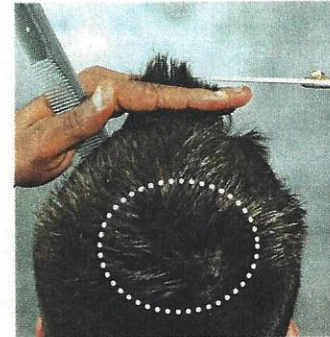
▲ **FIGURE 15-56**

Cutting across the grain on straight hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-57**

Cutting across the grain on curly hair.



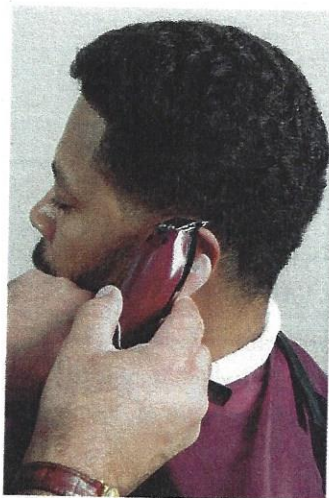
▲ **FIGURE 15-58**

Whorl in crown area in straight hair.

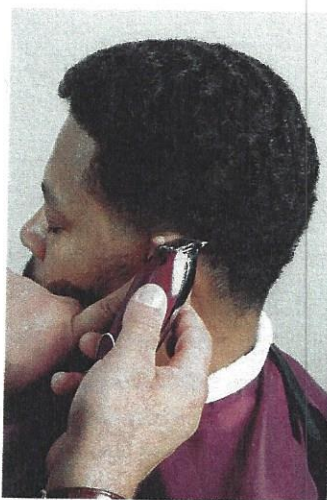


## ARCHING WITH A CLIPPER OR TRIMMER

Many barbers prefer to use an outliner or trimmer with a fine cutting edge to square off sideburns and perfect the outline around the ears and down the sides of neck. This method of arching is efficient and precise due to the maneuverability of the smaller cutting head of the tool. If the desired result can be accomplished with the standard clipper, that method is equally acceptable (**Figures 15-59a to 15-59c**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-59a**  
Arching with outliner front of the ear.



▲ **FIGURE 15-59b**  
Arching with outliner around ear.



▲ **FIGURE 15-59c**  
Arching with outliner behind the ear.

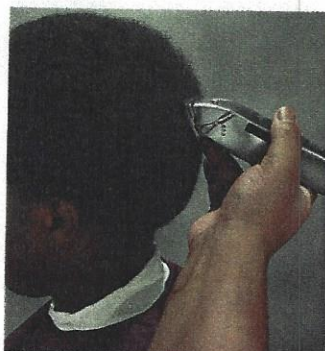
## FREEHAND AND CLIPPER-OVER-COMB CUTTING

Freehand clipper cutting requires a steady hand and consistent use of the comb or hair pick while cutting. The use of the comb or pick is important for two reasons: First, both implements put the hair into a position to be cut, and second, both implements help to remove the excess hair cut from the previous section. This provides the barber with a clearer view of the cutting results and any areas that may need re-blending.

True freehand clipper cutting technique tend to be used on two extremes of hair length: (1) very short straight, wavy, and curly lengths in which little clipper-over-comb work is performed (**Figure 15-60**), and (2) longer, very curly hair lengths that require more sculpting (**Figure 15-61**). The freehand method



▲ **FIGURE 15-60**  
Freehand clipper cutting on wavy hair texture.



▲ **FIGURE 15-61**  
Freehand clipper cutting on curly hair texture.

## TIP FROM THE NABBA

“ A barber should always have a comb in his or her hand while cutting hair. Always check the mirror before, during, and after the haircut and be sure to remove loose or excess hair during the final steps. ”

Derek Davis, NABBA  
Executive Board,  
Washington D.C.





▲ **FIGURE 15-62a**  
Freehand clipper cutting  
on straight hair texture.



▲ **FIGURE 15-62b**  
Freehand clipper cutting  
on straight hair texture.

## Did You Know...

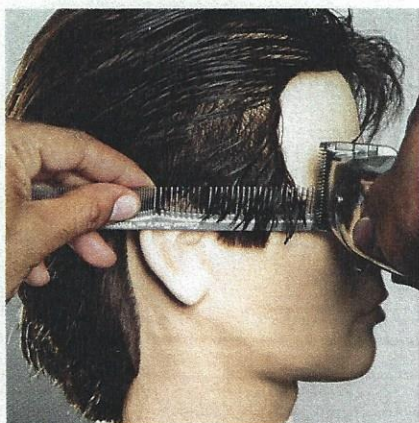
The use of guards is not considered to be a form of freehand clipper cutting; nor is this technique usually acceptable for state board practical examinations.

can also be used to cut in the nape, back, and sides of medium-length straight hair textures (**Figures 15-62a and 15-62b**).

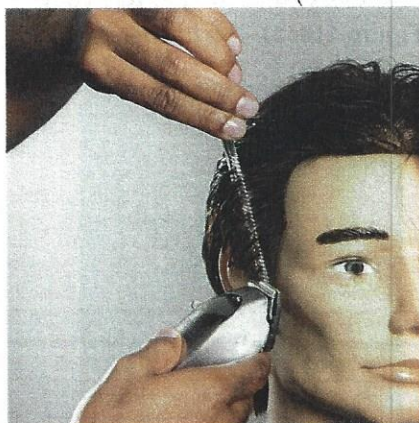
For short hair styles, clippers with detachable blades range from size 0000 (close to shaving) to size  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , which leaves the hair approximately  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch long. Detachable blades should not be confused with clipper attachment combs, most commonly known as guards. Guards are placed on top of a clipper blade, allowing for more hair length to remain while cutting.

Freehand clipper cutting is also used for tightly curled hair when a natural look is the desired result. Because most tightly curled hair grows up and out of the scalp, rather than falling to one side or another as with straighter hair types, this hair texture lends itself to being picked out and put into position for freehand clipper cutting. Cutting this type of hairstyle requires a keen eye for balance, shape, and proportion as the hair is sculpted into the desired form.

Clipper-over-comb cutting can be used for the entire haircut or to blend the hair from shorter tapered areas to longer areas at the top, crest, or occipital. Much like the shear-over-comb technique, the comb places the hair in a position to be cut and utilizes the same blending principles (**Figure 15-63a to 15-64**). Freehand clipper cutting, clipper-over-comb, and fingers-and-shear work are techniques that are frequently combined to perform a single haircut.



▲ **FIGURE 15-63a**  
Horizontal Clipper-over-comb on  
straight hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-63b**  
Vertical clipper-over-comb on straight hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-64**  
Clipper over comb on curly hair.



## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to practice the clipper-over-comb and freehand clipper cutting methods on straight hair textures.

### Clipper Cutting on Straight-Haired Mannequin

This practice session will involve clipper-over-comb cutting and standard freehand clipper cutting using an all-purpose comb.

#### 1 How to hold the clipper and comb for *clipper-over-comb* cutting:

- Pick up the clipper with the dominant hand.
- Place the thumb on the top left side and fingers underneath along the right side of the clipper. Hold it firmly but lightly to permit freedom of wrist movement.
- Use the largest numbered detachable clipper blade or fully open the adjustable blade clipper.
- Begin in the center of the nape area and comb the hair down with the opposite hand (**Figure 15-65a**).
- With the teeth of the comb pointing upward, comb into a section of hair at the hairline, rolling the comb out toward you as in **Figure 15-65b**.
- Use the clipper to cut the hair section to the desired length. Comb through, check, and begin the next section to the right or left of center.

#### 2 Clipper-over-comb: cutting the nape area

- For a gradual, even taper from shorter to longer in each section of hair, keep rolling the comb out to put the hair in a position to be cut.
- Gradually taper the hair from the hairline to an inch or two above the hairline. Do not taper higher than the occipital for this exercise, or cut into the hair along the sides of the neck at this point (**Figure 15-66**).

#### 3 Clipper-over-comb: cutting the sides

There are two comb positions that can be used to cut the sides depending on the hair texture, density, and the desired result: horizontal and vertical.

- Horizontal:** Begin in the front of the ear and position the comb parallel to the hairline. Roll the comb out at about a 45-degree

## REMINDER

When using the clipper-over-comb technique to taper, be sure to tilt the comb away from the head to create a blended taper from shorter to longer sections.



▲ **FIGURE 15-65a**

Comb the hair down.



▲ **FIGURE 15-65b**

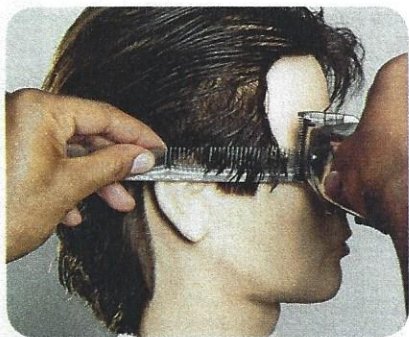
Roll the comb out to put the hair in position to be cut.



▲ **FIGURE 15-66**

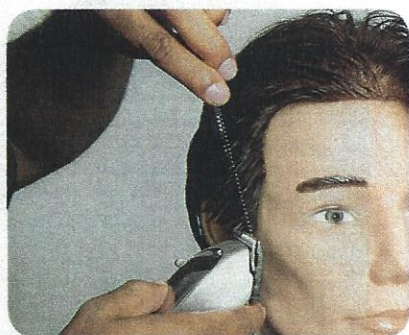
Cut to the occipital area.





▲ **FIGURE 15-67**

Position the comb horizontally and parallel to the hairline.



▲ **FIGURE 15-68**

Position comb vertically at the hairline and roll out to 45 degrees.



▲ **FIGURE 15-69**

Position the comb at the hairline behind the ear.

projection and cut (**Figure 15-67**). Follow the forward curve of the hairline around the ear.

- b. *Vertical*: Position the comb on an angle from the bottom of the sideburn and roll the comb out about 45 degrees (**Figure 15-68**). Cut hair extending beyond the teeth of the comb.

#### 4 Clipper-over-comb: cutting behind the ears

- a. The guide around the ears and at the corner of the neck should be visible.
- b. Place the comb parallel to the hairline on a diagonal, roll the comb out, and blend from the guide at the back of the ear to the nape corner (**Figure 15-69**). The hair in the tapered areas should blend from the nape to the side of the neck and around the ear.

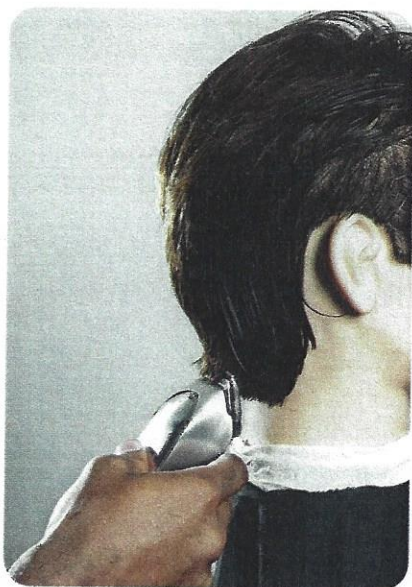
#### 5 How to hold the clipper for freehand clipper cutting:

- a. Pick up the clipper with the dominant hand.
- b. Place the thumb on the top left side and fingers underneath along the right side of the clipper. Hold it firmly but lightly to permit freedom of wrist movement. Depending on the section of the head form being cut, the holding position will change for comfort and access to the area.
- c. Use the largest-numbered detachable clipper blade or fully open the adjustable blade clipper.
- d. Begin in the center of the nape area and comb the hair down with the opposite hand.
- e. Palm the comb and steady the clipper with the tip of the index finger of the opposite hand.

#### 6 Freehand clipper cutting: the nape area

- a. Begin with the clipper blades open. With the teeth of the bottom blade placed flat against the skin at the center of the nape hairline, gradually tilt the blade away from the head so that the clipper rides on the heel of the bottom blade. Lightly guide the clipper upward into the hair to about an inch above the hairline (**Figures 15-70a** and **15-70b**). Remember, this is just a practice session to become familiar with the clippers, so avoid removing too much hair.
- b. Continue to work the center section, stopping just below the occipital. This will set the guide length for left and right of the center panel. Maintain the gradual taper from shorter to longer hair and do not taper higher than the occipital for this exercise (**Figure 15-70c**).





▲ **FIGURE 15-70a**

Lightly guide the clipper upward from the hairline into the hair about an inch above the hairline.



▲ **FIGURE 15-70b**

Removal of hair at lower nape area.



▲ **FIGURE 15-70c**

Guide the blades through the ends of the hair.

- c. Do not move the clipper into the hair too fast as it may have a tendency to jam the clipper blades and pull the hair.
- d. After tapering one panel of hair, comb it down, check the results, and start tapering the section to the right or left of center. Be guided by your instructor.

## 7 Freehand clipper cutting: the sides

- a. Begin at the front of the ear at the hairline and comb the hair down. Tilt the clipper at about a 45-degree angle so that the first few teeth of the blades will be used for cutting the curve around the ear.
- b. Bend the ear forward and continue cutting along the hairline, meeting the top of the hairline at the side of the neck.

## 8 Freehand clipper cutting: behind the ears

- a. The guide around the ears and at the corner of the neck should be visible.
- b. Comb the hair down and blend from the nape corner to the guide at the back of the ear. The hair in the tapered areas should blend from the nape to the side of the neck and around the ear.

When the clipper-over-comb and freehand techniques have been practiced on the mannequin, refer to Procedure 15-3 to perform a medium-length haircut using these methods. Be guided by your instructor to learn other variations, such as beginning on the right or left sides.

## FYI

The style will determine the point on the head at which the tapered area is blended into longer hair. Short styles, such as butch cuts, crew cuts, and fades, have a high taper and are blended in the crest areas; longer styles may be blended at or just below the occipital. There are as many variations as there are heads of hair to cut.



## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to practice the freehand clipper cutting method on tightly curled hair textures.

### Clipper Cutting on Mannequin with Tightly Curled Hair

- 1 Hold the clipper as for freehand clipper cutting.
- 2 Use a pick or Afro comb to comb the hair up and outward from the scalp.
- 3 If the hair is too thick or too tightly curled to use an all-purpose comb while cutting, use a wide-tooth comb to practice the clipper-over-comb technique as performed on the model in Figure 15-64.
- 4 When the clipper-over-comb technique has been completed, practice the freehand clipper cutting method in Figure 15-61.



▲ **FIGURE 15-71**  
Hand clipper.



▲ **FIGURE 15-72a**  
Flat-top style.

Be guided by your instructor as to where to begin the clipper cut and the order of the subsequent sections. Some barbers prefer to start in the center of the nape area, while others work from right to left or left to right. As long as the hair is tapered evenly, all methods are equally correct.

Once the clipper-over-comb and freehand clipper cutting techniques have been practiced on the mannequin, refer to Procedure 15-4 to perform a medium-length haircut on tightly curled hair using these methods. Be guided by your instructor to learn other variations of this method.

### CLIPPER CUT STYLES

Variations of basic clipper cut styles have been around since the hand clipper was invented (**Figure 15-71**). Flat tops, crew cuts, and the Quo Vadis are three of the most popular styles that have stood the test of time and cyclical haircut trends.

*Flat tops* are very short on the sides and in the back areas, as are crew cuts. Flat tops are traditionally slightly longer in the front and crest sections and flat across the top of the head form. The top of the crest area should look squared off when viewed from the front. Variations of the style and length of the top section will be determined by the client's preference, hair texture, and hair density. Clippers and shears are usually used to cut a flat top (**Figure 15-72a**).

Some general guidelines for cutting the flat top style are as follows:

1. Stand behind the client. The hair at the crown is cut flat to about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and about 2" to 3" in width.
2. Stand in front of the client. Position the comb flat across the front center area, cutting the hair to a length of 1" to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", depending on the



client's preference. This cutting area will span the width of the client's top section. Cut straight across from side to side.

3. Ask the client if the front hair is at the desired length. If not, re-cut the front section.
4. Complete all finish work such as arching and the neck shave. Refer to Haircutting Procedure 15-8.

Crew cuts are also referred to as the *short pomp* or *brush cut*. The length of hair on the sides and back of the head usually determines the crew cut style, as described in the following list.

- Short sides and back: short crew cut.
- Semi-short sides and back: medium crew cut.
- Medium sides and back: long crew cut.

Generally, the back and sides are cut first and relatively high to the bottom of the crest area. The hair on top is then combed from front to back to make it stand up, followed by blending the tapered area to the crest and top sections. Since the top section should be smooth and almost flat, use a wide-toothed comb to provide a level guide. Begin cutting in the front to the desired length and cut back toward the crown. This section should be graduated in length from the front hairline to the back part of the crown. Repeat the procedure until the top section has been cut. When viewed from the front, the top section should blend with the top of the crest, with a slight curvature to conform to the contours of the head. Use the shears and comb to smooth out any uneven spots left by the clipper work (**Figure 15-72b**). Refer to Procedure 15-8.

The brush cut is a variation of the crew cut and is popular with young men, as it requires the least attention. The sides and back areas are cut as for a short crew cut, but the hair on top is cut the same length all over, about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", and follows the contours of the head.

The *Quo Vadis* is a popular haircut style that is suitable for very curly hair. The main objective with this haircut is to achieve an even and smooth cut over the entire head. Since the hair is cut close to the scalp, clipper lines and patches are readily noticeable. Be guided by the natural hair growth pattern and cut with the grain to avoid gaps. Outline and taper the nape area with a #000 clipper blade and then use a #1 clipper blade over the rest of the head (**Figure 15-73**).

## BASIC TAPERING AND BLENDING AREAS

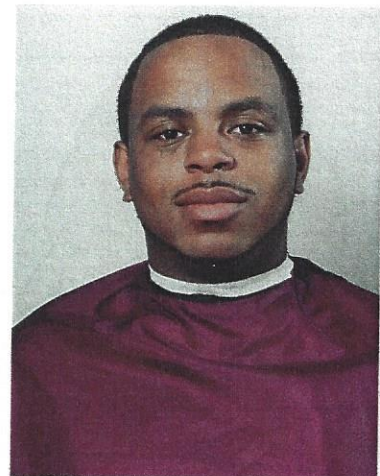
To simplify the clipper or shear cutting procedures, the primary tapering and blending areas of haircut styles may be identified as belonging to one of four basic classifications: long cuts and trims, medium lengths, semi-short lengths, and short cuts. A variety of hairstyles, such as the fade and bi-level, can be created from these basic classifications to suit the client's tastes and desires.

*Long haircut styles and trims* usually require the least amount of clipper tapering. Tapering is performed from the nape hairline to just above the bottom of the ear and below the occipital using the fingers-and-shear, shear-over-comb,



▲ **FIGURE 15-72b**

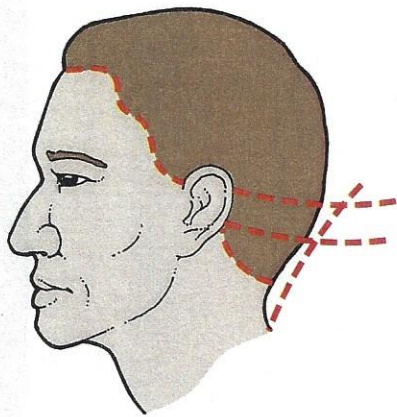
Crew cut style.



▲ **FIGURE 15-73**

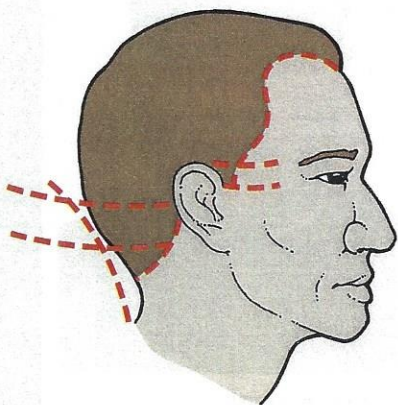
Quo Vadis style.





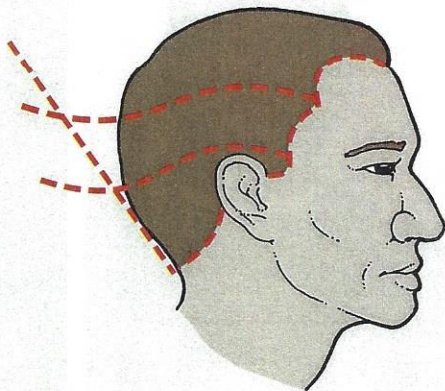
▲ **FIGURE 15-74**

Taper area for longer hair style.



▲ **FIGURE 15-75**

Taper area for medium-length style.



▲ **FIGURE 15-76**

Taper area for semi-short style.

or clipper-over-comb techniques (**Figure 15-74**). An outliner or trimmer is used to remove fine hair at the nape and along the sides of the neck. Sideburns and over-the-ear areas are shortened using the shear-over-comb method along the natural hairline and then outlined with trimmers and/or a razor.

*Medium-length styles* do not usually have a scalped appearance, although the hair is cut closer to the head than in longer styles (**Figure 15-75**). Clipper cutting in the nape should be performed with the clipper tilted on its heel until it reaches a point about midway to the ears. In the sideburn areas, the taper should end no higher than the tops of the ears. An outliner or razor is used at the nape hairline.

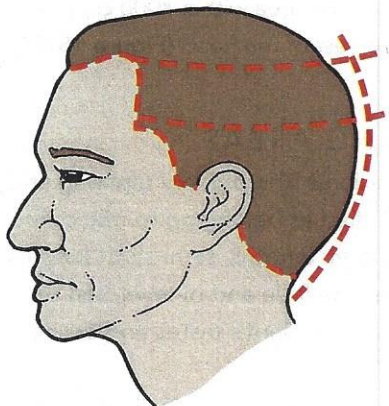
*Semi-short styles* usually require tilting the clipper back off the hair as the top of the ear areas are viewed from the back section. The hair in the back may be left slightly longer than on the sides. In the sideburn areas, the clipper tapers out at about the top of the ears. When cutting around the ears, remove about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the hairline, then use an outliner to trim the sideburns and around the ear areas (**Figure 15-76**).

*Short haircut styles* usually require cutting up to the crest area and then gradually tilting the heel of the clipper back as the clipper is brought up until it runs off the curve of the head. This movement is repeated all the way around the head form. An outliner is used to taper the sideburns and nape (**Figure 15-77**).

The *fade style* derives its name from the fact that the hair at the nape and sides is cut extremely close, becoming gradually longer in the crest and lower crown areas and longest at the top. Hence, it fades to nothing at the hairline.

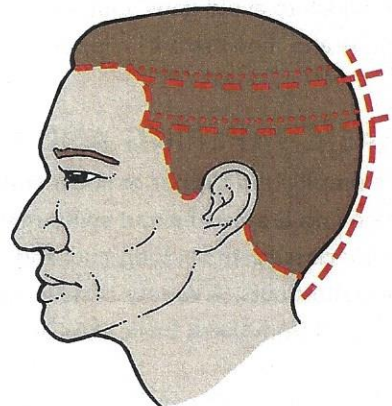
This cut requires close cutting from the nape to the bottom of the crest or horseshoe area. The sides are cut to the temporal region using the next-longer clipper blade, or one that will taper in the crest area to the top section. The top section is cut and blended to the crest (**Figure 15-78**). To gradually blend the fine clipper taper with the longer clipper taper, tilt the heel of the clippers, moving with and across the grain as necessary.

A *bi-level style* is most often achieved with clippers and shears. The clipper is used to cut the nape and sides to the desired length (**Figure 15-79**). The top is either layered and texturized or cut to one length using a weight line. The weight line may vary in style lengths.



▲ **FIGURE 15-77**

Taper area for short styles.

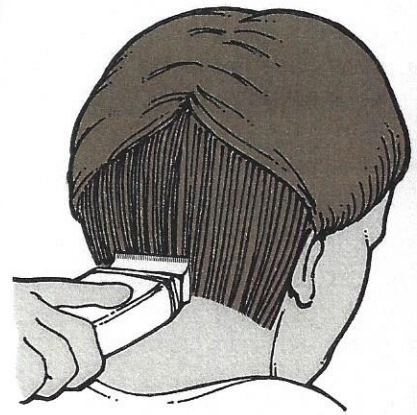


▲ **FIGURE 15-78**

Taper area for a fade style.



For a medium-length style, the top, crown, and crest area hair is sectioned off and secured with a hair clip. Clipper cutting is performed up to the occipital area in the back and on the sides to the bottom of the crest. A horizontal parting is taken from the secured hair to establish a design/guide line. The hair is cut at 0 elevation until all the partings are cut. Using the design line as a guide, the hair is projected at 45 or 90 degrees to produce layers if desired. Using clipper cutting for a shorter length, bi-level style usually requires cutting higher into the temporal region with slight blending to the top section.

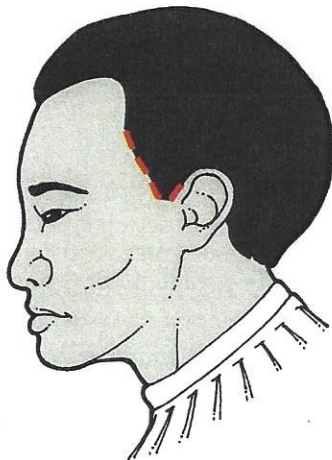


▲ FIGURE 15-79

Taper area for a bilevel style.

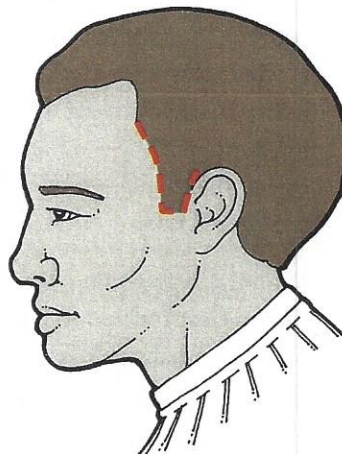
## POPULAR SIDEBURN LENGTHS

When trimming or redesigning the length of sideburns, every effort should be made to make sure that the sideburns appear even in length. When seen in profile, the client's ear, eye, or other anatomical feature may be used as a general guide for trimming the sideburns. However, *always check the length of both sideburns by facing the client toward the mirror*. No one's face is truly symmetrical, and differences will be noticed when viewing the client from the front. In addition, check to see that the thickness (density) of the sideburns complements the facial shape and hairstyle (Figures 15-80 through 15-84).



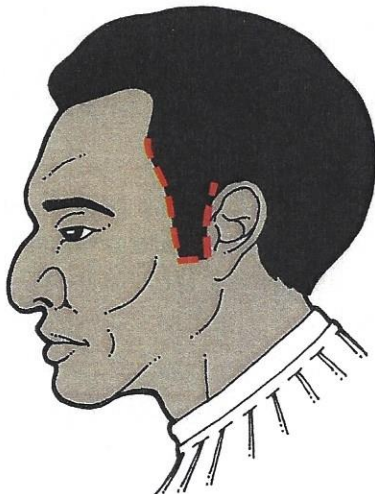
▲ FIGURE 15-80

Short sideburn.



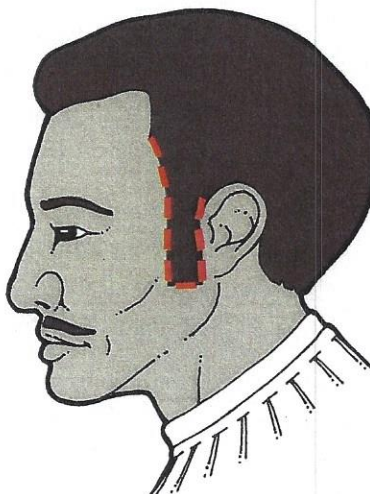
▲ FIGURE 15-81

Medium sideburn.



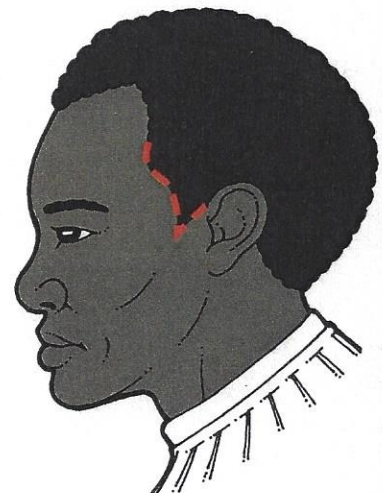
▲ FIGURE 15-82

Long sideburn.



▲ FIGURE 15-83

Extra-long sideburn.



▲ FIGURE 15-84

Pointed sideburn.





▲ **FIGURE 15-85**

Shear cut and razor cut strands.

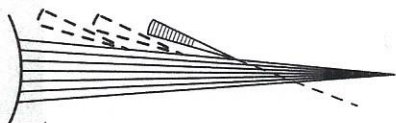
## RAZOR CUTTING

Razor cutting provides an opportunity for the barber to create a variety of different effects in the hair (**Figure 15-85**). It is especially suitable for thinning, shortening, tapering, blending, or feathering specific areas and can help make resistant hair textures more manageable. For client comfort and a precise cut, the hair should always be clean and damp. As always, the barber must consider the client's styling wishes, features, head shape, facial contour, and hair texture. The technique of handling a razor should be mastered completely before attempting to use it to cut a client's hair.

**CAUTION:** The use of a razor with a safety guard is recommended for the beginner. Once the student barber is proficient in the techniques, the razor may be used without a safety guard.

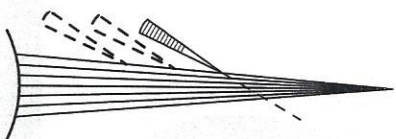
## RAZOR STROKING AND COMBING

Proper stroking of the razor and combing during the tapering process are of utmost importance in razor cutting. It is better to taper a little at a time than to taper too much.



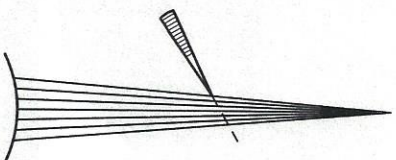
▲ **FIGURE 15-86**

Light taper-blending.



▲ **FIGURE 15-87**

Heavier taper-blending.

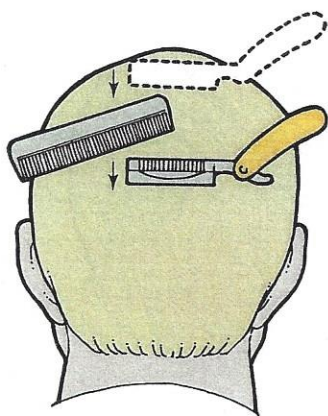


▲ **FIGURE 15-88**

Terminal blending.

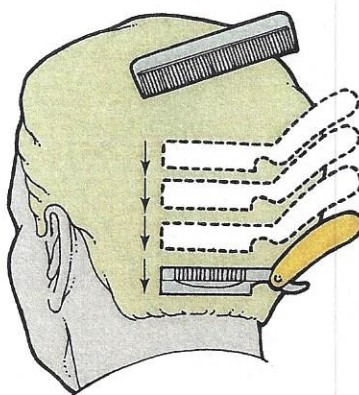
- *Arm and hand movements:* Some barbers prefer the arm movement, in which the razor stroking and combing is done with stiff arms, using the elbows as a hinge. Others use both wrist and arm movements. This is a matter of preference. The barber should develop a technique best suited to the individual and that gives the desired results.
- *Razor taper-blending:* Razor cutting is thought by some barbers to be the best technique to use for tapering and blending the hair. The cutting action of the razor permits a smoother blend than that usually accomplished with shears and/or clippers.
  - ▶ *Light taper-blending* requires that the razor is held almost flat against the surface of the hair. Note the small amount of hair that is cut when the blade is only slightly tilted and very little pressure is used (**Figure 15-86**).
  - ▶ *Heavier taper-blending* is performed with the razor held up to 45 degrees from the surface of the hair strand. As the razor is tilted higher and a little more pressure is used, the depth of the cut increases (**Figure 15-87**).
  - ▶ *Terminal blending* means that the angle of the razor blade is increased to almost 90 degrees. Short sawing strokes are used. Other terms used for terminal blending are *hair-end tapering* and *blunt cutting* (**Figure 15-88**).
- *Razor and comb coordination:* Razor stroking and combing are done in a continuous movement. The razor tapers while the comb removes the cut hair and re-combs the section for the next stroke or strokes (**Figures 15-89 to 15-91**).





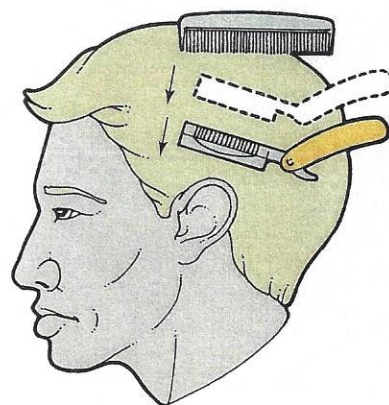
▲ **FIGURE 15-89**

Crown area: razor and comb coordination.



▲ **FIGURE 15-90**

Nape area: razor and comb coordination.

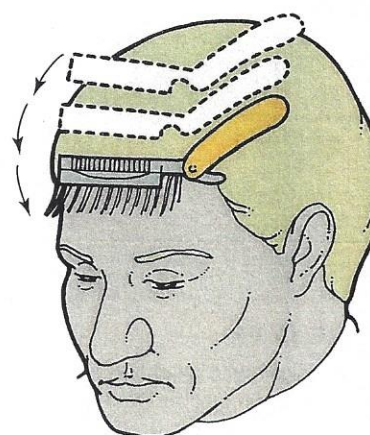


▲ **FIGURE 15-91**

Side areas: razor and comb coordination.

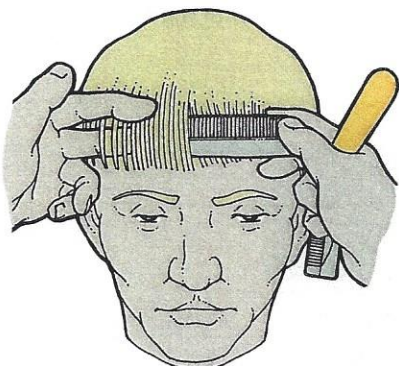
## HAIR TEXTURES AND RAZOR CUTTING

- *Coarse, thick hair* requires more strokes and heavier tapering than other textures. The first strip of hair is combed, followed by three razor strokes, and followed again with the comb. The comb removes the cut hair and re-combs the hair, allowing the barber to see how much hair has been cut. It also helps to keep the guide in view for use in tapering the next strip (**Figures 15-92 to 15-94**).
- *Medium-textured hair* requires fewer razor strokes and lighter pressure than coarse, thick hair as pictured in **Figures 15-95 to 15-98**.
- *Fine hair* typically does not have any bulk to remove; however, the razor may be used to blend hair ends to achieve a particular hairstyle. Stroking of the razor is usually lighter than that used for medium-textured hair.



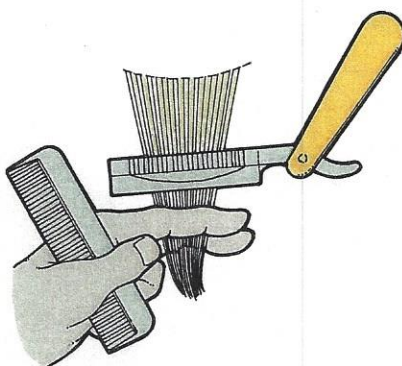
▲ **FIGURE 15-92**

Top area. Consideration must be given to the hairstyle to be created. The stroking and the pressure of the razor largely depend upon the amount of hair to be removed to achieve the finished hairstyle.



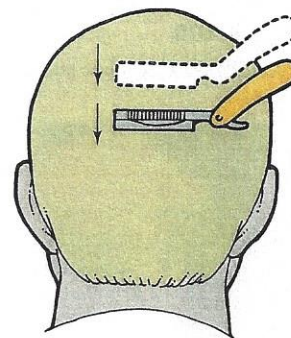
▲ **FIGURE 15-93**

Front hair. To equalize the length of long and uneven front hair, pick up the hair with the comb in the right hand. Hold the hair straight out between the middle and index fingers of the left hand.



▲ **FIGURE 15-94**

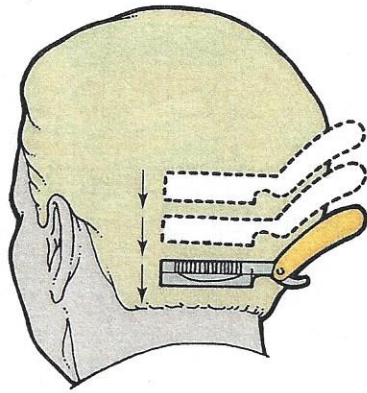
Palm the comb to the left hand. Hold the razor at an angle, and with short, sawing strokes cut the hair to the desired length.



▲ **FIGURE 15-95**

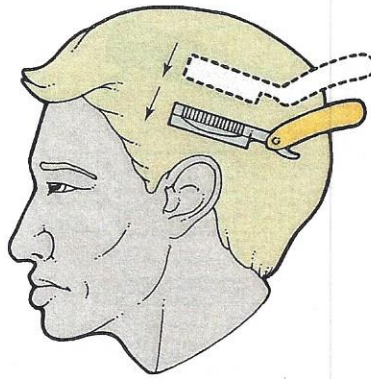
Crown area: two long strokes are used.





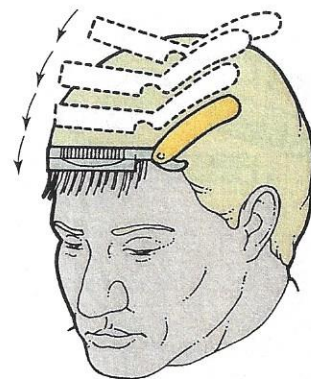
▲ **FIGURE 15-96**

Nape area: three short strokes are used.



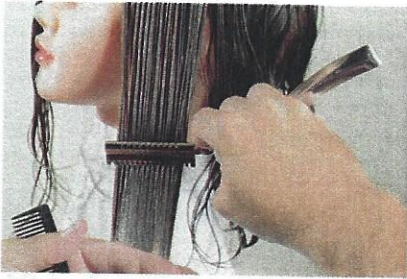
▲ **FIGURE 15-97**

Left and right sides of the head: two short strokes may be used.



▲ **FIGURE 15-98**

Top area: the stroking and pressure of the razor in this area are the same as for the sides and back area.



▲ **FIGURE 15-99**

Removing weight with freehand slicing.



▲ **FIGURE 15-100**

Releasing weight from a subsection.



▲ **FIGURE 15-101**

Establishing a design line at the perimeter.

## TERMS ASSOCIATED WITH RAZOR CUTTING

*Removing weight* can be accomplished by holding a parting of damp hair out from the head with the fingers positioned at the end of the section. Place the razor flat to the hair and gently stroke the razor to remove a thin sheet of hair from the section. This technique tapers the ends of the hair (**Figure 15-99**).

*Freehand slicing* can be used in the mid-shaft of a section or at the ends of the hair. The hair is combed out from the head and held between the fingers where the tip of the razor is used to slice out pieces of hair. This technique releases weight from the subsection and allows for more movement within the hairstyle. When used to cut the design line, freehand slicing the ends helps to create soft perimeters (**Figures 15-100** and **15-101**).

*Razor-over-comb* cutting is slightly different from shear- or clipper-over-comb techniques in which the comb is used to project the hair into a position for cutting. In razor-over-comb cutting, the razor is held in the freehand position and situated just above the comb as it follows the comb's downward direction through the hair (**Figure 15-102**). Short, precise strokes with medium



▲ **FIGURE 15-102**

Razor-over-comb technique.



pressure are applied to the surface of the hair. This technique is often used to taper nape areas or to soften weight lines.

**Razor rotation** is performed by using a rotating motion with the comb and razor as the hair is being cut. In the first movement, the razor follows the comb through the hair. Then the comb follows the razor and so on (**Figure 15-103**).



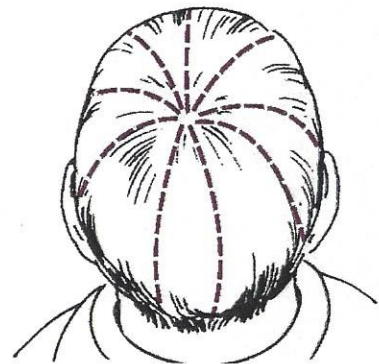
▲ **FIGURE 15-103**

Razor rotation.

## HAIR SECTIONING FOR RAZOR HAIRCUTTING

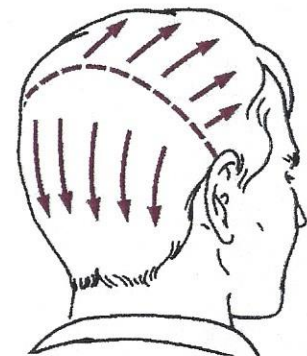
There are several effective ways to section the hair for razor cutting. These include the two-section, three-section, four-section, and five-section methods. All methods begin by combing the hair into the umbrella effect, which is created by combing the hair into natural directions from the crown (**Figure 15-104**). Be guided by your instructor.

- **Two sections:** First, part the hair from ear to ear across the crown. All hair in front of the part is combed forward. All hair behind or below the part is combed down (**Figure 15-105**).
- **Three sections:** First, part the hair from ear to ear across the crown. All top and side hair is combed forward. Then make a vertical part from the crown to the nape. Each of these subsections is combed toward the sides. In the nape area where there is no part, comb the hair down (**Figure 15-106**).
- **Four sections:** Add one more section to the previous three sections. Make a top center part and comb each side down (**Figure 15-107**).
- **Four sections, alternate method:** First, part the hair from ear to ear across the crown. Second, section the right side from the center of the right eyebrow to the crown and comb down. Make another section on the left side from the center of the left eyebrow to the crown and comb down. Comb all back hair down (**Figure 15-108**).



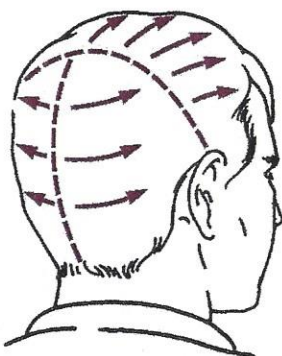
▲ **FIGURE 15-104**

Umbrella effect.



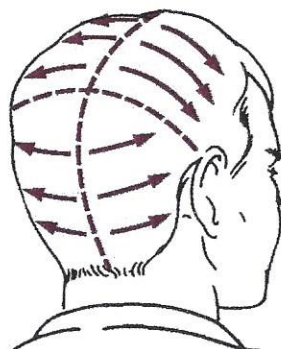
▲ **FIGURE 15-105**

Two sections.



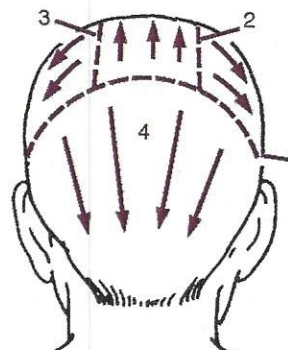
▲ **FIGURE 15-106**

Three sections.



▲ **FIGURE 15-107**

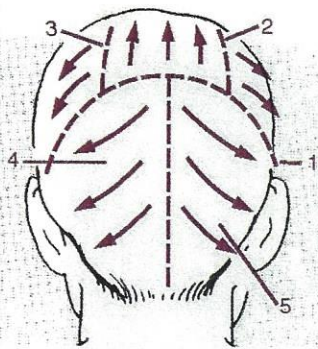
Four sections.



▲ **FIGURE 15-108**

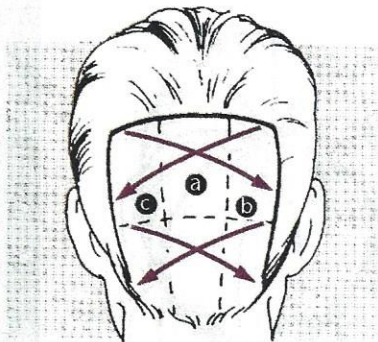
Four sections (alternate method).





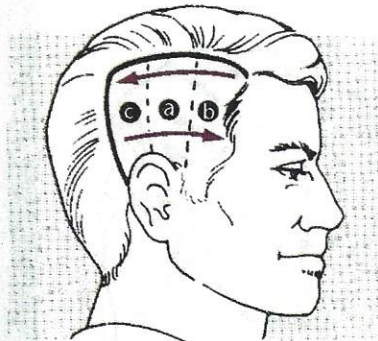
▲ **FIGURE 15-109**

Five sections.



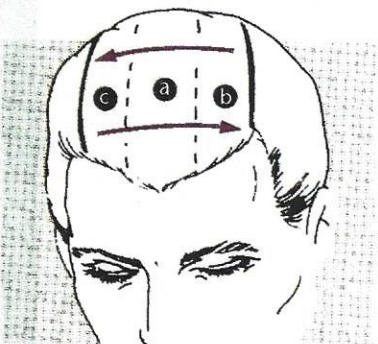
▲ **FIGURE 15-110**

Back.



▲ **FIGURE 15-111**

Sides.



▲ **FIGURE 15-112**

Top.

- **Five sections:** Sectioning is the same as the alternate four-section except that the back section is divided in two and combed as indicated by the arrows in **Figure 15-109**.

A pattern for cutting needs to be established by the barber so that there is a plan to follow. In this text, one basic plan is followed. Other procedures may be different but equally correct. Be guided by your instructor.

- **Back part of head (Figure 15-110)**

- ▶ Downward
- ▶ Top right to left, downward
- ▶ Top left to right, downward

- **Right side of head (Figure 15-111)**

- ▶ Downward
- ▶ Toward the back
- ▶ Toward the face

- **Left side of head**

- ▶ Downward
- ▶ Toward the back
- ▶ Toward the face

- **Top hair (Figure 15-112)**

- ▶ Crown to forehead
- ▶ Top left side
- ▶ Top right side

## RAZOR-CUTTING TIPS

- The hair must be clean and damp for best results and to avoid client discomfort. Maintain moisture content throughout the cut.
- Avoid tapering too close to the hair part or the scalp. Tapering the hair too closely to the hair part will cause the hair to stand up, making the part look ragged. Coarse hair that is cut too closely to the scalp will have short, stubby hair ends that will protrude through the top layer.
- Avoid over-tapering as it is difficult to correct a haircut after too much hair has been removed.

## RAZOR-CUTTING SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Handle the razor properly, keeping it closed whenever not in use.
- Be aware of the people around you when working with any sharp tool or implement. A careless motion can cause injury to yourself or others. Do not annoy or distract anyone who is in the process of performing a service.



- Purchase and use only good-quality haircutting implements.
- Use changeable-blade razors and dispose of used blades in a sharps container.
- Replace dull razor blades, during a cut if necessary, as a dull blade will pull the hair and cause pain or discomfort to the client. Dull blades will also influence the quality of the haircut.

## PRACTICE SESSION #8

### OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to become familiar with manipulating the razor using freehand slicing, razor-over-comb, and razor rotation cutting techniques.

#### Razor Cutting on a Mannequin

- 1 Pick up the razor (with guard) with the dominant hand.
- 2 Comb hair into the umbrella effect.
- 3 Position yourself behind the mannequin.
- 4 Hold the razor in a freehand position.
- 5 Use the freehand slicing technique to create a design line in the nape area.
- 6 Use the razor-over-comb technique to taper the nape area.
- 7 Use the razor rotation method to blend the hair at the occipital with the nape area.

Once the razor-cutting techniques have been practiced on the mannequin, refer to Haircutting Procedure 15-6 to perform a haircut using these methods. Be guided by your instructor to learn other variations of this method.

 **L06 Complete**

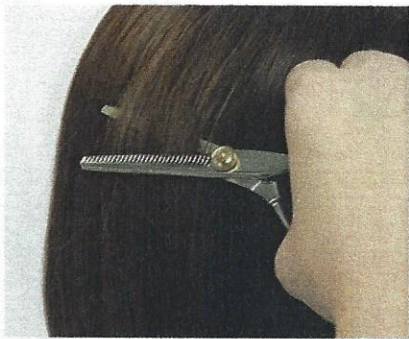
### HAIR THINNING AND TEXTURIZING

Hair thinning is used to reduce the bulk or weight of the hair. The barber can use thinning (serrated) shears, regular shears, clippers, or a razor for this purpose. Regardless of the tool used to perform the procedure, some general rules to follow when removing bulk from the hair are as follows:

- Make a careful observation of the hair to determine the sections that require some reduction in bulk or weight and cut accordingly.
- Avoid cutting top surfaces of the hair where visible cutting lines can be seen.
- Part off and elevate the hair to be cut to avoid cutting too deeply into the section.
- Avoid cutting too closely to the scalp or part lines.

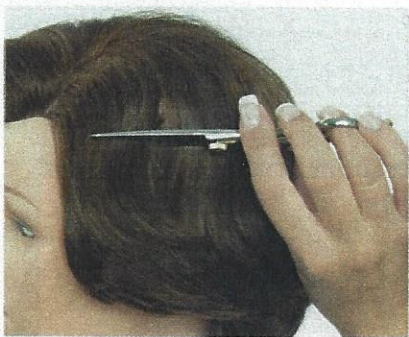






▲ **FIGURE 15-113**

Removing bulk midshaft with thinning shears.



▲ **FIGURE 15-114**

Slicing on hair surface to remove bulk.



▲ **FIGURE 15-115**

Carving with shears to remove bulk.



▲ **FIGURE 15-116**

Slithering.

## REMOVING BULK

- *Thinning:* When thinning with serrated shears, the hair parting is combed and held between the index and middle finger. The shears are placed about mid-shaft on the strands and a cut is made (**Figure 15-113**). If another cut is necessary it should be made about 1" from the first cut. Do not cut twice in the same place.
- *Slicing and carving:* There are two slicing methods that can be used to remove bulk with regular shears. **Figure 15-114** shows the slicing technique performed on the surface of the hair. The second method requires parting off a vertical section of hair and elevating it between 45 and 90 degrees. Standing from the side of the hair projection, open the shears and position the parting close to the pivot. Carve through the partings with a curving motion that removes hair from the under portion of the parting as the motion is continued to the hair ends (**Figure 15-115**).
- *Slithering:* Yet another method used to remove bulk with regular shears is slithering. In this procedure a thin parting of hair is held between the fingers. The shears are positioned for cutting, and an up-and-down sliding motion along the parting is combined with a slight closing of the shears each time they are moved toward the scalp (**Figure 15-116**).

## REMOVING WEIGHT FROM THE ENDS

Removing weight from the ends helps to taper the perimeter of graduated and blunt haircuts. This can be accomplished using thinning shears by elevating the section and placing the shears at an angle as the cuts are made or by using the comb to put the hair into position for cutting (**Figure 15-117**).

To remove weight with regular shears, *point cutting* or *notching* can be used to reduce weight in the ends of the hair. For either technique, a parting is held between the fingers, and the tips of the shears are used on a vertical angle to create points or notches in the hair (**Figure 15-118**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-117**

Removing weight from the ends.



▲ **FIGURE 15-118**

Notching.



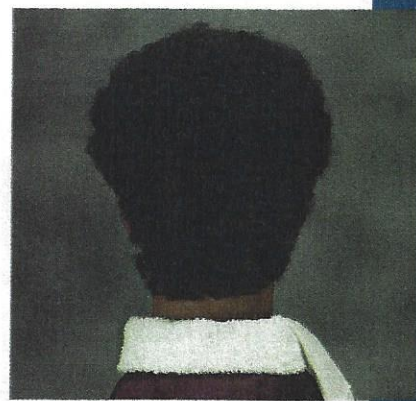
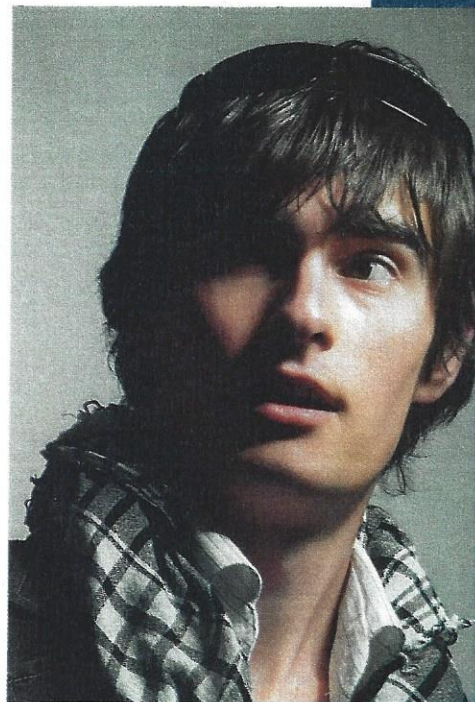
Both clippers and razors can be used to remove weight from the ends of the hair. Use a clipper-over-comb technique to put the hair ends in a position to be cut and position the clipper blades under the ends of the hair. Use a reverse rotation technique with the clipper to comb through and cut the ends from one section to another. The razor-over-comb technique should be used when lightening hair ends with a razor.

## SHAVING THE OUTLINE AREAS

The performance of a neck shave and the shaving of the outline areas as a feature of the haircut service contribute to the appearance of the finished cut and provide the client with a true barbershop experience. This standard operating procedure in finishing a haircut follows the outlining or trimmer work.

The traditional *neck shave* consists of shaving the sides of the neck and across the nape with a razor. The *outline shave* includes the sideburn areas and around the ears and nape area. In African American styles, the front hairline is often included (Refer to **Figures 15-120 to 15-128**). The following preparation steps should be used in the performance of these shaving services:

1. Remove all cut hair from around the head and neck with a clean towel, tissues, or hair vacuum.
2. Loosen the cape and remove the neck strip used during the haircut. Be careful that loose clippings do not fall down the client's neck or shirt.
3. Pick up the cape at the lower edge, fold it upward to the top edge, and gather the four corners together. Remove the cape carefully so that cut hair does not fall on the client. Turn away from the chair and drop the lower edge of the cape, giving a slight shake to dislodge all cut hair.
4. Replace the cape, resting it a few inches away from the neck so that it does not touch the client's skin.
5. Spread a terry cloth or paper towel straight across the shoulders and tuck it loosely around the client's neck. Secure the cape and fold the towel over the neckband. The drape should be loose enough to permit easy access to the neck area. Tuck a towel or neck strip into the neckband of the drape for wiping the razor (**Figure 15-119**).



**▲ FIGURE 15-119**

Draping for outline shave.



## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to practice the finger placement on the head form in relation to the razor and razor strokes used in performing an outline shave.

### Shaving the Outline Areas on a Mannequin

**Preparation:** To avoid ruining the mannequin, apply a thin band of colored glue around the hairline and allow to dry thoroughly before shaving, or practice without a blade in the razor to master the position of the shaving strokes.

- 1** Apply a light coating of lather at the hairline of the sideburns, around and over the ears, the front hairline, down the sides of the neck, and across the nape. *Apply lather to the back of the neck and/or the front hairline of the client only if these areas are to be shaved.* Rub the lather in lightly with the balls of the fingers or thumb.



▲ **FIGURE 15-120**

Shave sideburn to desired length.

- 2** Shave the right side.
  - a. Hold the razor for a freehand stroke.
  - b. Place the left thumb on the scalp above the point of the razor and pretend to stretch the skin under the razor.
  - c. Shave the sideburn to the desired length (**Figure 15-120**).
  - d. Shave around the ear at the hairline and straight down the side of the neck, using the freehand stroke with the point of the razor. Be careful not to shave into the hairline at the nape of the neck (**Figures 15-121 through 15-123**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-121**

Shaving around the ear.



▲ **FIGURE 15-122**

Shaving in back of the ear.



▲ **FIGURE 15-123**

Shaving behind the ear to the nape corner.

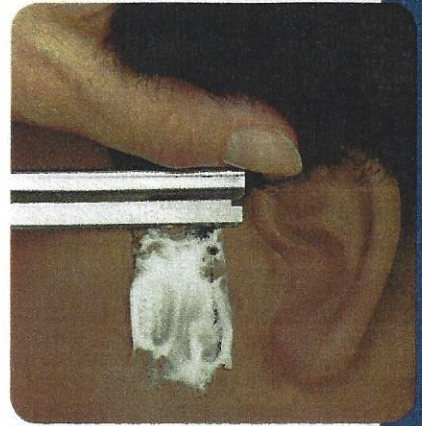


### 3 Shave the left side.

- Hold the razor for the backhand stroke.
- Place the left thumb on the scalp above the razor point, and pretend to stretch the skin under the razor.
- Shave the sideburn to the proper length using the backhand stroke (**Figure 15-124**).
- Shave around the ear at the hairline, using the freehand stroke.
- Shave the side of the neck below the ear, using the reverse backhand stroke with the point of the razor (**Figure 15-125**). Hold the ear away with the fingers of the left hand. If the stroke is done with one continuous movement, a straight line will be formed down the side of the neck.
- Shave the nape area with a freehand stroke (**Figure 15-126**).

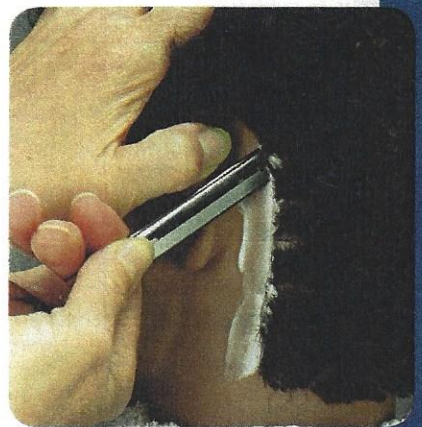
### 4 Shave the front hairline.

- Start in the center of the front hairline and work toward the corners using a freehand stroke to the client's right side and a backhand stroke to the client's left side (**Figure 15-127**).
- Follow the natural hairline, shaving the outline through the temporal area to the front corner of the sideburns (**Figure 15-128**).



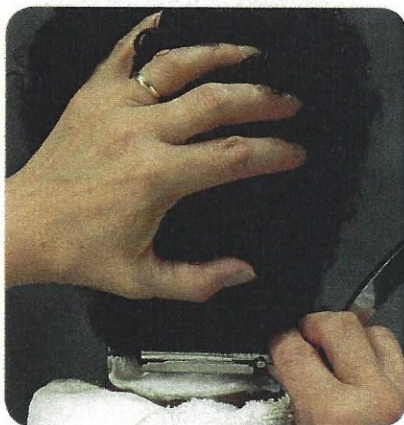
▲ **FIGURE 15-124**

Shave the left sideburn using reverse backhand stroke.



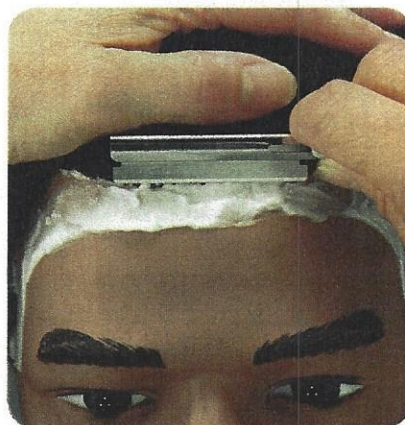
▲ **FIGURE 15-125**

Shave left side of neck to nape using the backhand stroke.



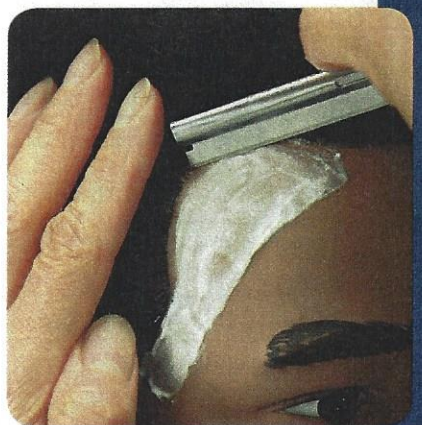
▲ **FIGURE 15-126**

Use the freehand stroke to shave the nape area.



▲ **FIGURE 15-127**

Start at center of front hairline and shave toward corners.



▲ **FIGURE 15-128**

Follow the natural hairline to the sideburn

Be guided by your instructor to learn other variations of this method.

✓ **L07 Complete**



# Fingers-and-Shear Precision Cut on Model

## PROCEDURE 15-1

### MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

### PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face the model toward the mirror and lock the chair.

### REMINDER

➤➤➤ Maintain uniform moisture throughout the haircutting procedure.

### PROCEDURE

#### A. STEP 1

- 1 Comb the hair down in the front, sides, and back. Standing behind the model, take a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " parting (depending on the density of the hair) at the forward-most part of the crown.
- 2 Comb the parting straight up at 90 degrees and hold it between the fingers of the left hand.



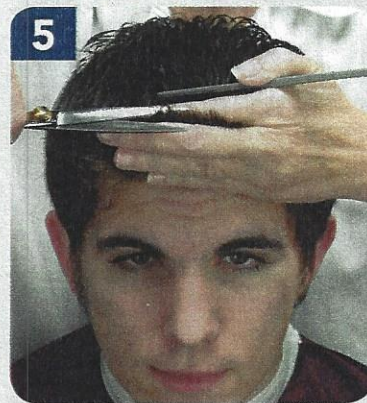
- 3 Bend the parting from right to left to determine at what length the hair will bend (bending point) to lie down smoothly (usually between 2" and 3"). When this length has been determined, re-comb the parting and, using the fingers of the left hand as a level, cut the hair that extends beyond the fingers. This cut establishes the traveling guide for the top section.



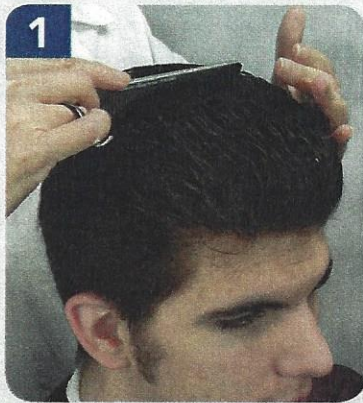
- 4 Pick up a second parting, retaining the guideline, comb, and cut. (The guideline should be visible and parallel to the top of the fingers.) A rhythm will soon develop: part hair for parting (1); comb hair in front of parting forward so it does not interfere with first parting (2); comb parting, retaining previous guide (3); and cut hair that extends past the guideline (4).



- 5** Complete the top section of hair, moving forward toward the front with each parting and cut. Remember to hold each parting that is to be cut at a 90-degree elevation from where it grows.



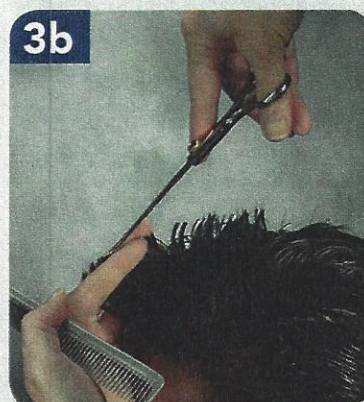
## B. STEP 2



- 1** Comb the top section back. Move to the model's left side. Starting at the forehead, part off the top section of hair, front to back, with the thumb and middle finger.



- 2** Hold the original guideline and a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " parting at the crown at 90 degrees and cut. This establishes the guide for the crown and back sections.

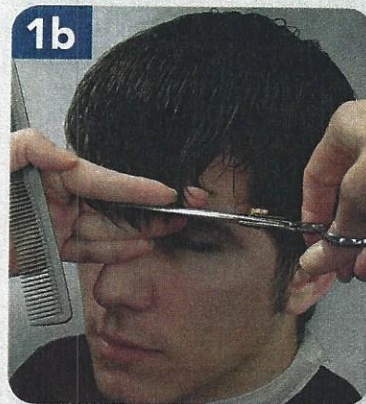
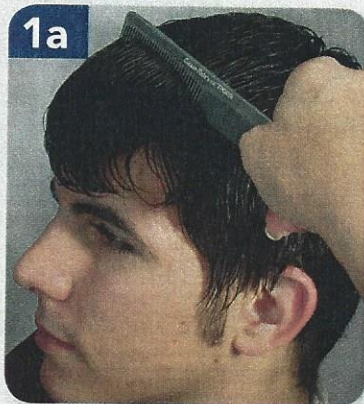


- 3** Work forward, still maintaining a side-standing position. Following the arc and contour of the head, even off any length that does not blend with the traveling guide. If Step 1 was performed correctly, no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of hair should need to be evened or blended. Step 2 is a checkpoint for your work in the top section.



---

**C. STEP 3**



- 1** Comb the hair forward and move in front of the model. Holding the front hair section between the fingers of the left hand at 0 elevation, begin in the center and cut to the desired length to establish the front design line. Cut right and then left of the center to the ends of the width of the eyebrows, or to include the temporal area. The front and temporal design line has just been completed and will act as a traveling guide for the temporal area.
- 

**D. STEP 4**

- 1** Move behind the model.

- 2** Beginning on the right side, pick up the front hair of the temporal/crest region. A small amount of the previously cut top hair should be visible.
- 



- 3** a. Hold the hair at 90 degrees and cut to the top guide.

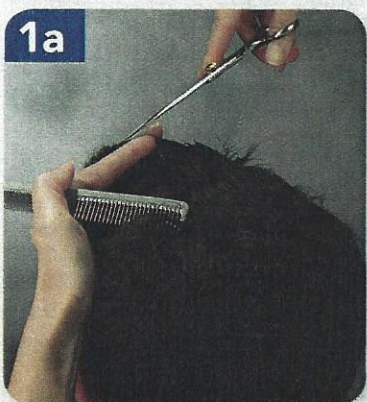
- b. Front view of cutting right temporal section.





- 4** Continue cutting the crest area, working back to the center of the crown area. Cut hair only from the temporal region; do not pick up side hair. When approaching the crown area, reposition yourself so as to move toward the model's left, but not as far as the side of the model.

#### E. STEP 5



- 1** Repeat Step 4 on the left side of the model's hair. Cuts will be made *from* the top guide through the temporal region, rather than *to* the top guide. If the front design line was cut correctly, the excess hair in the front temporal region should not exceed 1" to 1½". The crown hair from the right and left sides should meet upon completion of Step 5.

- 2** The top, temporal, and crown areas are now cut.

- 3** Comb the hair for Step 6.



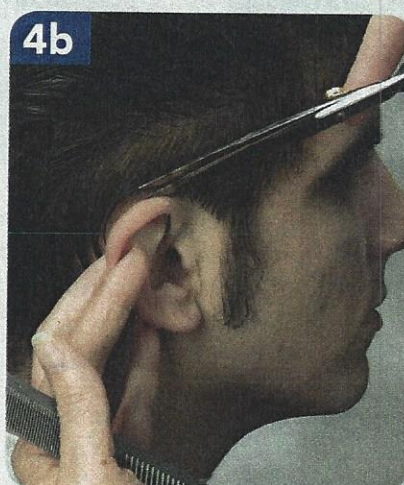
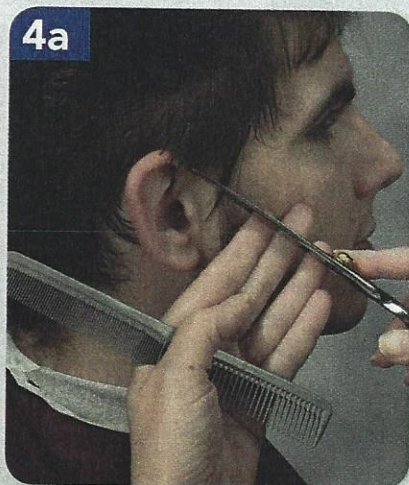
## F. STEP 6

- 1 Moving to the right of the model, comb the hair straight down on the sides.



- 3 Comb the remaining hair back or secure it with a hair clip.

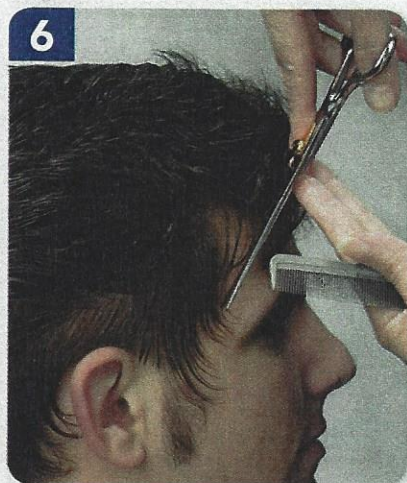
- 2 Take a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " horizontal parting at the hairline, from the top of the ear to the sideburn area, and a diagonal parting of the same thickness from the right temple to the sideburn.



- 5 Move toward the front of the model facing the temporal and side areas.

- 4 Cut the design line either around the ears or to cover part of the ears at the desired length. If cutting around the ear, gently bend or slightly tug the ear down out of the way.





- 6** Using the front and side design lines (which are acting as guides), cut the hair between these two points against the skin, cutting along the natural hairline.

- 7** Holding the hair between the fingers at the lowest elevation possible, check the design line cut.

- 8** Proceed cutting the remaining side hair section, repeating the partings as the density of the hair requires.

- 9** Repeat this procedure on the left side, then check the length of the sides in the mirror for evenness.



- 10** Move behind the model. Pick up the hair in vertical partings, holding it straight out to the side at 90 degrees. The design/guide line should be visible at the tips of the fingers when working on the right side of the model's head.

- 11** Make a straight, vertical cut from the design/guide line, cutting off any hair that extends past the guide.





- 12** Continue cutting partings of hair while following the contour of the head until reaching the temporal/crest region. The hair lengths should meet and blend. Check the procedure by checking the blend of hair from the side design/guide line to the top section guide.

- 13** Proceed until all the side hair is cut. Stop at the topmost point behind the ear. Repeat for the left side. You may be positioned facing the client in order to work from the design/guide line up when blending the hair, or you may prefer to remain behind the model.

- 14** The front, top, temporal, crown, and side areas are now cut.

## G. STEP 7



- 1** Move behind the model. Section off a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " horizontal parting at the nape of the neck. Secure excess hair with a clip if necessary.



- 2** Starting in the center of the nape, cut the hair to the desired length; cut left and then right to the corners of the nape area. Check the design line cut.



- 3** Move to the model's right side. Part off a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " section along the hairline. Cut hair in a downward direction from the side design line guide to right nape corner.





- 4** Comb and check the cut. Repeat for the left side. A backhand shear cutting position is required to cut downward on the model's left side.



- 5** Part off a subsequent parting and comb hair down. Holding the design/guide line and parting between the fingers, cut hair at a low elevation or against the skin. Continue to take partings as the density requires, cutting the nape and behind-the-ear areas against the skin.



- 6** Pick up the hair in vertical partings at 90 degrees; blend through the back section up to meet the guides in the crown and crest areas.



- 7** Proceed until the entire back section is cut and sides are blended to the back.



**8** Check the entire haircut by combing the hair up in 90-degree sections, making sure that the hair blends from one section to another.

**9** Perform a neck shave and shave outline areas as desired.

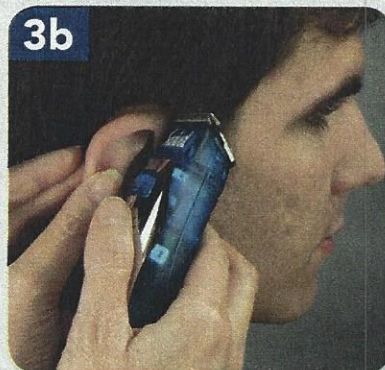
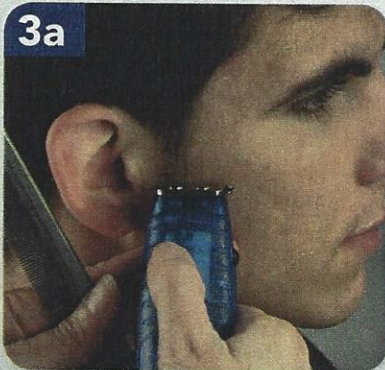
## H. STEP 8

**1** Dry the model's hair in a free-form style. This method requires the barber to move the dryer briskly from side to side while drying the hair. Begin at the nape, using a brush or comb in the left hand to hold midsection hair out of the way while drying the underneath hair first. The nozzle of the dryer should be pointing downward, 6" to 10" away from the hair. As the hair dries, check the cut for blending qualities. Proceed to dry the sides and top.

**2** Brush the hair into place using a directional nozzle, if needed.

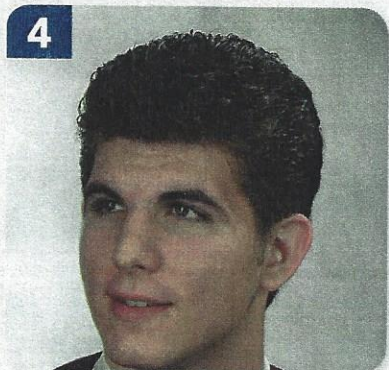
## FYI

Cross-checking is the process of parting off subsections opposite from the elevation or direction at which they were cut to check for precision of line or blending. For example, a vertical subsection cut at a 90-degree projection can be cross-checked by parting off the subsections horizontally at 90 degrees.



**3** Use a trimmer (outliner) to clean up sideburns, sides (in around-the-ear styles), and nape. Check the behind-the-ear area for any difference in hair length or design. Complete finish work by performing a neck shave after outlining the bottom of the sideburn and around-the-ear areas with a razor.





**4** Re-comb the hair into the finished style.

**5** Consult with the client regarding the use of a styling aid.

**6** The haircut and style are now complete. Dust or vacuum stray hairs, making sure none remain on the client's face or neck.

#### CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.

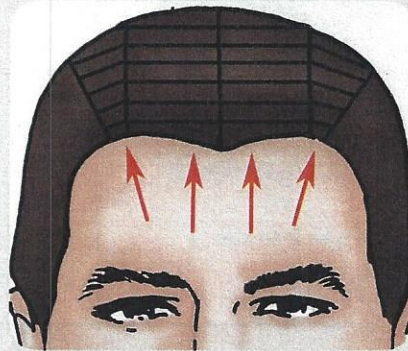


## I. ALTERNATIVE FINGERS-AND-SHEAR TECHNIQUE

Some barbers prefer to begin fingers-and-shear cutting in the front section or with a side part established in the hair. Be guided by the following steps and your instructor.



- 1 Comb model's hair into desired style with a side part. Start at the front hairline and project a parting of hair to 90 degrees. Cut to desired length and use as a traveling guide to cut back toward the crown.



- 2 Pick up hair from the front temporal/crest area using the same procedure as in Step 1 to cut back toward the crown. Continue cutting all around the crest area through to the left side; or stop at the center of the crown and repeat procedure on the left side, working from the front to the crown. Continue with Steps 6–8 of Procedure 15-1, Fingers-and-shear precision cut on model.



# Shear-Over-Comb Technique on Model

## PROCEDURE 15-2

### MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

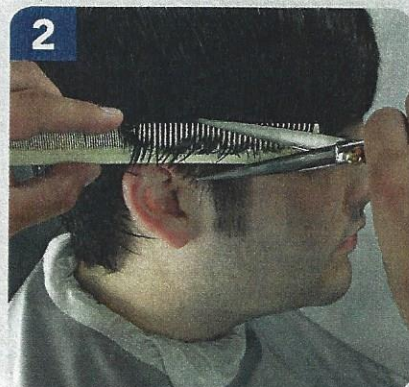
- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

### PREPARATION

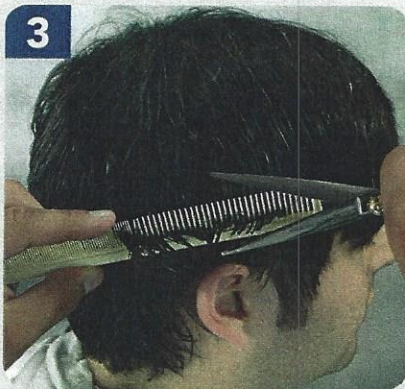
1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair. Blow-dry hair if dry cutting is preferred.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



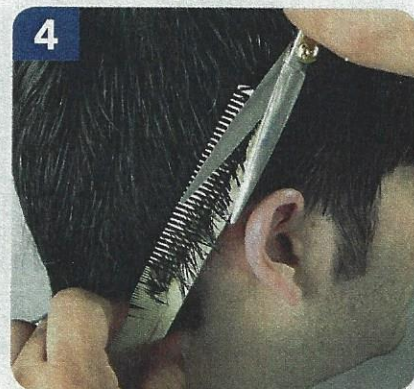
- 1** Comb the hair. Start cutting in the nape area, trimming hair to the desired length and thickness up to the occipital.



- 2** Move to right side and begin shear-over-comb cutting from the sideburn hairline into the side section.



- 3** Continue technique over and behind the right ear.



- 4** Using a diagonal comb position, blend the hair behind the ear to the hair at the right corner of the nape along the hairline.





- 5** Blend hair at the side of the neck into the back section.



- 6** Move to left side and repeat shear-over-comb cutting from the sideburn hairline into the side section.

- 7** Continue technique over and in back of the left ear.



- 8** Using a diagonal comb position, blend the hair behind the ear to the hair at the left corner of the nape along the hairline.



- 9** Blend hair at the side of the neck into the back section.



- 10** Blend hair from the occipital to the crown.





- 11** Blend hair from the crown through the right and left crest areas into the top section. Trim front section to an appropriate length for blending with the top and crest.



- 12** Outline sideburns, around the ear, and behind-the-ear areas with shears, followed by the trimmer. Finish the haircut with a neck and/or outline shave as the client desires. Also consult with the client regarding the use of a styling aid. Style the hair as desired. The haircut and style are now complete. Dust or vacuum any stray hairs on the client's face or neck.



### CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.



# Freehand and Clipper-Over-Comb Technique on Model with Straight Hair

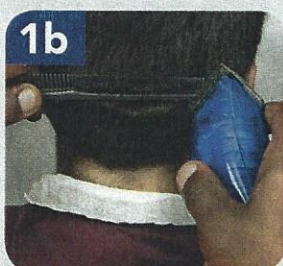
## PROCEDURE 15-3

### PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair. Blow-dry hair if dry cutting is preferred.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



- 1** Comb the hair. Start in nape area and freehand taper the first inch or so of hair. Proceed with clipper-over-comb cutting to the occipital and lower crown areas.



- 2** Move to right side and establish the length of the sideburn. Begin clipper-over-comb cutting from the sideburn hairline into the side section.



- 3** Continue technique above and in back of the right ear.



- 4** Using a diagonal comb position, blend the hair behind the ear to the hair at the right corner of the nape along the hairline.





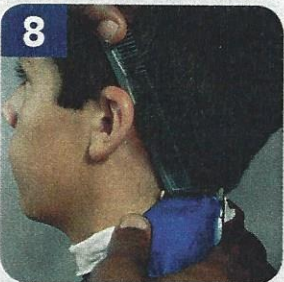
- 5** Blend hair on the right side of the neck into the back section.



- 6** Move to left side and establish sideburn length. Begin clipper-over-comb cutting into the side section.



- 7** Continue technique above and in back of the left ear.



- 8** Using a diagonal comb position, blend the hair behind the ear to the hair at the left corner of the nape along the hairline.



- 9** Blend hair at the side of the neck into the back section.

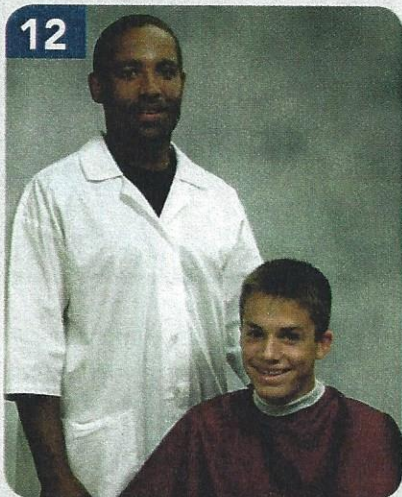


- 10** Blend hair from the occipital to the crown.



- 11** Blend hair from the crown through the right and left crest areas to meet the side sections. Trim top section using fingers-and-shear method to achieve the desired length. Check blending and fine-tune using fingers-and-shear method.





- 12** Outline sideburns, around the ear, behind-the-ear areas, and nape with shears and then trimmer. Complete finish work by performing a neck shave after outlining the bottom of the sideburn and around-the-ear areas with a razor. Consult with the client regarding the use of a styling aid, then style the hair as desired. The haircut and style are now complete. Dust or vacuum any stray hairs from the client's face or neck.

#### **CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION**

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.



# Freehand and Clipper-Over-Comb Techniques on Model with Tightly Curled Hair

PROCEDURE 15-4

## MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

## PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair. Blow-dry hair if dry cutting is preferred.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



1a



1b



1c



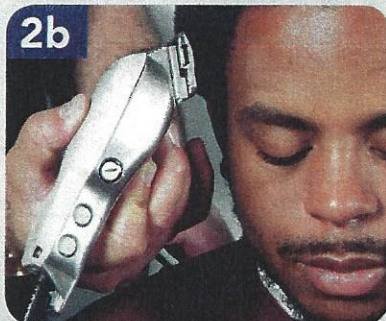
- 1 Comb or pick the hair out. Start in nape area and freehand taper or clipper-over-comb taper the first inch or so of hair. If hair density allows, proceed with clipper-over-comb cutting to the occipital area. If the hair is thick, freehand clipper cut to the occipital area. Continue cutting back section until nape to occipital is completed.

2a



- 2 Move to right side to cut and blend from the sideburn hairline up to the crest.

2b



2c





## PROCEDURE 15-4

*continued*



**3b**



**3** Blend sides toward back section.



**4** Blend the hair behind the ear to the right corner of the nape.



**5** Blend the hair behind the ear to nape in the back section.



**6** Move to left side and repeat cutting steps from sideburn hairline to the crest.



**7b**

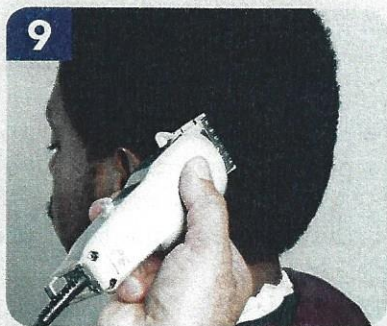


**7** Continue blending on left side above ear.



**8** Blend the hair behind the ear to the corner of the nape along the hairline.





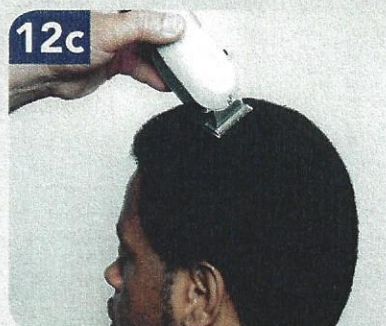
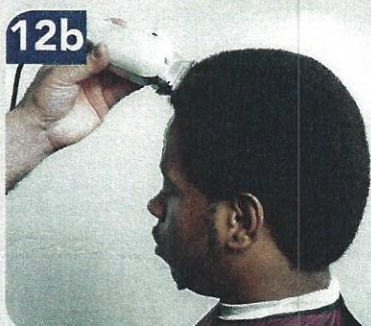
- 9** Blend the hair at the side of the neck into the back section.



- 10** Establish guide in front center of top section and cut back to crown area.

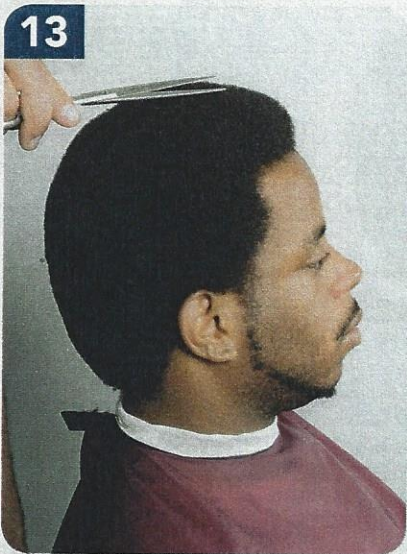


- 11** Blend crest to top guide around the entire head.



- 12** Blend occipital area to crest and check the blend to the top section.





**13** Comb or pick hair out. Fine-tune with shears.

**14** Outline sideburns, around the ear, and behind-the-ear areas with clippers or trimmers. Consult with the client regarding the use of a styling aid and style the hair as desired. The haircut and style portion of the service is now complete. Finish with the neck and outline shaving procedure shown in Procedure 15-5. Dust or vacuum stray hairs from the model's face and neck.

### **CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION**

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
5. Wash your hands.



# Shaving Outline on Model with Tightly Curled Hair

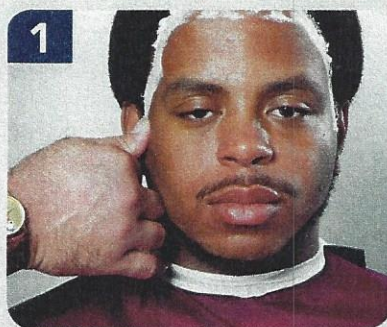
PROCEDURE **15-5**

## MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

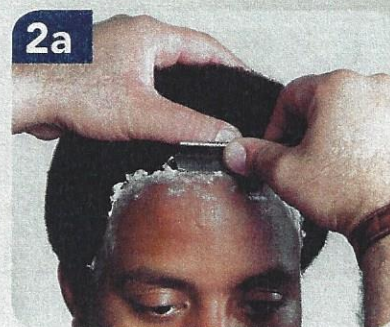
- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

## PREPARATION

1. Model should still be draped from the haircut service.
2. Disinfect razor and blades.
3. Wash your hands.
4. Loosen cape and apply towel to neckline, leaving it loose enough for access when securing the drape.



- 1 Apply a light coating of lather at the front hairline and rub the lather in lightly with the balls of the fingers or thumb.



- 2 Stand at a slight diagonal to the model's forehead on his right side. Stretch the skin in the forehead area. Using a freehand stroke, shave along the front hairline into the temple area.



## PROCEDURE 15-5

*continued*



**3** Next, shave from the temple along the hairline to the front of the sideburn.

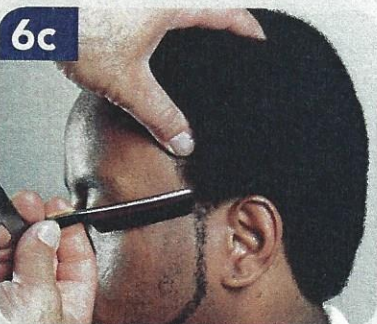
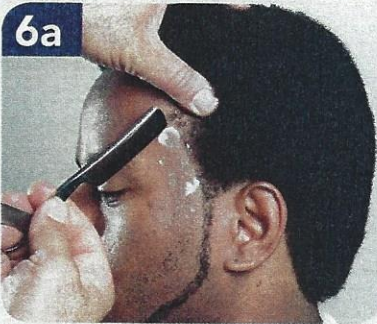


**4** Apply lather around and behind the ear. Shave around the ear and down the side of the neck, using the freehand stroke with the point of the razor. Hold the ear away with the fingers of the left hand as necessary for safety. Be careful not to shave into the hairline at the nape of the neck.

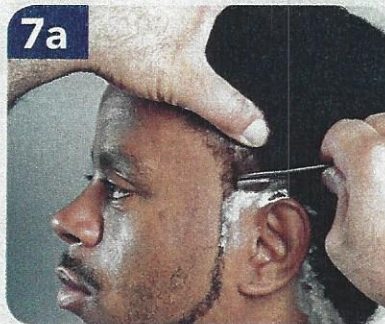


**5** Move to the model's left side. Reapply lather at forehead as necessary. Stretch the skin in the forehead area and repeat freehand strokes to the temple.





- 6** Use the backhand stroke to shave from the temple to the front sideburn area.



- 7** Apply lather around and behind the ear. Use the freehand stroke to shave in front of and around the ear at the hairline, holding the ear away with the fingers of the left hand as necessary for safety.



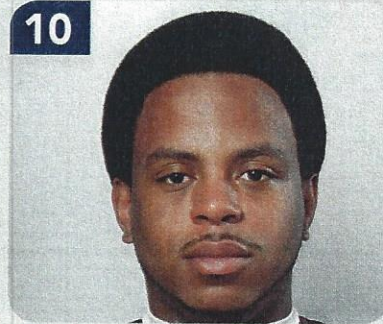
- 8** Employ the reverse backhand stroke to shave down the side of the neck with the point of the razor. Be careful not to shave into the hairline at the nape of the neck.



**PROCEDURE 15-5**  
*continued*



- 9** Shave the nape area with a freehand stroke. Clean up model's hairline with a warm, moist towel.



- 10** Apply astringent, moisturizing cream, talc, or after-shave lotion as desired. Figure 10 shows a finished outline shave.

**CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION**

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.



# Razor Cutting on Model

## PROCEDURE 15-6

### MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor, blades, and guard
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

### PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



- 1** Section the hair into four sections from crown to nape, crown to front, and crest to sides. Subdivide the back section into three subsections.



- 2** Begin in the center section just below the crown. Taper the hair using the razor rotation technique, one strip at a time in a downward direction to the hairline. Blend each new cut with the hair previously trimmed. Use short, even razor strokes to avoid ridges, lines, or any appearance of unevenness.



- 3** Comb the hair downward from the top right side toward the left midsection in the back. Lightly taper from right to left in the top section. Taper the lower section to blend with the nape hair.



## PROCEDURE 15-6

*continued*



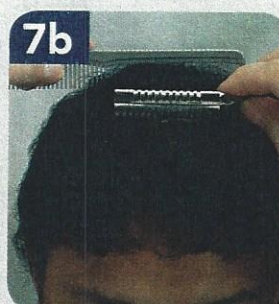
- 4** Comb the hair downward from the top left side toward the right. Repeat the procedure used in Step 3.



- 5** Comb side hair downward and subdivide it into three vertical partings. Begin tapering about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the crest. Taper downward through the three sections to the hairline. Comb the hair toward the back and taper lightly in that direction, then blend with the back section. Comb the hair forward and taper lightly toward the face, trimming the perimeter (design) line as needed.



- 6** Repeat Step 5 procedures on left side of head.



- 7** Comb top hair forward with even distribution over the head form. Start tapering just forward of the crown in the top section. Work toward the forehead on the right side. Repeat on the left side, then taper the center section. Make sure to blend all three sections. Hold the front section at a low elevation and trim using the freehand slicing technique.





- 8** Comb through the cut, redistributing the sections in a variety of directions to check for blending and evenness. Consult with the client regarding a neck shave, outline shaving, and the use of styling aids. Style the hair as desired. The haircut and style are now complete. Dust or vacuum stray hairs, making sure none remain on the client's face or neck.

#### **CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION**

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.



# Clipper Cutting—Close Fade Cut on Model

## PROCEDURE 15-7

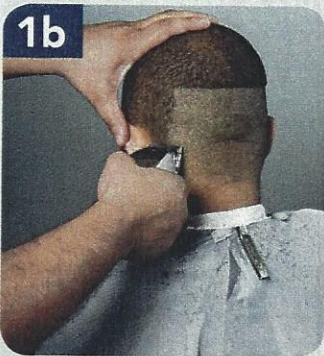
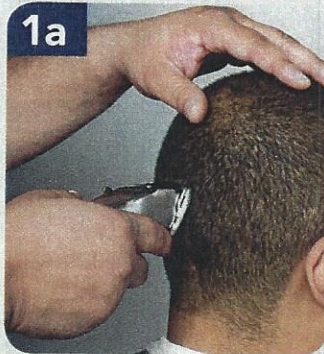
The standard characteristics that apply to the many variations of fade cuts today include a close, tight cut at the sides and back; blending at the occipital and crest areas; and a customized design at the temples and front sections. To facilitate blending, the clipper blades are opened or closed, based on the hair's density and curl pattern.

### MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

### PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



- 1 Set the clipper blade in the closed position to achieve a close cut. Start at the center of the nape, cutting to the bottom of the parietal ridge. Cut the sections right and left of center through the back section.

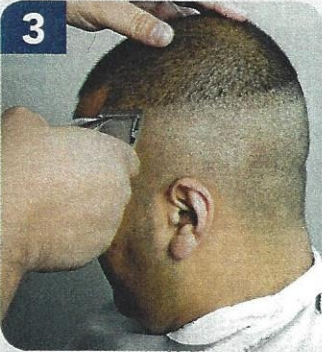


- 2 Move to the right side (or left, depending on preference) and cut from the hairline to the top, middle, or bottom of the crest area as desired by the client. Cut around the ear and into the previously cut back section, cutting up and/or across as the growth pattern allows. Complete cutting the opposite side in the same manner.

### REMINDER

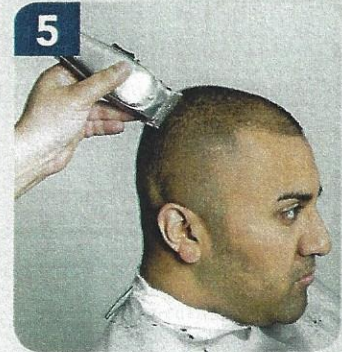
- Cutting against the grain achieves a closer cut than cutting with the grain. Procedure 15-7 shows one method to achieve a close fade cut. Be guided by your instructor for different techniques and fade style variations.



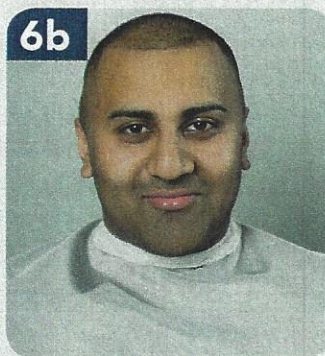
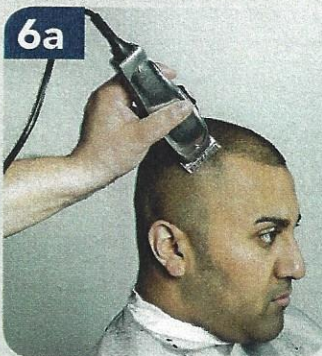


- 3** When the back and sides are completed, open the clipper blades (one-quarter of the way for fine hair; almost one-half for thick hair) and cut a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick section at the point where you previously stopped cutting at the crest. Note the difference in hair length through the parietal ridge in Figure 3. Continue cutting only in this section from the right side, across the back, and into the left side area. Option: You may choose to stop at the center back and cut from the left side to the center back.

- 4** Open the blades another quarter and repeat the procedure in Step 3, cutting another  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick section above the one previously cut. Repeat as necessary.



- 5** Open the blades completely. Starting in the crown area, blend the hair with the grain through the top, then on a slight diagonal into the shorter hair at the crest. Complete this step around the entire head.



- 6** Close the blades slightly and blend from the bottom of the top section into the top of the crest area. Continue to close the blades slightly as you work through the crest, fading it into the side sections. Finish with the trimmer and/or outline shave to define the hairline. The haircut is now complete. Dust or vacuum stray hairs, making sure none remain on the client's face or neck.

#### CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.



# Clipper Cutting—Flat Top and Crew Cut on Model

PROCEDURE 15-8

## MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

## PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



## A. FLAT TOP



- 1 Start on preferred side using a clipper-over-comb technique with a flat top comb and a #1½ blade. Cut from the hairline to the crest. Cut through to back section and repeat on opposite side.

- 2 Move to back and use a #1 blade to taper the hairline. Taper and blend through the back section.

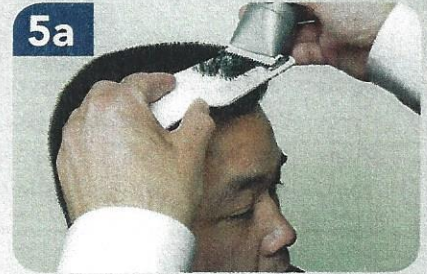




- 3** Work medium-hold gel through the hair in top section and blow-dry the hair up and back from the scalp. The goal is to position the hair to stand straight up from the scalp.



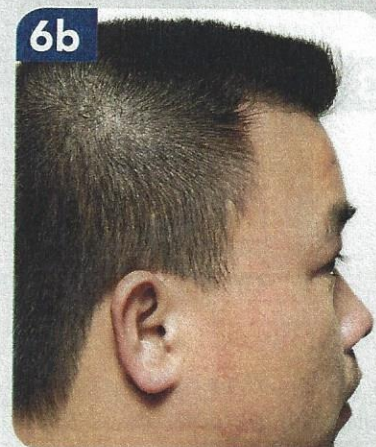
- 4** Stand in back of the model and use a #1 blade to blend and round the corners of the crown area, then establish a guide in the top section. Continue cutting over the top section toward the front using a horizontal comb placement.



- 5** Working from in front of the model, cut and blend the front section from the top section to the top of the crest. The comb placement in this section should be slightly angled (or elevated) from shorter to longer hair. This means the comb will rest closer to the head in the shorter crest areas and farther away from the head in the front section. Use the length of the front guide and the shorter length guide at the crest to determine the angle of comb placement. Repeat on opposite side.



- 6** Re-comb and blow-dry as necessary. Finish with neck or outline shave. The haircut and style are now complete. Dust or vacuum stray hairs, making sure none remain on the client's face or neck. Figures 6a and 6b show the finished cut.



## B. CREW CUT

The crew cut is a shorter and more rounded style than the flat top.

- 1** Using a #  $1\frac{1}{2}$  blade, cut with the grain and angle the comb from the crown to the front. The hair should be cut closer at the crown and gradually longer toward the front. Use the top section as a guide to round out the crest areas.
- 2** Use a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " blade to cut and blend against the grain through the sides and back areas up to the crest.



- 3** Re-comb and finish with neck or outline shave. The haircut and style are now complete. Dust or vacuum stray hairs, making sure none remain on the client's face or neck.

## CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.



# Taper Cut on Curly Hair Texture

PROCEDURE 15-9

## MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS, AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- styling products
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- styling brushes
- shears and blending shears
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hair clips
- blow dryer
- hand mirror

## PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair. Blow-dry hair if dry cutting is preferred.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



- 1** Comb or pick the hair out. Open the clipper blades and freehand clipper cut the nape area from the hairline.



- 2** Use the clipper-over-comb technique to cut and blend through the back section. Depending on the length and density of the hair, do not remove too much hair from the occipital area. Taper cuts are shorter at the perimeter and gradually increase in length to the top section.



- 3** Move to the model's left side and blend the hair behind the ear using a diagonal comb placement.





- 4** Continue tapering around the ear and into the side section. Taper and blend toward crest area. Compare the rounded uncut shape of the model's hair on his right side with the tapered shape of his left side in Figure 4d.



- 5** Repeat tapering and blending steps on the opposite side.





- 6** Pick out or comb through the top section. Blend hair through the top and crest areas. Check work.



- 7** Finish with outliner to clean up hairline. Note tapered nape area in Figure 7a. The taper cut is now complete. Finish with the neck and outline shaving if requested. Dust or vacuum stray hairs from the model's face and neck.

### CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
5. Wash your hands.



The shaved head is one of today's current fashion trends that many men choose regardless of the density or growth pattern of their hair. A head shave should be performed with a changeable-blade or conventional straight razor.

**CAUTION:** Do not adjust outliner blades flush with each other to accomplish this service as doing so may cause serious injury to the client's skin. Excess hair can be removed with clippers using #0000 or balding blades. The following is one method used to perform a head shave.

### MATERIALS, IMPLEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT

- shampoo and haircutting cape
- terry cloth towels
- neck strips
- disposable barber towels
- clipper disinfectant and coolant
- shampoo and conditioner
- shaving cream or gel
- talc
- spray bottle with water
- all-purpose, taper, and flat-top combs, picks, etc.
- clippers and outliners
- straight razor and blades
- hand mirror

### PREPARATION

1. Wash your hands.
2. Conduct model consultation.
3. Drape the model for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair.
5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.

- 1 Examine the scalp for any abrasions, primary or secondary lesions, or scalp disorders.

- 2 Remove excess hair length with the clippers. Use a balding clipper blade if available. Shampoo the remaining hair and reexamine the scalp.

- 3 Apply shaving cream or gel and lather. Next, apply two or three steam towel treatments to soften the remaining hair.

- 4 Start at the back and use a freehand stroke to shave with the grain of the hair from the crown to the nape. Use the opposite hand to stretch the skin taut as needed for each area to be shaved. Follow the curve of the head, taking short strokes with the first half of the blade from its point to midsection.



- 5** Move in front of the client and tip his head forward slightly. Continue shaving from the crown to the front hairline, reapplying lathering agent as needed.

**NOTE:** Keep the skin moist to facilitate shaving.

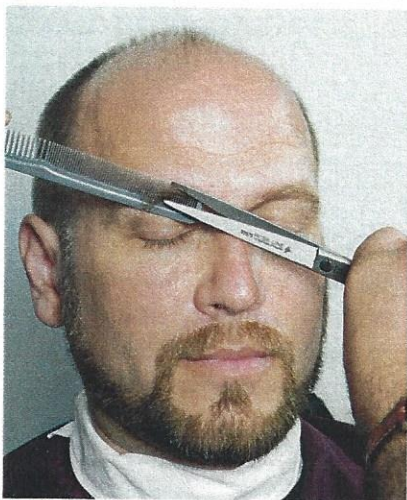
- 6** When the top section is completed, work down the sides. Just below the crest, hold the ear out of the way with the left hand, finish shaving the side, and carefully shave in front of and around the ears.

- 7** Upon completion of the head shave, check for any missed areas. Remove remaining lather with a warm towel, apply witch hazel or toner, and follow with a cool towel application for 2 to 3 minutes.

#### **CLEAN-UP AND DISINFECTION**

1. Wash and disinfect tools and implements.
2. Clean surfaces and chair.
3. Sweep up hair and deposit in closed receptacle.
4. Deposit used blades in a sharps container.
5. Dispose of paper goods and/or linens.
6. Wash your hands.





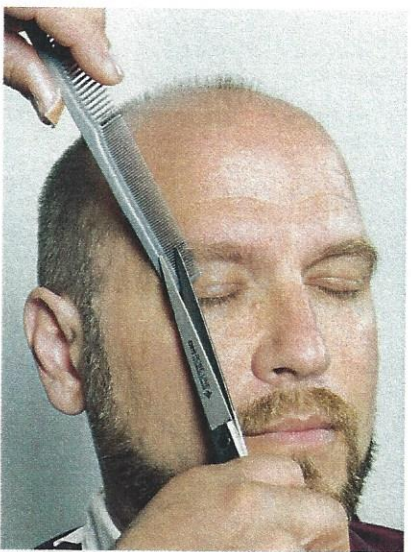
▲ **FIGURE 15-129a**

Using shear-over-comb technique to trim eyebrows.



▲ **FIGURE 15-129b**

Mid-point of eyebrow trim.



▲ **FIGURE 15-129c**

End point of eyebrow trim.

## HAIRCUT FINISH WORK

In addition to neck and outline shaves, two other finishing services traditionally performed in the barbershop include trimming the eyebrows and trimming excess hair from the nostrils and ears. Barbers should always ask their clients if they would like one or all of these finishing services.

### TRIMMING THE EYEBROWS

Eyebrow trimming may require a combination of techniques, depending on the length and density of the brow hair. Shear-over-comb is the most popular but an outliner-over-comb technique can be used as well. Freehand shear cutting is sometimes required to cut individual stray hairs that extend beyond the natural arch of the brow and should be done carefully. Safety and protection of the client's eyes should always be the first consideration when using any technique (**Figures 15-129a to 15-129c**).

### TRIMMING EXCESS NOSTRIL AND EAR HAIR

Outliners with T-shaped blades or nose hair trimmers are the safest tools to use for trimming excess hair from the nostrils. If using a T-bladed trimmer, simply grasp the tip of the nose between your thumb and index finger and gently tilt it up or to the side and position the first few teeth of the blades on a slight diagonal to trim the hairs. Follow the manufacturer's directions for using nose hair trimmers, as there are several different styles available on the market.

Trimming excess hair in or around the ears is also performed with an outliner or trimmer. Some barbers prefer a T-bladed tool because it is easier to maneuver the blades in small tight areas like the ears. Always dust off residual hair in and around the ears after trimming.

## Introduction to Men's Hairstyling

Hairstyling is the art of arranging the hair into an appropriate style following a haircut or shampoo. Today, many haircuts require minimal hairstyling techniques due to the quality of the cuts, current styles, and the availability of effective styling aids such as gels, mousses, and styling sprays. Other haircuts require more styling attention, such as blow-drying or picking the style into place. In this section, the methods discussed for styling men's hair include natural drying, finger styling, scrunch styling, blow-drying, and blow-waving.

### NATURAL DRYING

As the name implies, natural drying is the term used when the hair is left to air-dry naturally. Typically the hair is combed into place or arranged with the fingers and allowed to dry in place. Some men prefer to apply gels, pomades, or other styling products to aid in holding the hair in place while it dries, while others prefer to apply products after the hair is dry. Since it is never a good



idea to let a client leave the barbershop with wet hair, the use of a heat lamp or blow-dryer with a diffuser can speed up the drying process for this natural style.

## FINGER-STYLING

*Finger-styling* may or may not utilize the blow dryer to style the hair. Sometimes the hair is simply styled with the fingers and allowed to dry naturally, much like many clients do at home. When a blow dryer is used, the technique involves lifting, raking, or directing the hair to give it direction as it dries and produces a more textured appearance than brush styling. Diffuser attachments and styling products can also be used with this technique, depending on the texture and density of the hair and the desired outcome (**Figure 15-130**).

## SCRUNCH-STYLING

*Scrunch-styling* is actually a form of finger styling that is typically used on wavy to curly hair patterns with some length to create a tousled look. A diffuser attachment can be used while lifting and squeezing the hair between the fingers. Wavy and curly hair may require the application of a spray gel or a light pomade to reduce the frizzy hair ends that sometimes accompany these hair textures (**Figures 15-131a and b**).

## BLOW-DRY STYLING

**Blow-dry styling** is the technique of drying and styling damp hair in one operation and has revolutionized the hair care industry. While some men may not wish to do more than comb their hair into place and let it dry, the use of a blow-dryer offers some options for speed-drying and special-effects styling, such as blow waving.

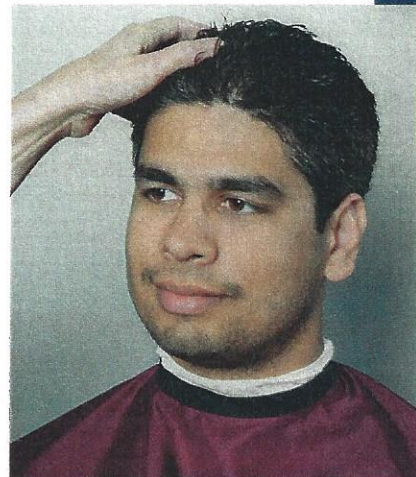
The implements most often used to style men's hair with a blow dryer are combs, picks, and a variety of brushes. Some barbers prefer a narrow brush with wire or hard plastic bristles. Others prefer vent or grooming brushes. In most cases, the texture of the hair and the desired effect will dictate the type of implement to use (**Figures 15-132 and 15-133**).



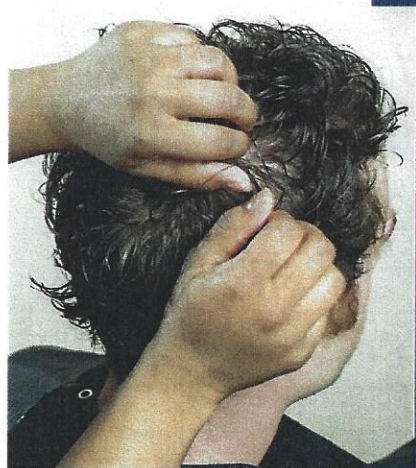
▲ **FIGURE 15-132**  
Combs.



▲ **FIGURE 15-133**  
Brushes.



▲ **FIGURE 15-130**  
Finger styling.



▲ **FIGURE 15-131a**  
Scrunch styling technique.



▲ **FIGURE 15-131b**  
Finished scrunch styling.





▲ **FIGURE 15-134a**

Freeform blowdrying using the fingers.



▲ **FIGURE 15-134b**

Freeform blowdrying using a brush to release hair while drying.

## FOCUS ON...

Keep the air and the hair moving when blow-dry styling to prevent burning the client's scalp.

The blow-drying techniques used in men's hairstyling are freeform, stylized or blow waving, and diffused.

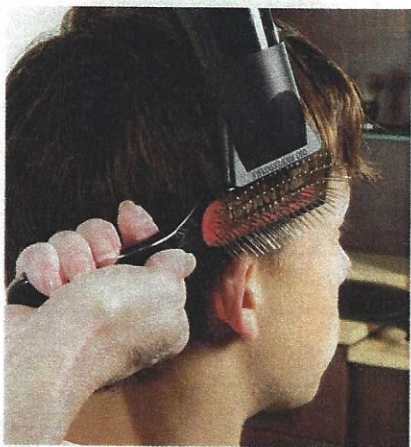
## BLOW-DRYING TECHNIQUES

*Freeform* blow-drying is a quick, easy method of drying the client's hair that is probably most like the techniques men use at home (**Figure 15-134a**).

This technique can build fullness into the style while allowing the hair to fall into the natural lines of the cut (**Figure 15-134b**). Some barbers choose this method for the following reasons:

- It shows the client the ease with which the style can be duplicated.
- It demonstrates the quality of the haircut as the hair falls into place.
- The blow-drying service is accelerated.
- It allows the barber to check the accuracy of the work as the hair falls into place.

*Stylized* blow-drying creates a more finished appearance because each section is dried in a definite direction with the aid of a comb or brush followed by the dryer. Heat makes physical changes in the hair when using the blow dryer in this fashion. The hair will look smoother and more precisely directed overall; this look may be achieved with or without styling products, depending on the texture of the hair (**Figures 15-135a to 15-135c**). When a comb or brush and the blow-dryer are used to create wave patterns and



▲ **FIGURE 15-135a**

Styling the side section with blow dryer and brush.



▲ **FIGURE 15-135b**

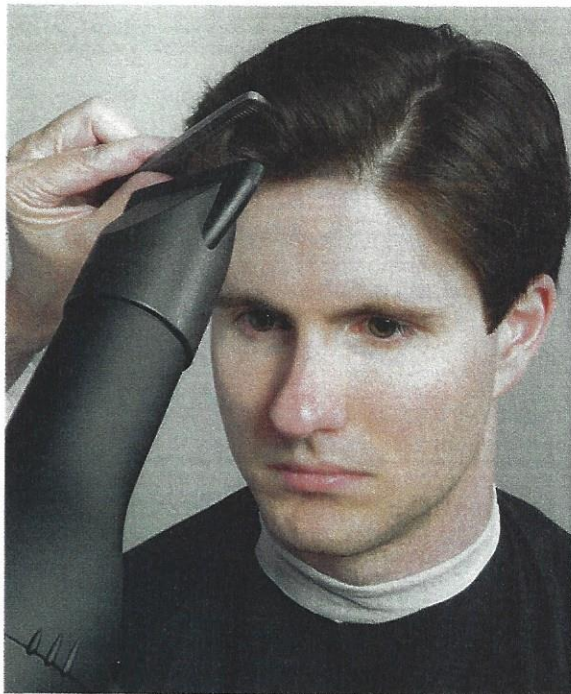
Styling and drying the top section.



▲ **FIGURE 15-135c**

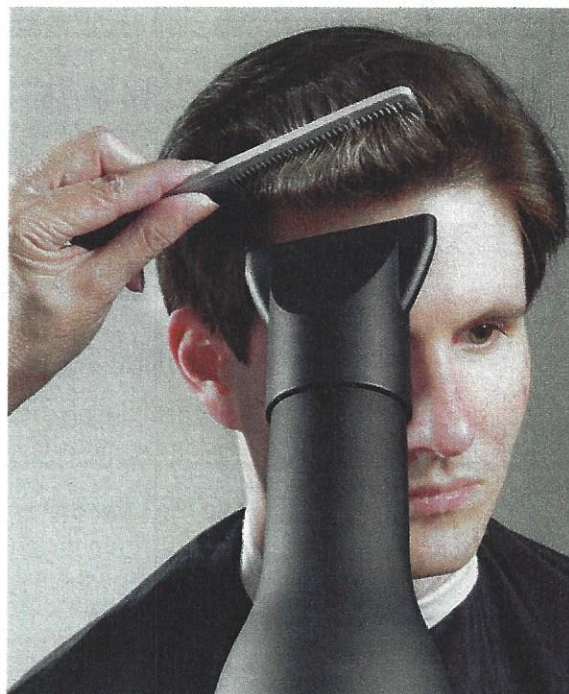
Finish work over the surface of the hairstyle. Follow the brush with the dryer.





▲ **FIGURE 15-136a**

Create a ridge or bend in the hair near the scalp with the comb.



▲ **FIGURE 15-136b**

Set the ridge with heat from the blow dryer.

direction in the hair, the technique is called *blow waving* (Figures 15-136a and 15-136b).

*Diffused* drying is used when the client desires to maintain the natural wave pattern of the hair, as opposed to temporarily straightening it with the blow-dryer and brush. Diffused drying is an effective option to use when arranging or picking out very curly hair textures, manipulating sculpting and styling products, or employing scrunching.

## BUILDING VOLUME

Occasionally extra volume is needed in the crown, crest, or top (apex) areas of a style to create a more proportionate look. To build volume and/or to create an even contour throughout the hairstyle, use the blow-dryer and brush in the following manner:

1. Lift the hair with the brush, bending the section as the blow dryer is directed at the base of the section and followed through to the ends (Refer to Figure 15-135b). Avoid burning the scalp.
2. Follow the same procedure to build fullness on the sides. Use horizontal partings if the hair is to be styled down on the sides and vertical or diagonal partings if the hair will be brushed back.





## OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this session is to learn to manipulate the hair, brush, and blow-dryer for styling purposes.

### Blow Dry Styling on a Mannequin

#### FREE-FORM BLOW-DRYING



▲ FIGURE 15-137

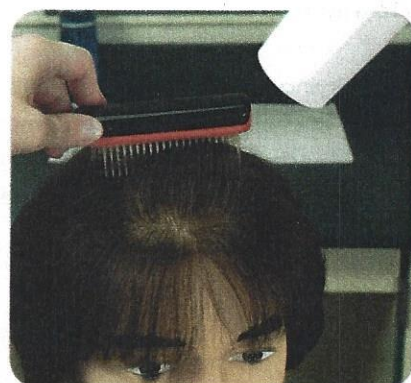
Freeform blow-drying nape and back sections.

- 1 After completing the mannequin haircut performed in Practice Session #4, moisten and comb the hair into the basic style.
- 2 Hold the blow-dryer in the dominant hand. The dryer should be held 6" to 10" from the area being dried at an angle with the nozzle pointing downward on the hair and should be moved briskly from side to side as it dries the hair.
- 3 Beginning at the nape area, hold the hair above the hairline out of the way with a brush or comb in the opposite hand (Figure 15-137). As the hair underneath is dried, the brush or comb releases the next layered section for drying. Comb or brush the hair down after each section is dried.
- 4 Dry the sides in the same manner (Figure 15-138).
- 5 The top should be dried loosely and then brushed in to the desired style, followed by the blow-dryer (Figure 15-139).



▲ FIGURE 15-138

Drying the side section.



▲ FIGURE 15-139

Drying the front section.



▲ FIGURE 15-140

Follow the brush with concentrated heat from the dryer.

- 6 Apply different styling aids such as mousses, gels, and hairsprays to compare and contrast the effects.

#### STYLIZED BLOW-DRYING

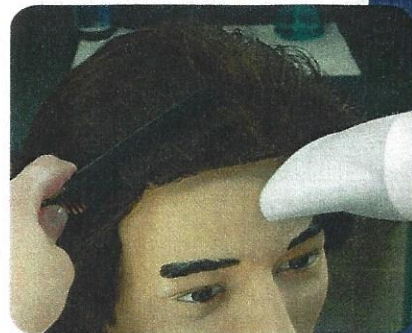
- 1 Remoisten the mannequin hair. Begin in the back section and lift a section of hair with the comb or brush. While combing or brushing through the parting, follow the movement with the dryer to apply a concentrated stream of heated air to the section. Repeat the process until the hair is dry in that section and continue the process with subsequent partings or sections of hair (Figure 15-140).



- 2 Dry the sides in the same manner.
- 3 To create lift or direction in the top section, work from the natural part, parting off a section with the comb or brush. Elevate for desired fullness and follow with the blow dryer. This is actually a form of blow waving because the dryer heat is used to set or give direction to the hair.
- 4 To create a definite direction in the front section, the comb or brush can be used on top of a section of hair along the hairline. Insert the comb/brush about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the hairline, first drawing the comb/brush a little to the back and then toward the hairline in one motion. This will create a ridge or bend in the hair that will set it in a different direction (**Figure 15-141**). Lift the hair for volume (**Figure 15-142**). Adjust the blow-dryer to hot and direct the hot air back and forth until a soft ridge has been formed. Repeat, following these instructions, for subsequent sections in the top and crest areas.
- 5 Apply a suitable styling aid to finish the styling service.

### DIFFUSED BLOW-DRY STYLING

- 1 Use a curly-haired mannequin to practice drying with a diffuser attachment. Moisten the hair in preparation for combing or detangling.
- 2 Pick the hair out into the basic shape of the desired style (**Figure 15-143a**).
- 3 Begin drying in the back section working toward the crown and sides. Gently pick the hair out as the dryer is moved from section to section (**Figure 15-143b**).
- 4 Dry the sides in the same manner.
- 5 Dry the top section forward from the crown, picking the hair out as each area is dried (**Figure 15-143c**).
- 6 Apply a suitable styling aid to complete the styling service.



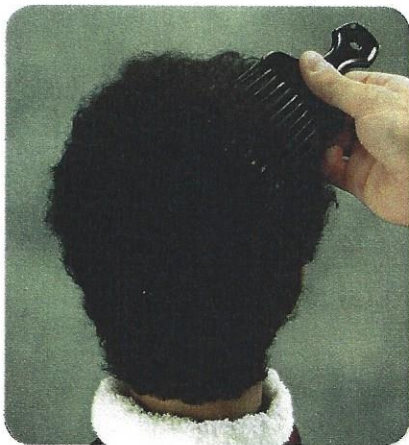
▲ **FIGURE 15-141**

Create a ridge or bend in the hair with the comb.



▲ **FIGURE 15-142**

Lift the hair for volume.



▲ **FIGURE 15-143a**

Pick out the hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-143b**

Begin drying in the back section.



▲ **FIGURE 15-143c**

Dry top section.

✓ **LOG Complete**



## BRAIDS AND LOCKS

The techniques associated with styling the hair into braids and locks is a form of natural hair care that originated in Africa thousands of years ago. Natural hair care has gained such popularity that an entirely new division of the hair care industry has developed. As a recognized professional segment of our industry, natural hair care is an active and exciting division that is currently involved in education, licensing, and legislative changes to meet the needs of its educators, practitioners, and clients.



▲ **FIGURE 15-144**  
Cornrows.

### BRAIDS

While there are many variations of braids and braiding styles, *on-the-scalp cornrows* are one of the most popular styles chosen by men today (**Figure 15-144**). If the client has very short hair, you will be working close to the scalp across the curves of the head. The braid may begin at the nape, top, or sides depending on the desired finished result.

Figures 15-146 to 15-150 illustrate the underhand braiding method used to create cornrows.

### mini PROCEDURE

## CORNROW BRAIDING

- 1 Apply and massage essential oil to the scalp (**Figure 15-145**). Determine the correct size and direction of the cornrow base. Create two parallel partings to form a neat row for the cornrow base (**Figure 15-146**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-145**  
Massage essential oil through hair.



▲ **FIGURE 15-146**  
Part out a panel.

- 2 Divide the parting into three strands. Place fingers close to the base and cross the left strand under the center strand (**Figure 15-147**).

- 3 Cross the right strand under the center strand (**Figure 15-148**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-147**  
Pass left strand of hair under center strand.



▲ **FIGURE 15-148**  
Pass right strand under center strand.

(Continued)



## mini PROCEDURE

- 4** With each crossing under, pick up hair from the base of the panel and add it to the outer strand before crossing it under the center strand (**Figures 15-149** and **15-150**).



▲ **FIGURE 15-149**

Add hair to left outer strand.



▲ **FIGURE 15-150**

Add hair to right outer strand.

- 5** Braid subsequent panels in the same manner. Finish with oil sheen or an appropriate styling aid for a finished look.

## LOCKS

*Locks*, also known as dreadlocks, are created from natural-textured hair that is intertwined together to form a single network of hair.

**Hair-locking** is the process that occurs when coiled hair is allowed to develop in its natural state without the use of combs, heat, or chemicals. The more coil revolutions within a single strand, the faster the hair will coil and lock.

*Cultivated locks* are those that are intentionally guided through the natural process of locking. There are several ways to cultivate locks such as twisting, braiding, and wrapping. The preferred and most effective technique is palm- or finger-rolling, depending on the length of the hair.

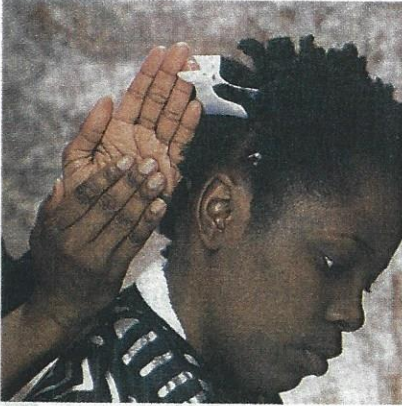
When consulting with the client who is considering locks, it is important to stress the following:

- Once locked, the locks can be removed only by cutting them off.
- The hair locks in progressive stages that can take from six months to a year to complete.
- General maintenance includes regular shop visits for cleaning, conditioning, and re-rolling. Once the hair locks into compacted coils, it may be shampooed regularly and managed with a non-petroleum-based oil. Heavy oils should be avoided.





Two basic methods for locking men's hair, which is traditionally shorter at the beginning of the locking process, are the comb technique and the palm- or finger-rolling method. The procedures are as follows:



▲ **FIGURE 15-151**

Palm rolling.

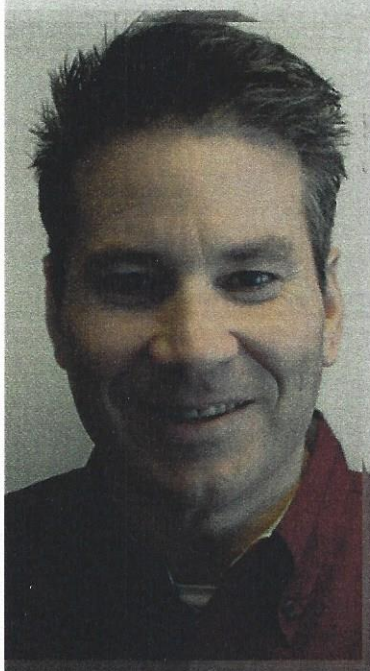
- **Comb technique:** This method is particularly effective during the early stages of locking and involves placing the comb at the base of the scalp and spiraling the hair into a curl with a rotating motion. With each revolution, the comb moves down along the strand until it reaches the end of the hair shaft.
- **Palm- or finger-rolling:** This method takes advantage of the hair's natural tendency and ability to coil. Rolling begins with shampooed and conditioned hair. Next, part the hair in horizontal rows from the nape to the front hairline and divide the rows into equal subsections. Apply gel to the first subsection to be rolled. Begin rolling at the nape by using the index finger and thumb to pinch the hair near the scalp, then twist the strands in one full clockwise revolution. Use the fingers or palms to repeat the clockwise revolutions down the entire strand (**Figure 15-151**). Maintain a constant degree of moisture by spraying with water as needed. Once all the hair has been rolled, place the client under a hood dryer set on low heat. When the hair is completely dry, apply a light oil to add sheen to the hair.

## Safety Precautions for Haircutting and Styling

- Use all tools and implements in a safe manner.
- Use the right tool for the job.
- Always use a neck strip or towel as a barrier between the cape and the client's neck.
- Use smooth movements when raising or lowering chairs and seat backs.
- Properly sanitize, disinfect, and store tools and implements.
- Avoid applying dryer heat in one place on the head for too long.
- Keep metal combs away from the scalp when using heat.
- Keep work area clean and sanitized.
- Sweep the floor after every client and dispose of hair clippings appropriately.

✓ **LO10 Complete**





## DAVE ALBERS, NATIONAL SALES MANAGER

### GRAHAM PROFESSIONAL BEAUTY PRODUCTS

*Dave Albers has been in the industry since 1982 and is currently the national sales manager for Graham Professional Beauty Products. Dave has represented Graham Professional as a committed industry partner at NABBA and professional conferences for many years and is a valued associate of the barbering and beauty industries.*

*Graham Professional Beauty Products, founded in 1955, is a division of Little Rapids Corporation (LRC), a privately held specialty paper company in Green Bay, Wisconsin. It is one of four divisions that also service the medical, dental, and OEM industries with 550 employees and annual sales of 250 million.*

*Graham Beauty's major product lines are Sanek Neck Strips, Barbee Towels, Handsdown Ultra products, Cellucotton, Salon Fit Vinyl Gloves, Spa Essentials, and Wrapit styling products. With over 65 product stock-keeping units, Graham Beauty is dedicated to providing stylist and barbers with a wide range of high-quality, high-performance professional products.*

## THE POWER OF PEACE OF MIND

### CONFIDENT CLIENTS ARE LOYAL CLIENTS

Clients trust you to give them the look they want, but they also trust you with their health and safety. Let them know the lengths you go to meet sanitation standards. It'll do wonders for their peace of mind—and your client retention rate.

The safety and sanitation of barbershop and salon procedures have been getting a lot of media attention lately, and clients are beginning to wonder what measures their stylist takes to ensure a clean salon environment. Taking the time to let your clients know your procedures and precautions makes a big difference, not only in their comfort level but also in their trust in you—and in the barbershop they choose for their next visit.

From haircutting to shaving, sanitation standards affect just about everything that is done in your barbershop. Take advantage of these opportunities to share important safety and sanitation information with your clients.

### THE ISSUE OF LATEX ALLERGIES

An increasing number of people are allergic to natural rubber latex, and the beauty industry has responded by developing disposable synthetic gloves that give you the peace of mind of knowing your client will not have an allergic reaction during a barber treatment.

Let your clients know they have no need to worry about a latex reaction, and assure them that because the gloves you are using are disposable, there is literally no chance of cross-contamination because they are not re-used. If you do happen to use synthetic rubber gloves that can be re-used, explain how you clean and disinfect them after every use to guard against cross-contamination.



## **SANITIZING VS. DISINFECTING VS. STERILIZING**

Some clients may question you about how you “sterilize” your tools because they may not realize that there are important differences between sanitizing, disinfecting, and sterilizing. You can explain that sterilizing requires dry or steam heat, which is impractical in the shop, but that all your tools and implements are first washed (sanitized) and then disinfected before and after use.

## **THE COMFORT OF SINGLE-USE PRODUCTS**

Disposable products offer the highest level of cleaning—and peace of mind—by greatly reducing the likelihood of cross-contamination, simply because they are used only once. When you use them, let your clients know the added safety benefits.

For example, point out that disposable neck strips not only protect skin from being irritated by capes but also act as a germ barrier. Mention to clients how disposable towels protect their skin and hair from irritants and contaminants.

## **SHOW OFF YOUR LICENSE**

Display your up-to-date license proudly where it is easily visible to your clients. Not only do the barber laws in most states require this, but displaying your credentials are always a good way of building client confidence and loyalty.

Your clients expect the highest standards of safety and sanitation from your salon. That is the promise of a professional barber. By going the extra mile to ensure that your safety practices are communicated to your clients, you reinforce this promise. At the same time, you achieve a barber stylist’s ultimate goal—an amazing barbershop experience for your clients.



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Rating: \_\_\_\_\_

Text Pages 390–483

## Chapter 15: Men's Haircutting and Styling

### Word Review

angle	freehand clipper cutting	reference points
arching technique	freehand shear cutting	rolling the comb out
blow-dry styling	freehand slicing	shear-over-comb
clipper-over-comb	guide	shear-point tapering
crest	hairlocking	stationary guide
crown	horizontal	tapered
cutting above the fingers	layers	tension
cutting below the fingers	outlining	texturizing
design line	over-direction	thinning
diagonal	parietal ridge	traveling guide
elevation	parting	vertical
envisioning	projection	weight line
facial shapes	razor rotation	
fingers-and-shear	razor-over-comb	

### TOPIC 1: Introduction

The art of haircutting involves individualized and precise designing, cutting, and shaping of the hair. In order to perform the art of haircutting successfully, barbers must be at ease using a variety of tools, implements, techniques, and methods.

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ is the foundation of a good \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A haircut and style should \_\_\_\_\_ the client's strong features and \_\_\_\_\_ the weaker ones.
3. The client's wishes, \_\_\_\_\_, lifestyle, \_\_\_\_\_, facial contour, \_\_\_\_\_, neckline, and hair \_\_\_\_\_ are all factors that must be considered when designing the haircut and style.

### TOPIC 2: Client Consultation

1. A client \_\_\_\_\_ helps to eliminate guesswork about the haircut or style.
2. List some basic questions that barbers might ask a client before beginning a haircut.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is envisioning? \_\_\_\_\_



### TOPIC 3: Basic Principles of Haircutting and Styling

1. Every haircut is a representation and \_\_\_\_\_ of the barber's work.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is defined as the artistic cutting and dressing of hair to best fit the client's physical needs and personality.
3. Facial shapes are determined by the position and prominence of the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The seven general facial shapes are:
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Fill in the blanks to match the characteristic with the correct facial shape listed in question 4.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_ face shape needs to be shortened
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ goal is to slim the face
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_ shape is narrow at the top, wide at the bottom
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ considered the ideal face shape
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_ over-wide cheekbones and narrow jaw line
  - f) \_\_\_\_\_ needs filling out at the temples and chin
  - g) \_\_\_\_\_ goal is to minimize angular features at the forehead
6. The shape of the \_\_\_\_\_ influences the profile, and the \_\_\_\_\_ can influence the appropriateness of a haircut or style.
7. Review the following characteristics of profiles and nose shapes, then fill in the blank with the correct type.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_ profiles that are usually the most balanced
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ profiles that require minimizing the bulge of the forehead
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_ examples include a hooked nose, large nose, or pointed nose
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ profiles that require concealment of a short, receding forehead
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_ size and/or heavy features are not an issue for this nose shape
  - f) \_\_\_\_\_ profiles that need balance at the forehead to offset a chin that juts forward
  - g) \_\_\_\_\_ minimizes a receding chin.

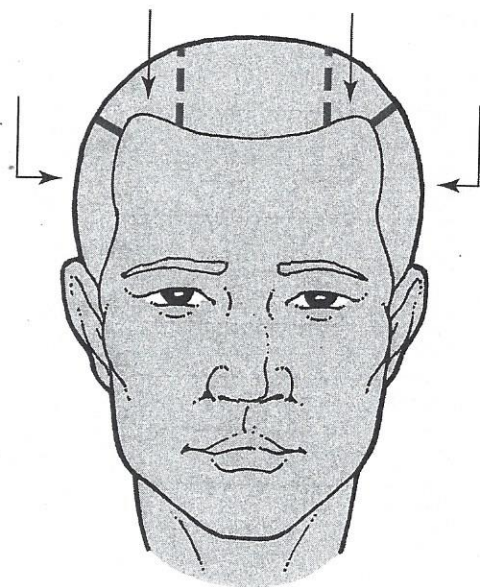
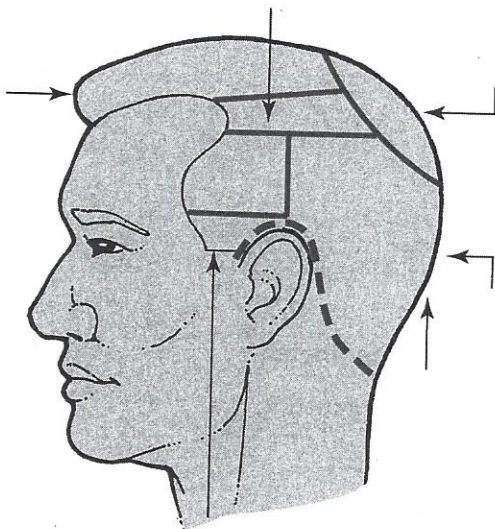


8. Long necks are minimized when the hair is left \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Short necks can look longer with a \_\_\_\_\_ neckline.

#### TOPIC 4: Fundamentals of Haircutting

1. The fundamental principles of haircutting include the \_\_\_\_\_, basic \_\_\_\_\_ used in haircutting, and haircutting \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Why does hair respond differently in different areas of the head? \_\_\_\_\_
3. The sections of the head include the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The temporal section is part of the \_\_\_\_\_; it is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ region of the head.
5. What are reference points? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Review the following descriptions, then match them with the correct section of the head. Choices may be used more than once.
 

_____ protrudes at the base of the skull	a) parietal ridge
_____ also known as the crest	b) occipital bone
_____ begins where the head curves away from the nape	c) apex
_____ also known as the horseshoe or hatband area	
_____ highest point on the top of the head	
_____ widest section of the head	
_____ transition area from the top to the front, sides, and back	
7. Label the sections of the head in the following figures.





8. The three types of straight lines used in haircutting are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ lines.
9. Review the following descriptions and characteristics of lines, then fill in the blank with the correct type of line. Answers may be used more than once.
- a) \_\_\_\_\_ lines that are perpendicular to the floor
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ lines that are parallel to the horizon
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_ lines that have a slanted direction
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ lines that direct the eye up and down
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_ cutting lines that build weight
  - f) \_\_\_\_\_ used to remove weight within the cut
  - g) \_\_\_\_\_ used to create sloped lines at the perimeter
  - h) \_\_\_\_\_ used to create a one-length look
  - i) \_\_\_\_\_ used to create a blunt cut
  - j) \_\_\_\_\_ allows projection of the hair at higher elevations
  - k) \_\_\_\_\_ used to create layers within a cut
  - l) \_\_\_\_\_ may refer to finger placement when stacking at the perimeter
10. Angles can refer to the \_\_\_\_\_ at which the hair is held for cutting or to the \_\_\_\_\_ when cutting a section of hair.
11. The angle or degree at which a section of hair is held from the head for cutting, relative to where it grows, is called \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Elevation is also known as \_\_\_\_\_; it is the result of lifting the hair section above \_\_\_\_\_ and is usually described in terms of \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Review the following descriptions and identify them as being characteristic of 0 elevation, 45 degrees, or 90 degrees.
- a) \_\_\_\_\_ medium elevation
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ high elevation
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_ low elevation
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ requires a traveling guide
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_ produces weight at the perimeter
  - f) \_\_\_\_\_ creates layered ends or stacking
  - g) \_\_\_\_\_ produces maximum length at the perimeter
  - h) \_\_\_\_\_ common elevation used in men's haircutting
  - i) \_\_\_\_\_ used to achieve the standard blunt cut



- j) \_\_\_\_\_ hair is held straight out from where it grows
  - k) \_\_\_\_\_ hair is held straight down in natural fall
  - l) \_\_\_\_\_ also known as graduation
  - m) \_\_\_\_\_ produces layered, tapered, and blended effects
  - n) \_\_\_\_\_ used to create uniform or tapered layers
14. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a smaller section of hair parted off from a larger section or subsection.
  15. The outer perimeter line of the haircut is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
  16. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a cut that is made so that subsequent sections of hair can be measured and cut.
  17. Guides are either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
  18. The type of guide that is used to maintain length in one section while subsequent partings are brought to it for cutting is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
  19. A \_\_\_\_\_ moves along a section of hair and makes use of the previous guide to cut a subsequent parting of hair.
  20. Layers are produced by cutting the hair at elevations higher than \_\_\_\_\_.
  21. When the hair conforms to the shape of the head and is shorter at the nape and longer in the top area, it is considered to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  22. A \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the heaviest perimeter area of a 0-elevation or 45-degree cut.
  23. Creating special, wispy, or spiky effects within a haircut are forms of \_\_\_\_\_.
  24. \_\_\_\_\_ is the amount of pressure applied while combing and holding a section of hair for cutting.
  25. Removing excess bulk from the hair is called \_\_\_\_\_.
  26. \_\_\_\_\_ is the marking or finishing of the outer perimeter of a haircut along the hairline.
  27. A length increase in the design can be achieved if the hair is \_\_\_\_\_.
  28. Arranging the hair in a particular style that is appropriately suited to the cut is called \_\_\_\_\_.
  29. Hairstyle trends tend to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  30. Barbers should become proficient in the \_\_\_\_\_ in order to adapt to whatever the current trend may be.



## TOPIC 5: Haircutting Techniques

1. List the cutting techniques used in barbering.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_
  - f) \_\_\_\_\_
  - g) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Almost every haircutting procedure requires a combination of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. List the three basic methods for using the fingers-and-shear technique.
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. When cutting on top of the fingers to create layers in the top section of a haircut, the fingers and shear are positioned \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to the parting.
5. When cutting on top of the fingers to create layers in the side section of a haircut, the fingers and shear are positioned \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to the floor and parallel to the parting.
6. When cutting below the fingers to create a design line in the nape section, the fingers and shears are positioned \_\_\_\_\_.
7. When the process of rolling the comb out is used to position the hair to be cut, the technique being used is the \_\_\_\_\_ technique.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ technique is helpful when tapering in the nape, behind-the-ear, around-the-ear, and sideburn areas of a cut.
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ blade of the shears and the \_\_\_\_\_ should be aligned when cutting with the shear-over-comb technique.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ cutting can be used to trim stray hairs from a hair design.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ tapering is useful for thinning out difficult areas of the hair caused by hollows, wrinkles, whorls, and creases in the scalp.
12. The method of marking the outer border of the haircut along the curved areas of the hairline at the bottom of the sideburn, in front of the ears, over the ears, and down the sides of the neck is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Always protect the client's \_\_\_\_\_ when performing the \_\_\_\_\_ technique.



14. As a general rule, clipper cutting is followed up with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ work to fine-tune the haircut.
15. Cutting the hair in the opposite direction from which it grows is called cutting \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Cutting \_\_\_\_\_ means cutting is performed in the same direction in which the hair grows.
17. When the hair is not cut with or against the grain, it is called cutting \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Cutting the hair in a \_\_\_\_\_ direction with the grain is advisable in whorl areas.
19. Arching can be performed with shears, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or a razor.
20. Provide two reasons why is it important to consistently use the comb or hair pick while using the freehand clipper cutting technique. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
21. A detachable clipper blade size 0000 cuts the hair close to \_\_\_\_\_ length.
22. A size 3½ clipper blade will leave the hair about \_\_\_\_\_ long.
23. Clipper attachment combs, or \_\_\_\_\_, are placed on top of a \_\_\_\_\_ and allow more hair length to remain while cutting.
24. Guards are generally \_\_\_\_\_ for state board practical examinations.
25. The clipper-over-comb cutting method is similar to the \_\_\_\_\_ technique.
26. Freehand clipper cutting, \_\_\_\_\_ work, and \_\_\_\_\_ work are frequently used to perform a single haircut.
27. For a gradual, even taper from shorter to longer hair, gradually tilt the clipper blade so that the clipper \_\_\_\_\_ of the bottom blade.
28. Match the following haircut descriptions or characteristics with the correct haircut style. Choices may be used more than once.
 

_____ crest area looks squared off	a) flat top
_____ even cut over the entire head	b) crew cut
_____ very short on the sides and back areas	c) Quo Vadis
_____ also known as short pomp or brush cut	
_____ three variations: short, medium, and long	
_____ crown area is cut to between ¼" and ½" in length	
_____ cut relatively high to the bottom of the crest area	
_____ hair is uniformly cut close to the scalp	
_____ crest has a slight curvature	
_____ hair is cut with the grain to avoid gaps	



29. The primary \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ areas of haircut styles are classified as long cuts and trims, medium lengths, semi-short lengths, and short cuts.
30. A haircut in which the hair at the nape and sides is cut extremely close, blending to nothing at the hairline, is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
31. Gradually blending the fine clipper taper of a fade with the longer taper sections can be achieved by cutting with and \_\_\_\_\_ the grain as necessary.
32. Every effort should be made to make sure that the sideburns appear even in \_\_\_\_\_.
33. How should the length of the sideburns be checked? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
34. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the sideburns should be checked and trimmed so that they are complimentary to the facial shape and \_\_\_\_\_.
35. Razor cutting is especially suitable for \_\_\_\_\_, shortening, tapering, \_\_\_\_\_, or feathering specific areas.
36. Razor cutting can help make \_\_\_\_\_ hair textures more \_\_\_\_\_.
37. When razor cutting, the hair should always be in a clean and \_\_\_\_\_ condition.
38. The arm movement used in razor stroking and combing is done with \_\_\_\_\_ and the elbows are used as a hinge; \_\_\_\_\_ and arm movements can also be used.
39. In light taper-blending, the razor is held \_\_\_\_\_ against the surface of the hair with little pressure.
40. Heavier taper-blending is performed with the razor held up to \_\_\_\_\_ from the surface of the hair strand with a little more pressure.
41. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the razor and the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ determines the depth of the cut.
42. When the angle of the razor blade is almost \_\_\_\_\_, it is called terminal blending, hair-end tapering, or blunt cutting.
43. Razor stroking and combing are done in a \_\_\_\_\_ movement with one action following the other.
44. Which hair type requires more strokes and heavier tapering than other textures?  
\_\_\_\_\_
45. Medium textured hair requires \_\_\_\_\_ razor strokes and \_\_\_\_\_ pressure than coarse, thick hair.
46. The razor can be used to blend the hair ends of \_\_\_\_\_ hair textures.
47. Gently stroking the razor to remove a thin sheet of hair from the section will taper the ends of the hair and \_\_\_\_\_.



48. When freehand slicing is used to cut the design line, it helps to create \_\_\_\_\_ perimeters.
49. Short, precise strokes with medium pressure applied to the hair surface are characteristics of the \_\_\_\_\_ technique.
50. When the comb and razor alternately follow each other through the hair, the technique is called \_\_\_\_\_.
51. Sectioning the hair for a razor cut begins with combing the hair into the \_\_\_\_\_ effect.
52. List five razor cutting safety precautions in your own words.
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
53. Hair \_\_\_\_\_ is used to reduce the bulk or weight of the hair.

#### TOPIC 6: Shaving the Outline Areas

1. Haircutting finish work may include a \_\_\_\_\_ and an \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Shaving the sides of the neck and across the nape with a razor is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. An \_\_\_\_\_ consists of the sideburn areas, around the ears, and the nape area.
4. Many African American styles include the \_\_\_\_\_ in the outline shave.
5. Fill in the blanks where necessary to complete the preparation and performance steps of an outline shave.
  1. Wash your hands.
  2. Remove all cut hair from the client.
  3. Loosen the chair cloth and remove the \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. Shake the chair cloth free of hair clippings.
  5. Replace the chair cloth and a \_\_\_\_\_ around the client's neck, loosely.
  6. Place a neckstrip or towel in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the chair cloth.



7. Apply shaving cream around the hairline.
8. Shave the right sideburn and side with the \_\_\_\_\_ stroke.
9. Shave the left sideburn with the \_\_\_\_\_ stroke.
10. Shave around the left ear using the \_\_\_\_\_ stroke.
11. Shave the left side of the neck using the \_\_\_\_\_ stroke.
12. Shave the nape area with a \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Shave the front hairline if requested by client; start in the \_\_\_\_\_ and work towards the corners using a \_\_\_\_\_ stroke to the right side and a \_\_\_\_\_ stroke to the left side. Shave along the \_\_\_\_\_ to the front corner of the sideburns.

### TOPIC 7: Haircutting Procedures

1. Fingers-and-shear precision cut: Fill in the blanks as necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.
  1. Wash your hands.
  2. Consult with the client.
  3. Drape for \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ and towel dry hair.
  5. Drape for \_\_\_\_\_.
  6. Face client toward the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the chair.
  7. Cut top section from crown to front at \_\_\_\_\_ degrees using a traveling guide.
  8. Step to the side and hold top section at 90 degrees; establish \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_; check top section at \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
  9. Comb front down and establish front \_\_\_\_\_.
  10. Use front design line to cut from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  11. Establish \_\_\_\_\_ on both sides, then cut subsequent partings to \_\_\_\_\_.
  12. Take \_\_\_\_\_ partings on sides and hold at \_\_\_\_\_ degrees; cut from design line and blend to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ sections.
  13. Establish \_\_\_\_\_ design line; connect nape design line to \_\_\_\_\_ design line; cut subsequent parting to perimeter guide.
  14. Use \_\_\_\_\_ partings held at 90 degrees in the back area to blend from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ areas.
  15. Blend \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ section using vertical partings at 90 degrees.



16. Dry the hair and comb into place.
  17. Clean up hairline with \_\_\_\_\_ or trimmer; perform a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ shave as desired by client.
  18. Re-comb hair and \_\_\_\_\_ according to client's wishes.
  19. \_\_\_\_\_ or vacuum stray hairs.
2. What is the primary difference between the fingers-and-shear technique and the alternative fingers-and-shear technique? \_\_\_\_\_
- 
3. Shear-over-comb technique: Fill in the blanks as necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.
1. Wash your hands.
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Drape for wet service.
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ and towel dry hair. \_\_\_\_\_ hair if dry-cutting is preferred.
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ for haircut.
  6. Face client toward the mirror; lock the chair.
  7. Comb the hair and use \_\_\_\_\_ technique to cut in the \_\_\_\_\_ area, trimming hair to the desired length and thickness up to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  8. Cut from the sideburn \_\_\_\_\_ into the side section on the right side.
  9. Cut \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the right ear.
  10. Use a \_\_\_\_\_ comb position to blend hair \_\_\_\_\_ to the right corner of the nape.
  11. Blend hair at the side of the neck into the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
  12. Repeat on \_\_\_\_\_ side.
  13. Blend hair from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  14. Blend hair from the \_\_\_\_\_ through the right and left \_\_\_\_\_ areas into the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
  15. Trim \_\_\_\_\_ to appropriate length.
  16. Outline \_\_\_\_\_, around the ear, and behind-the-ear areas with \_\_\_\_\_, followed by the \_\_\_\_\_.
  17. Finish haircut with a \_\_\_\_\_ and/or outline \_\_\_\_\_ as desired by client.
  18. Style the hair as desired.
  19. Dust or vacuum stray hairs on the client's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.



4. Freehand and clipper-over-comb technique on straight hair: Fill in the blanks as necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.

1. Wash your hands.
2. Consult with the client.
3. Drape the model for a \_\_\_\_\_ service.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ and towel dry hair. \_\_\_\_\_ hair if dry cutting is preferred.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ for haircut.
6. Face client toward the mirror and lock the chair.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ the hair; start in the \_\_\_\_\_ area and \_\_\_\_\_ the first inch or so of hair.
8. Use \_\_\_\_\_ cutting to the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ areas.
9. Establish the length of the \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ side; begin clipper-over-comb cutting from the sideburn \_\_\_\_\_ into the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
10. Continue technique \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_ of the right ear.
11. Use a \_\_\_\_\_ comb position to \_\_\_\_\_ the hair behind the ear to the right \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ along the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Blend hair on the right side of the \_\_\_\_\_ into the back section.
13. Repeat steps used on the right side on the left side.
14. Blend hair from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Blend hair from the \_\_\_\_\_ through the right and left \_\_\_\_\_ areas to meet the \_\_\_\_\_ sections.
16. Trim \_\_\_\_\_ section using \_\_\_\_\_ method and cut to desired length; check \_\_\_\_\_ and fine-tune using fingers-and-shear method.
17. Outline sideburns, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ areas with \_\_\_\_\_ and then trimmer.
18. Complete \_\_\_\_\_ work by performing a neck shave after outlining the bottom of the sideburn and around-the-ear areas with a \_\_\_\_\_.
19. Style the hair as desired, then dust or vacuum stray hairs.

5. Freehand and clipper-over-comb technique on tightly curled hair: Fill in the blanks as necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.

1. Wash your hands.
2. Consult with the client.
3. Drape for wet service.
4. Shampoo and towel dry hair. Blow-dry hair if dry cutting is preferred.
5. Drape for haircut.



6. Face client toward the mirror and lock the chair.
  7. Comb or \_\_\_\_\_ the hair out.
  8. Start in \_\_\_\_\_ area; \_\_\_\_\_ taper or clipper-over-comb \_\_\_\_\_ the first inch or so of hair. If hair density allows, use \_\_\_\_\_ cutting to the occipital area. If the hair is \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ clipper cut to the \_\_\_\_\_ area.
  9. Cut in right side using freehand or clipper-over-comb technique to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  10. Continue technique \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_ of the right ear.
  11. Use a diagonal comb position to blend the hair \_\_\_\_\_ to the hair at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ along the \_\_\_\_\_; or, \_\_\_\_\_ the entire section.
  12. Blend hair at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the neck into the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
  13. Move to \_\_\_\_\_ side and begin \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ cutting from the sideburn hairline to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  14. Continue technique \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ ear.
  15. \_\_\_\_\_ the hair behind the ear to the hair at the left \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ along the \_\_\_\_\_.
  16. Blend hair at the side of the neck into the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
  17. Establish guide in front \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ section; cut back to \_\_\_\_\_ area.
  18. Blend \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ guide around the entire head.
  19. Blend \_\_\_\_\_ area to \_\_\_\_\_; check the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
  20. Comb or pick hair out; fine-tune with \_\_\_\_\_.
  21. Outline sideburns, around the ear, and back of the ear areas with \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
  22. Finish with neck and \_\_\_\_\_ shaving as requested by client.
  23. Style the hair as desired, then dust or vacuum stray hairs from client's face and neck.
6. Razor cutting: Fill in the blanks as necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.
1. Wash your hands.
  2. Consult with the client.
  3. Drape the model for wet service.
  4. Shampoo and towel-dry hair.
  5. Remove the waterproof cape and replace it with a neckstrip and haircutting cape.
  6. Face model toward the mirror and lock the chair.



7. Section hair into \_\_\_\_\_ sections from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_; subdivide the \_\_\_\_\_ section into \_\_\_\_\_ subsections.
  8. Begin in the \_\_\_\_\_ section just below the \_\_\_\_\_; use razor \_\_\_\_\_ to taper \_\_\_\_\_ to the hairline; blend with previously cut hair.
  9. Taper from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ section and the \_\_\_\_\_ section to blend with the \_\_\_\_\_ hair.
  10. Repeat procedure from top \_\_\_\_\_ side toward \_\_\_\_\_ side.
  11. Comb side hair downward and subdivide it into \_\_\_\_\_ vertical partings. Begin tapering about \_\_\_\_\_" of an inch from the \_\_\_\_\_; taper downward through sections to \_\_\_\_\_. Comb hair \_\_\_\_\_ and taper to \_\_\_\_\_ with the back section; comb hair \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat blending to front design line.
  12. Repeat procedure on \_\_\_\_\_ side of head.
  13. Comb top hair \_\_\_\_\_; start tapering in top section; work toward the \_\_\_\_\_ on both sides of center, then taper the \_\_\_\_\_ section to blend all three sections; trim front section at \_\_\_\_\_ elevation using the \_\_\_\_\_ technique.
  14. Comb to check for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  15. Perform neck \_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_ shave as desired by client.
  16. Style the hair as desired by client; dust or vacuum stray hairs.
7. Fade cut: Fill in the blanks as necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.
1. Wash your hands.
  2. Conduct client consultation.
  3. Drape the client for wet service.
  4. Shampoo and towel dry hair.
  5. Remove waterproof cape; replace with a \_\_\_\_\_ and haircutting cape.
  6. Face client toward the mirror and lock the chair.
  7. Set the clipper blade in the \_\_\_\_\_ position to achieve a close cut. Start at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the nape, cutting to the bottom of the \_\_\_\_\_. Cut right and left of center through the \_\_\_\_\_ section.
  8. Move to either \_\_\_\_\_ of the client as preferred and cut from the hairline to the top, middle, or \_\_\_\_\_ of the crest area as desired by the client. Cut around the ear and into the previously cut \_\_\_\_\_ section, cutting up and/or \_\_\_\_\_ the growth pattern. Complete opposite side in the same manner.



9. With the back and sides completed, open the clipper blades \_\_\_\_\_ of the way for fine hair or almost \_\_\_\_\_ for thick hair. Cut a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick section at the point where previous cutting was \_\_\_\_\_ at the crest. Continue cutting this section around the head.
  10. Open the blades another \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat the procedure cutting another  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick section above the one previously cut. Repeat as necessary.
  11. Open the blades completely. Starting in the \_\_\_\_\_ area, blend the hair \_\_\_\_\_ the grain through the top and on a slight \_\_\_\_\_ into the shorter hair at the crest. Complete this step around the entire head.
  12. Finish with the trimmer and/or outline shave to define the hairline.
  13. Dust or vacuum stray hairs.
8. Head shaving: Fill in the blanks where necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.
1. \_\_\_\_\_ the scalp for any abrasions, primary or secondary lesions, or scalp disorders.
  2. Remove excess hair length with \_\_\_\_\_; use \_\_\_\_\_ clipper blade if available.
  3. Shampoo the remaining hair and \_\_\_\_\_ the scalp.
  4. Apply shaving cream or gel and lather; apply two or three \_\_\_\_\_ treatments.
  5. Use the \_\_\_\_\_ stroke to shave \_\_\_\_\_ the grain from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ in the back section; follow the curve of the head, using \_\_\_\_\_ strokes with the first half of the blade from its \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
  6. Move in \_\_\_\_\_ of client and tip his head \_\_\_\_\_ slightly; continue shaving from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ hairline.
  7. When the top section is completed, work down the \_\_\_\_\_; hold the \_\_\_\_\_ out of the way and shave in front of and \_\_\_\_\_ the ears.
  8. Upon completion, check for any \_\_\_\_\_ areas.
  9. Remove remaining lather with a \_\_\_\_\_, apply \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, and follow with a \_\_\_\_\_ towel application for 2 to 3 minutes.
9. Haircutting finish work may include trimming excess hair from the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### TOPIC 8: Men's Hairstyling

1. Hair styling is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Styling the hair may require the use of \_\_\_\_\_, blow-drying, or \_\_\_\_\_ the style into place.



3. Blow-drying offers options for \_\_\_\_\_ drying and \_\_\_\_\_ styling.
4. The nozzle is a directional feature that helps to \_\_\_\_\_ the air stream to a more \_\_\_\_\_ area.
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ attachment disperses the airflow to a larger area while allowing heat for drying purposes.
6. The methods used to style men's hair include natural drying, \_\_\_\_\_ styling, scrunch styling, \_\_\_\_\_, and blow-waving.
7. Freeform blow-drying can build \_\_\_\_\_ while allowing the hair to fall into the \_\_\_\_\_ lines of the cut.
8. Each section is dried in a definite direction with the aid of a comb or brush when using \_\_\_\_\_ blow-drying techniques. \_\_\_\_\_ is a form of stylized blow-drying.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ drying is used when the natural wave pattern of the hair is to be maintained.
10. To build volume, \_\_\_\_\_ the hair with a brush and \_\_\_\_\_ the section as the blow-dryer is directed at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the section. Follow through to the \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Styling techniques such as braids and locks are a form of \_\_\_\_\_ hair care.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ are one of the most popular braiding techniques chosen by men; fill in the blanks where necessary to complete the primary preparation and performance steps of this technique.
  1. Apply and massage essential \_\_\_\_\_ to the scalp.
  2. Determine the correct size and \_\_\_\_\_ of the cornrow \_\_\_\_\_; create two \_\_\_\_\_ partings to form a row for the base.
  3. Divide the parting into \_\_\_\_\_ strands; place fingers close to the base and cross the left strand under the center strand.
  4. Cross the right strand under the center strand.
  5. With each crossing-under, pick up hair from the base of the \_\_\_\_\_ and add it to the \_\_\_\_\_ strand before crossing it under the center strand.
  6. Braid subsequent panels in the same manner.
  7. Finish with oil sheen or an appropriate styling aid.
13. Locks are also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Locks are created from \_\_\_\_\_-textured hair that is \_\_\_\_\_ together to form a single network of hair.
15. The process that occurs when coiled hair is allowed to develop in its natural state is called \_\_\_\_\_.



16. The term used to define hair that is intentionally guided through the natural process of locking is \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Some methods that are used to cultivate locks are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
18. The most effective techniques for cultivating locks are \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ rolling.
19. What important considerations should be discussed with a client who is considering locks?
- a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
20. Fill in the blanks to complete the comb and rolling techniques used in locking the hair.
- a) The \_\_\_\_\_ technique is effective during the \_\_\_\_\_ stages of locking; it involves placing the comb at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the scalp and spiraling the hair into a curl with a \_\_\_\_\_ motion; with each revolution, the comb moves down along the \_\_\_\_\_ until it reaches the ends.
  - b) Palm or finger rolling begins with \_\_\_\_\_ and conditioned hair; the hair is parted in horizontal rows from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ hairline and divided into \_\_\_\_\_ subsections; gel is applied to the first subsection. Rolling begins at the \_\_\_\_\_ by using the index finger and thumb to pinch the hair near the scalp; then the strands are twisted in one full \_\_\_\_\_ revolution down the entire strand; after rolling, the hair is dried under a \_\_\_\_\_ on low heat; when the hair is completely dry, light oil is applied.
21. List nine safety precautions that should be used during haircutting and styling procedures:
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 6. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 8. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9. \_\_\_\_\_