



Image courtesy of Desmond Murray

312

Cut men's hair to create a variety of looks
As a men's hair stylist, you need to use advanced cutting skills to achieve a range of looks for men. You will create graduated, textured, and disconnected looks for men, creating both traditional and fashion styles. This unit will put your talent and skills to the test, and it may be you who is creating the next fashion trend in cutting men's hair.

Assignment mark sheet

Unit 312 Cut men's hair to create a variety of looks

Your assessor will mark you on each of the practical tasks in this unit. This page is used to work out your overall grade for the unit. You must pass **all** parts of the tasks to be able to claim a grade. For the practical task a pass equals 1 point, a merit equals 2 points and a distinction equals 3 points.

What you must know	Tick when complete
Task 1a: produce an information sheet	
Task 1b: produce a cutting guide	
Task 1c: produce a factsheet	
Or tick if covered by an online test	

What you must do	Grade	Points
Task 2a: graduated look		
Task 2b: textured look		
Task 2c: disconnected look		

Grade	Points
Pass	1–1.5
Merit	1.6–2.5
Distinction	2.6–3

Total points for graded tasks	
Divided by	÷ 3
= Average grade for tasks	
Overall grade (see conversion chart)	

Candidate name:

Candidate signature: Date:

Assessor signature: Date:

Quality assurance co-ordinator signature (where applicable): Date:

External Verifier signature (where applicable): Date:

What does it mean?

Some useful words are explained below

Image courtesy of Chill



Aftercare advice

Advice given to the client about such things as intervals between cuts, maintaining their look, and the correct tools and products needed to achieve the look at home.

Androgenic alopecia

Commonly known as male pattern baldness – a hereditary condition where the hair recedes at the front hairline and thins at the crown.

Blocked nape

Refers to cutting the hair straight across in a definite line where the hairline meets the back of the neck. It is sometimes also referred to as 'squaring off' the nape.

Disconnecting

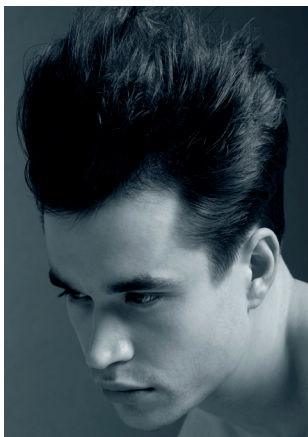
This technique creates long and short lengths that do not blend together.

Fade

A fade is an extreme type of taper cut, where the hair on the sides and back is cut extremely close to the head and then tapered upward.

Freehand

This technique removes length and bulk. It is carried out by cutting the hair without holding it between the fingers.



Hair density

The amount of hair per square cm on the head.

Hair growth patterns

This is a factor that can influence your decision as to how short to cut the hair, for example a double crown.



Hair type

The client's hair type will help you to decide if the hair is too curly, wavy or straight to achieve the desired look.

Head and face shape

If the client chooses a style that is unsuitable for their head or face shape, you should advise as to a suitable alternative.

Natural fall

When the hair is wet you can see how the hair lies naturally. It may fall to one side or the other, or there may be a natural parting.

Neckline shapes

It is always best to follow the natural growth pattern of the hairline. This could be rounded, square or tapered.

Razor

A tool used when cutting the hair to remove bulk or to thin out the ends. It is especially good for creating textured looks.

Images courtesy of Gorgeous PR

What does it mean?

Some useful words are explained below (continued)



Receding hairline

Hair receding from the lateral sides of the forehead.



Scissor over comb

A technique used to cut the hair very short following the natural contours of the head.

Sharps

This term describes the blades used in safety razors. All blades should be disposed of in a yellow sharps container.

Taper cut

A taper cut is a short haircut where the sides and back are cut progressively shorter down toward the neck, with even blending throughout.

Tapered nape

Refers to a gradual decrease in the length of hair at the back of the head, following the natural hairline.



Texturising

A technique that produces softer broken edges.



Be the next ...
Sophia Hilton



Sophia Hilton is a stylist at the prestigious Brooks and Brooks salon in London. She has won a whole series of regional and national competitions, and style McFly's hair on their UK tour. [Find her men's cutting advice by the blue quote marks.](#)

What you must know

You must be able to:

- 1 Describe the range of looks for men
- 2 Explain how to achieve looks for men using a combination of cutting techniques
- 3 Explain the safety considerations that must be taken into account
- 4 Describe the factors that need to be considered when cutting hair
- 5 Explain how to maximise the potential of the client's hair taking into account identified factors
- 6 State the known causes of male pattern baldness
- 7 Describe the typical patterns of male pattern baldness
- 8 State the importance of cutting to the natural hairline in barbering
- 9 State the effects created by different sized clipper blades and attachments
- 10 State the risk of in-growing hair from continual close cutting on the skin

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Make sure advice is given to the client about how to maintain their style.

Revision tip

It is important to apply the correct degree of tension when cutting the hair as otherwise your client may end up with an uneven haircut.

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Receding hairlines are common with gents, so take a second to think about whether you need to leave a little extra hair over the recession points to compensate.

What you must know

You must be able to: (continued)

- 11 Describe the different consultation techniques used to identify service objectives
- 12 Describe the salon's requirements for client preparation, preparing yourself and the work area
- 13 Outline safe and hygienic working practices
- 14 Describe the correct use and routine maintenance of cutting tools and equipment
- 15 Explain the effect cutting hair at different angles has on the finished look
- 16 State the importance of applying the correct degree of tension to the hair when cutting
- 17 State the importance of checking the cut
- 18 Explain how to make sure that sideburns are cut level
- 19 Describe the aftercare advice that should be provided
- 20 State how to communicate and behave within a salon environment

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To really add to your services, rinse the hair after the haircut and dry off.

Revision tip

It is important to cross check the cut as this will ensure it is accurate.



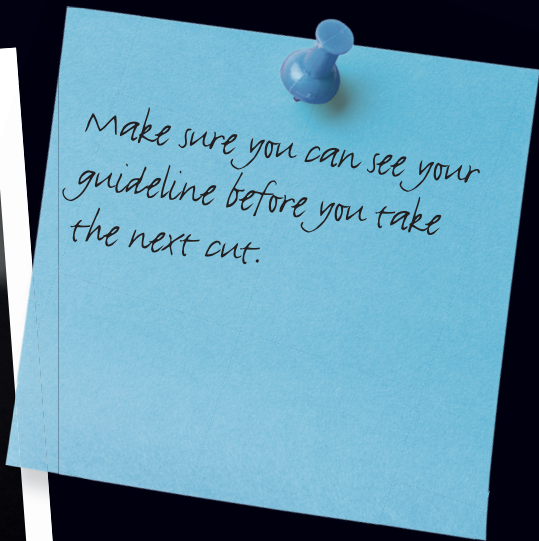
Image courtesy of Capital Hair & Beauty

Image courtesy of Credit Adam Sloan of Big Yin



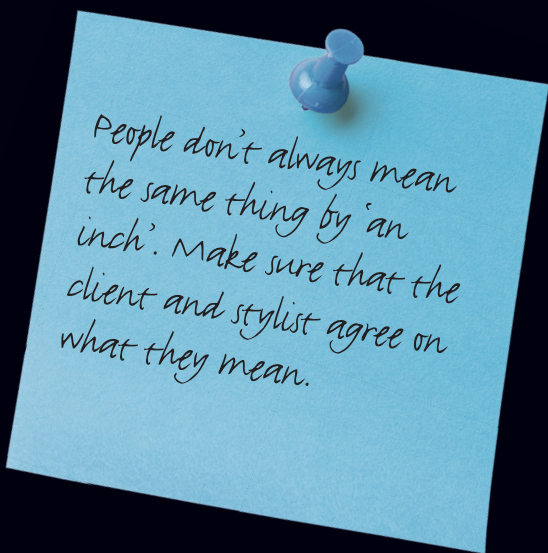


Remember: if you cut the hair too short, there is nothing you can do about it!

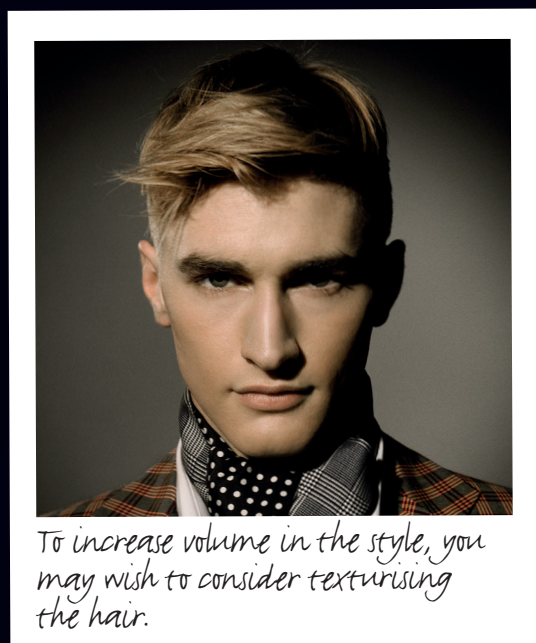


Make sure you can see your guideline before you take the next cut.

Mens.



People don't always mean the same thing by 'an inch'. Make sure that the client and stylist agree on what they mean.



To increase volume in the style, you may wish to consider texturising the hair.



To decrease the volume of the style, you may wish to consider thinning the hair.

Very few people can do two things at the same time. You will learn very quickly that you need to hold a conversation without losing your concentration on the haircut.

's hair

Good aftercare advice is about giving the client the correct advice on looking after their hair. This will include advice on products, tools and equipment, and future salon services.



What you must do

Practical observations

This page shows what you need to do during your practical task. You can look at it beforehand, but you're **not** allowed to have it with you while carrying out your practical task. You must achieve **all** the criteria; you can achieve 1 mark, 2 marks or 3 marks for the criteria indicated with *****.

- 1 Prepare yourself, the client and the work area for cutting services
- 2 Use suitable consultation techniques to identify service objectives and any contra-indications *
- 3 Evaluate the potential of the hair to achieve the desired look by identifying influencing factors *
- 4 Provide clear recommendations to the client based on factors
- 5 Select and use cutting tools and equipment required to achieve the desired look
- 6 Establish and follow guidelines where required to achieve the required look
- 7 Combine and personalise cutting techniques to take account of the identified factors and the desired look *
- 8 Position yourself and the client appropriately throughout the service
- 9 Check the finished cut to ensure required balance, weight distribution and shape
- 10 Remove unwanted hair outside the desired outline shape

Conversion chart

Grade	Marks
Pass	15–17
Merit	18–22
Distinction	23–25

Cutting services								
Graduated			Textured			Disconnected		
1			1			1		
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
1			1			1		
1			1			1		
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
1			1			1		
1			1			1		
1			1			1		

Continues on next page

- 11 Create balanced and shaped sideburns that suit the required look
- 12 Follow safe and hygienic working practices
- 13 Create a finished cut that is to the satisfaction of the client
- 14 Provide suitable aftercare advice *
- 15 Communicate and behave in a professional manner *

Totals

Grade

Candidate signature and date

Assessor signature and date

									Cutting services								
Graduated			Textured			Disconnected											
1			1			1											
1			1			1											
1			1			1											
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3						
1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3						

Image courtesy of Goldwell



Always pay attention to detail. Look for stray hairs around the neck and ears, and take them away with clippers, scissors or a razor.

What you must do

Practical observations descriptors table

This table shows what you need to do to achieve 1, 2 or 3 marks for the criteria indicated with * on pages 102 and 103.

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks
2 Use suitable consultation techniques to identify service objectives and any contra-indications	Basic consultation Example: uses open and closed questions	Good consultation Examples: uses open and closed questions, visual aids, is aware of own body language	Thorough consultation Examples: uses open and closed questions, uses good visual aids, uses body language effectively, repeats instructions clearly to gain confirmation
3 Evaluate the potential of the hair to achieve the desired look by identifying influencing factors	Minimal evaluation Examples: hair texture, length and density, client requirements	Good evaluation Examples: hair texture, length and density, client requirements, hair growth patterns, elasticity, natural hairline, male pattern baldness	High level of evaluation Examples: hair texture, length and density, client requirements, hair growth patterns, elasticity, natural hairline, male pattern baldness, head/face shape/features, neck shape, contra-indications
7 Combine and personalise cutting techniques to take account of the identified factors and the desired look	Carries out basic haircut requirements, taking into account factors; minimal use of a combination of cutting techniques	Considers factors and uses a combination of cutting techniques to personalise the cut	Uses a variety of cutting tools and techniques to a high standard to maximise the personalised haircut

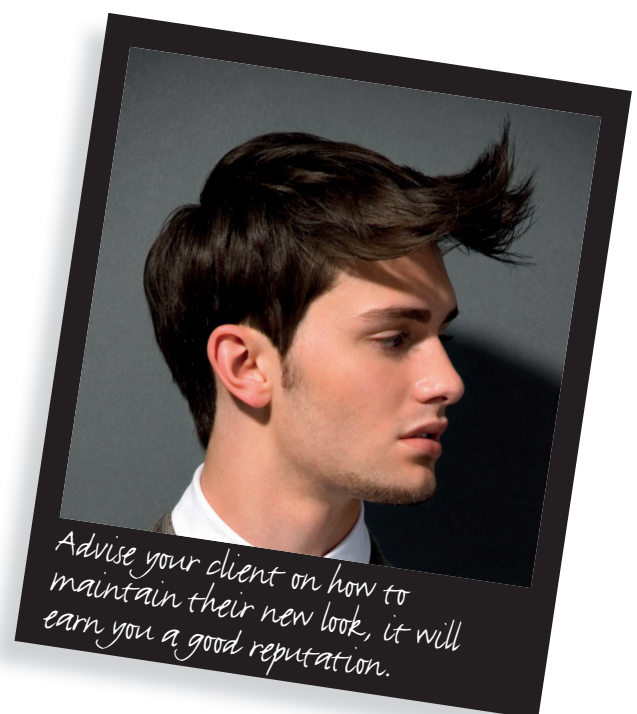
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	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks
14 Provide suitable aftercare advice	Basic aftercare advice Example: use of products	Good level of aftercare advice Examples: use of products and equipment	Excellent level of advice Examples: Use of products and equipment, maintenance of style and further services available
15 Communicate and behave in a professional manner	Satisfactory communication and behaviour Examples: polite, friendly, positive body language, speaks clearly	Good communication and behaviour Examples: polite, friendly, positive body language, speaks clearly, respectful to colleagues and clients, listens and responds to client needs	Excellent communication and behaviour Examples: polite, friendly, positive body language, speaks clearly, respectful to colleagues and clients, listens and responds to client's needs, shows a reassuring and confident manner

Image courtesy of Trevor Sorbie



Image courtesy of Desmond Murray



Comment form

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This form can be used to record comments by you, your client, or your assessor.



Image courtesy of Hertford Regional College

