

# The City & Guilds textbook

SAMPLE MATERIAL

Level 2

# Hairdressing and Barbering

FOR THE TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES

■ Keryl Titmus





# **Contents**

	About the author Introduction to the Level 2 Technical Certificates in Hairdressing and Barbering How to use this book Acknowledgements Foreword	v vi xii xiv 1
Chapter 1:	Unit 201 Principles and practices of hairdressing and barbering services  Work safely in the salon/barbershop Legislation relevant to hairdressing and barbering Environmental and sustainable working practices Preparation for services Consumer and employee legislation Hair, skin and scalp analysis Communication techniques and expected behaviours Advise clients and make recommendations throughout the service	3 4 12 23 31 32 34 49 64
Chapter 2:	Unit 202 Shampoo, condition and treat the hair and scalp Prepare to shampoo and condition hair Shampoo and condition hair Step by step	<b>77</b> 78 93 103
Chapter 3:	Unit 203 Cut hair using basic techniques Prepare to cut hair Consult with clients and analyse hair Select tools and equipment Cut hair to achieve a variety of looks Step by step	111 112 114 125 129 136
Chapter 4:	Unit 208 Cut hair using basic barbering techniques Prepare to cut men's hair Prepare self, client and work area Consult with clients and analyse hair Select tools and equipment Prepare hair prior to cutting Cut men's hair to achieve a variety of looks Provide aftercare advice and recommendations Step by step	147 148 148 150 158 164 165 174
Chapter 5:	Unit 204 Style, set and dress hair  Prepare for styling and finishing hair  Scientific effects of drying services  Select products, tools and equipment  Style, set and dress hair to achieve a variety of looks  Set hair using different techniques  Dress and put hair up using different techniques  Aftercare, advice and recommendations  Step by step	193 194 209 213 222 226 232 232 234

Chapter 6: Unit 209 Dry and finish men's hair  Prepare to dry and finish men's hair  Dry and finish men's hair to achieve a variety of looks  Step by step	<b>251</b> 252 268 271
Chapter 7: Unit 205 Colour and lighten hair Prepare to colour and lighten Colour and lighten hair to achieve a variety of looks Step by step	<b>277</b> 278 318 327
Chapter 8: Unit 210 Cut facial hair to shape using basic techniques Prepare to shape facial hair Prepare self, client and work area Consult with clients and analyse hair Select tools and equipment Shape facial hair to achieve a variety of looks Provide aftercare, advice and recommendations Step by step	339 340 340 345 353 355 359 360
Chapter 9: Unit 211 Create basic outlines and detailing Prepare to create outline and detailing Consult with client and analyse hair Create outlines and detailing to achieve a variety of looks Provide aftercare, advice and recommendations Step by step	<b>369</b> 370 371 379 382 383
Glossary Index	390 392

The City & Guilds Textbook Level 2 Hairdressing and Barbering for the Technical Certificates

### INTRODUCTION

From finger drying short, textured hairstyles to blow-drying the pompadour, drying and finishing men's hair is becoming increasingly popular in the current barbering market. A professional barber should demonstrate good dexterity skills to be able to manipulate and shape different hair lengths and densities, to suit the needs of every client.

After reading this chapter you will be able to:

- prepare to dry and finish men's hair
- dry and finish men's hair to achieve a variety of looks.

### **KEY TERM**

Turnover - trade.



A clean and tidy barber shop ready for the service ahead

### HANDY HINT

Poor standards of health and hygiene can cause offence to others, cross-contaminate and present a poor salon image.

### HANDY HINT

Refer to Chapter 1 for more information on appearance, personal hygiene and behaviour.

# PREPARE TO DRY AND FINISH MEN'S HAIR

It is important that, to promote a professional image, you and your work area are prepared before your client arrives. Men's cutting and styling services generally have a quick **turnover** of clients, many offering a no-appointment necessary service, so being prepared will help keep the barber salon running smoothly.

# Prepare yourself, your client and your work area

### Prepare your work area

You must keep your work area clean and tidy at all times. Make sure that your trolley and workstation are prepared for the required service and that you are ready for the client to arrive. Clean and sterilise or disinfect your tools and equipment to ensure they are hygienic and ready for use. Clean your workstation and surfaces with detergent and water, and spray to disinfect with a chemical solution.

Working safely, cleanly and tidily minimises risk of harm and injury to yourself and others, prevents cross-contamination and gives the client an image of professionalism.

### Preparing self and your client

Ensure you start your day with a shower, fresh breath and clean clothes. Apply deodorant and a splash of aftershave/perfume so you smell good too. Make sure your own hair is clean and presentable, suiting your salon image.

It is rare for a male client to visit the barbers for a shampoo and drying service, so it is highly likely you are preparing the client for a cut and dry service, so always ensure you use a clean gown and towel to protect their clothes from products as well as any hair cuttings.

Handy hints provide tips for the workplace and link related information throughout the book.

Some salons shampoo the hair again after a cutting service to remove the hair clippings and then style and finish the look. Once the hair has been shampooed, you should apply any products to the hair, ideally wearing gloves to protect your hands from dermatitis.

Dispose of any products correctly, ensuring that you maintain sustainable practices and recycle where possible.

### Posture and positioning

During the styling service make sure that you maintain a good posture and keep your back straight with your legs slightly apart for an even balance. A good posture will help to prevent back injuries and fatigue.

For the comfort of your client ensure they have their feet supported on a foot step, if the barber chair is raised, or have their feet flat on the floor. Sit them upright with their back against the chair. It's important that your client is comfortable throughout the service and evenly balanced, so you can produce a balanced look.

### Consult with clients and analyse hair

You must always complete a thorough consultation to identify your client's requirements, before you can decide on the most suitable tools and equipment to use, and ensure you achieve the desired result. You must ask questions and check the hair and scalp to identify if there are any factors that may limit or prohibit the service.

### Conduct tests

You will need to visually check and feel the hair to identify:

- the condition of the hair and scalp
- the hair length, style, type, texture and density of the hair
- any growth patterns
- the client's head and face shape
- any scalp problems.

Before the hair is shampooed and prepared for the service you should carry out a porosity test on the hair to see if it is porous or non-porous. Porous hair will hold onto the water and may tangle or snag on combs or hairbrushes, so extra care needs to be taken when drying, as the cuticles are raised and damaged. Non-porous hair has smooth, closed cuticles and should be less prone to tangles and easier to work with.

Once the hair has been shampooed, you must carry out an elasticity test to ascertain how the hair stretches when wet, and to decide on the strength of the cortex. If the hair has weak elasticity and the cortex is damaged you should be careful not to overstretch the hair as it may break. If the hair springs back to its original length then the hair's elasticity is strong and the cortex is in good condition.

Overdrying porous hair and overstretching weak hair could cause further damage to the hair and may lead to breakage, so always ensure you test the hair and use brushes and tools suitable for the hair's condition.



▲ Shampoo the client



Prepared client for service

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Refer to Chapter 1 for a recap on the health and safety acts you must follow, and how to protect the environment when styling hair.



Check the hair and scalp prior to the service.

Health and Safety information boxes ensure the best care for students

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A client who exercises regularly may prefer a low-maintenance hairstyle.

Activities relate hairdressing theory to everyday situations.

### Factors affecting styling services

As you are likely to be carrying out a cutting and drying service, you'll need to ask open and closed questions to help you to identify your client's requirements, such as:

- How do they want their hair to look?
- What products do they generally use on their hair and why?
- What life factors may affect their hairstyle? For example, daily swimming or going to the gym, working on a building site in dusty conditions, riding a motorcycle.
- Have they been happy with their previous style and do they wish to change or alter anything?

# ACTIVITY IDENTIFYING KEY POINTS

Use your English skills to ascertain as much information from your client as you can. Open questions require the client to give a more in-depth answer and start with 'what', 'why', 'how' and 'when'. Closed questions help to confirm and define details as they are answered with 'yes' or 'no'.

### **ACTIVITY**

How many of the following questions are open questions?

- Do you normally use products on your hair?
- How busy is your lifestyle?
- What type of work do you do?
- How often do you shampoo your hair?
- What products do you use on your hair?
- Do you blow-dry your hair at home?



Swimming can affect the condition of the hair and scalp.

### Haircut

When you have found out the above information, you will know the type of haircut that is being carried out and you can make sure that the hair is styled to suit the cut. When you know the style requirements, you will be able to choose your tools and products to suit the style and the hair's characteristics.

### Hair characteristics

Factors	Effect on the style	Effect on products	Effect on tools
Texture – fine	You need to consider the length of fine hair, as longer lengths can look thinner.  More supportive, stronghold products will be required.	Fine hair will need less product applied. Use products that support the style and give the hair body and volume – even for smooth straight styles.	Fine hair will need to be blow-dried with a brush to give root lift and support the style.
Texture – coarse	Coarse hair can have a tendency to look rough and dry and may need taming and controlling to ensure the style looks its best. Smoother styles may be difficult for the client to maintain between salon visits.	Coarse hair will need more products to be applied and you'll need to use products that smooth the cuticle and give it shine, such as a serum.	Coarse hair will need a bristle brush to smooth the hair.
Density – sparse	Sparse hair should be treated in the same way as fine hair when styling; however, it will dry quicker.	For sparse hair, less product is required. Take care not to overload it.	Take care with tools on sparse hair and avoid causing your client any discomfort.
Density – abundant	Abundant hair will take longer to dry and may make the style look big, so it's important to select the correct style to suit this hair type.	Abundant hair will need more products and those that do not provide any volume or lift, but help to smooth the hair.	Avoid brushes and creating root movement that promotes volume and root lift and makes the hair look thicker.

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# DRY AND FINISH MEN'S HAIR TO ACHIEVE A VARIETY OF LOOKS

You will need to be able to style hair on a variety of hair types and lengths, such as very curly, curly, wavy and straight hair, above- and below-shoulder lengths.

# Different drying and finishing techniques

The different brush drying techniques you may use are:

- Smoothing and straightening the hair using large radial brushes or flat brushes, depending on the texture and movement within the hair; you may use straightening irons too. The hair is dried off-base and the brush is angled flat towards the scalp and pulled through from root to point to keep the hair straight throughout. Apply products before styling that smooth the cuticle, such as oils and serums, and prevent moisture from penetrating the hair and finish with hair spray.
- Creating volume using a large radial brush for root lift. The brush is
  angled on-base to create body, lift and volume. Apply products before
  styling that add volume or body, like a mousse, and finish with a
  cream, wax, or gel depending on the style created.
- Creating movement using various sizes of radial brushes for root lift and movement within the hairstyle. The brush should be angled on-base for movement with volume and off-base for flatter roots and movement through the mid-lengths and ends. Apply products before styling that encourage movement or enhance curls, like a mousse or styling cream, and finish with a cream, wax, or gel depending on the style created.

Other drying and finishing techniques you may use are:

 Creating texture – using finger dry techniques to work with the haircut, but create a certain 'roughness' or naturalness to the style.

You can see the 'Step by step' instructions for how to carry out these looks towards the end of this chapter.



Style hair with a radial brush for root lift and volume.

### Finger drying

You will need to be able to finger dry hair, which can create movement, volume, texture and curls.

When finger drying the hair, you must ensure you achieve the required amount of volume, movement and texture by elevating the roots to allow the heat from the dryer to access the roots of the hair. You should massage the root area in the direction in which the lift and volume are required and elevate the hair as you dry it. Applying products at the root area will support the style.

Short hair can be styled using a hand-held hairdryer and using your hands and fingers as the tools. This works particularly well for hair with movement and texture, requiring a finished look that is modern and funky. Your choice of styling products will influence the end result, as support from the product is required.

If you are working with curly hair you can use a diffuser on the end of the hair dryer. This will take the blast out of the airflow, but still supply the warm air required to dry the hair, enabling the curls to remain intact and not look fluffy in appearance.

### Effects of products and tools

Whether you are finger drying or blow-drying short or medium length hair you must have control. Curly hair can be challenging to the most able barber, but using suitable products and tools such as a diffuser when finger drying and a nozzle when blow-drying helps you to control the hair. Your brush choice and size will vary, depending on the client's hair length, the desired look, degree of movement and volume required. A methodical working pattern is very important.

### Keeping the hair damp throughout the drying process

Each client's hair will dry out at a different rate, and, as wet hair stretches allowing a new shape to form, an even moisture balance is required. If areas of the hair have started to dry during the styling process, then hair will lose its elasticity and the ability to stretch sufficiently, so the result may be uneven. You must mist the hair sections lightly with a water spray if you notice an uneven elasticity when drying the hair, to allow the bonds to be reformed evenly into their new position.

### Controlling hair and maintaining tension

Pulling the hair with tension as you dry it will make the style last longer, particularly if the hair is a little longer. Curly and layered hair being blowdried straight will need a lot more tension than straight or wavy hair. Ensure the tension is firm but without causing discomfort to your client.

### Control of temperature and airflow

The angle which you direct the brush and airflow through the hair will aid you in achieving root lift and volume where required.

You should keep the brush on the base of the section if you require lift (on-base) and drag the hair back away from the section (off-base) if you require a flatter look.

For coarse or thick hair, you can use a high heat setting on the hairdryer, but on finer hair or porous hair adjust the temperature so it is cooler and doesn't cause damage to weaker hair. Always ensure your client is happy with the hairdryer temperature and check you are not causing discomfort or burning him.



▲ Finger dry hair for movement and texture.

### **ACTIVITY**

Watch a barber blow-dry or finger dry the hair and observe how they hold the hairdryer in the direction of the cuticle layer.



Various sized round brushes



▲ Use a nozzle for root lift

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Check the balance of the style.

### Finishing and visual checking

Once the hair is dry, allow the hair to cool and visually check the balance of the style. Check it is dry throughout and to your client's satisfaction. Apply finishing products to either add texture, or support the finished look.

### Aftercare, advice and recommendations

During and after the service you should recommend aftercare and give your client advice on how to maintain their look, products and their use, and when to return for future or additional services.

### Retail and maintaining the style

Together with advising on the best products and equipment for maintaining the style at home, you should give advice on which tools to use. Recommend brushes that will help the client to recreate the look, explain how to use them and show them how to follow the direction of the cuticle. Show your client the products you have used on his hair and recommend which ones he should purchase for home use.

When providing advice, always follow the legal requirements and always tell the truth about what products and equipment can do.

### Time intervals between services and when to return

Advise your client when to return to the salon for a repeat service or a new service. Explain that if they struggle to style their hair, it has probably grown out of shape and they should return for a cut and blowdry service. Suggest they book in every 4–6 weeks, depending on the style worn and their average rate of hair growth.

### Present and future products and services

You should advise your clients on the products you used to create their initial style, asking them about the products they already have, and suggesting which new products they would benefit from purchasing and using. Always advise your client on how to use the products and how to remove them from the hair to prevent build-up.



Recommend products you have used and show them to your client.

### **STEP BY STEP**

# Finger dry – creating movement and texture



STEP 1 — Prepare the hair for the service, shampoo and condition the hair and remove excess moisture. Apply styling cream to support the style and provide strength.



 $\label{eq:STEP 2-Work styling cream into the hair.}$ 



STEP 3 — Tip the head forward and manipulate the root area and dry the hair in the direction of the style using a hand-held hair dryer with a diffuser attachment.

Step-by-step
guides help
students visualise
and memorise
hairdressing
and barbering
methods.



STEP 4 — Continue to dry the hair around the head, adding root movement where required, or drying the roots flat when movement is not required.



STEP 5 — Apply styling powder to add matte effect, add texture and medium support, and use a wide tooth comb/streaker comb to separate curls.



STEP 6 - The finished look

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# Blow-dry hair – creating volume and movement

### Pompadour quiff style



STEP 1 – Prepare hair for service and apply styling cream to strengthen the style and provide volume.



STEP 2 — Using a flat brush, blow-dry the sides



STEP 3 — Continue using the flat brush at the lower crown and back areas.



STEP 4 — Use a round brush from the top crown forward to create lift and volume at the root area.



STEP 5 — Use a larger round brush at the fringe for extra height and direct the root area upwards on-base for maximum volume.



STEP 6 — Apply wax-clay through the sides to flatten and to add shine and a smooth finish.



STEP 7 — Using your fingers and a comb, smooth the shorter hairs down and into style.



STEP 8 — Apply styling powder at the roots on top for extra hold and height, check the balance, and finish with spray.



STEP 9 - End result

# Blow-dry hair-smoothing and straightening

Hair is dried using a flat brush, such as a vent brush or Denman. For a straighter look, you may use straightening irons too. The hair is dried offbase and the brush angled flat towards the scalp and pulled through from root to point to keep the hair straight throughout.



STEP 1 — Prepare the hair for the service, gown and protect the client, add serum oil to the hair to help smooth the wavy hair and heat protector to protect. Remove excess moisture before blow-drying.



STEP 2 – Section and secure the hair for methodical working. Using a flat brush smooth and straighten the hair, working through the back.



**STEP 3** — Continue this process through each side.



**STEP 4** – Dry the top sections to the parting worn.



STEP 5 – Use straighteners to smooth and straighten the hair, create a flatter look and provide longevity to the style.



STEP 6 – Straighten the fringe, apply finishing cream and hairspray to create the finished look and provide longevity to the style.

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### Test your knowledge questions

### **Question 1**

Explain the characteristics of type 4 very curly wiry hair.

### Question 2

State three safety considerations to take into account when blow-drying men's hair.

### Question 3

Describe the effects on the temporary bonds when styling hair from wet to dry.

### Question 4

Describe the benefits of three styling styling/finishing products.

### **Question 5 (scenario-based)**

Rowan has type 3 soft curly hair and wants his pompadour hairstyle styled with root lift and volume.

- Describe the equipment, tools, products and techniques you would use to recreate this style.
- What aftercare advice would you provide for Rowan?

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