

11

Hair Cutting Tools

11.1 Introduction

Hair shaping is an art. Proficiency in hair shaping can be acquired only after thorough study, meticulous observance of instructions and extensive practice. Regular scissors, thinning shears and razors need to be used dexterously. Good hair shaping is the foundation of beautiful styles.

11.2 Objectives

After reading this lesson you will be able to

- Identify hair cutting and shaping instruments
- List the points to be kept in mind while cutting and shaving
- Understand the different types of hair cuts
- Master the various styles and styling procedures

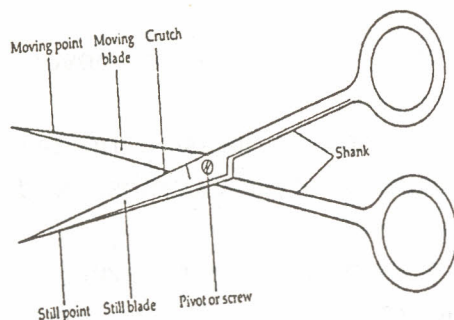
11.3 Hair Cutting/Shaping Instruments and Their Uses

Tools and equipment

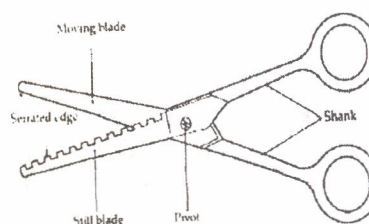
Tools	Type	Use
Brushes	• General purpose	For dressing and everyday brushing of hair
	• Styling	When blow drying the hair
	• Neck	To remove cut hair from face and

		neck
Combs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tail comb ● Dressing comb ● Cutting comb ● Setting comb ● Afro comb 	<p>Sectioning, lifting, weaving, never disentangling</p> <p>Disentangling and dressing the hair</p> <p>More pliable than other combs, used when cutting</p> <p>When setting and finger waving</p> <p>To style and dress curly hair, e.g. Negroid</p>
Scissors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plain straight edged ● Very fine serrated edge ● Wide spaced serrated edge 	<p>For all cutting techniques</p> <p>For all cutting except slither cutting techniques</p> <p>To thin hair; used on dry hair only</p>
Razors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open cut-throat ● Safety razor 	<p>Used mainly in men's hairdressing to cut wet hair and in shaving</p> <p>Same use as the open cut-throat razor but has changeable guarded blade.</p>
Clippers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hand (manual) and Electric ● Hot brush 	<p>In men's and ladies' hairdressing to cut hair close to scalp</p> <p>To temporarily curl dry hair</p>
Styling irons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Electrically heated ● Marcel waving irons 	<p>To temporarily curl, straighten or crimp dry hair</p> <p>When Marcel waving</p>

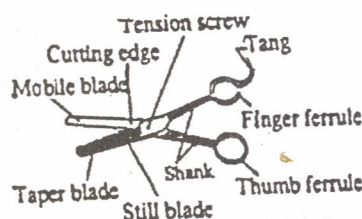
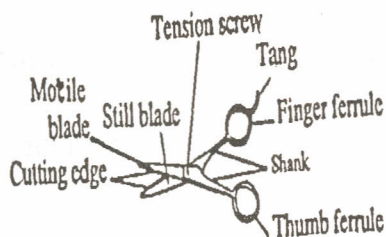
Notes



Straight edged scissors



Serrated edge scissors



(A) Scissors or Shears

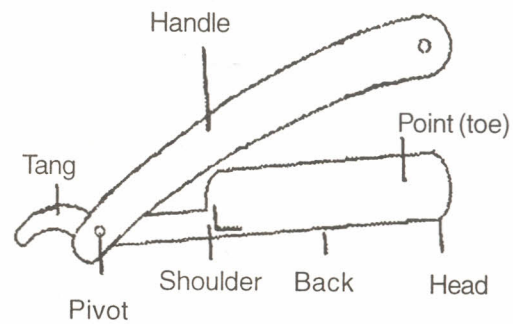
It is an instrument for cutting hair. With the help of barber scissors, hair can be cut shorter. It is available in many sizes, weights and quality of steel. It has two blades, a still and a mobile blade. The ring of finger brace in which thumb is inserted is the mobile blade and the brace in which finger is inserted is the still blade.

(B) Thinning Shears or Scissors

As clear from its name, it is used to reduce the thickness of hair. In this type of shears there are notches in the blade which help in thinning the hair. In some thinning scissor there are notches on both blades and while in some, notches are only on one blade. The blades of these scissors have approximately 30-40 notches. When notched on one blade, it help to remove a larger bulk of hair. For fine thinning, scissors with notches on both blades is preferred. During use the hair is caught and held between the spaces of the teeth on notches and cannot be cut; resulting in fine thinning of hair.

(C) Razor

Razor cannot be used for cutting or cleaning all types of hair because this instrument for cutting is only used in parlours to clean curly coarse hair. It is used for styling and shaping the hair in cuts like the shag cut and boy cut. In razor the blade cuts the hair hence the blade has to be changed from time to time.



Cut Throat Razor

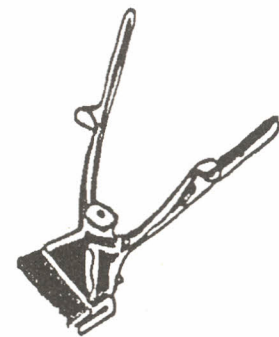
(D) Clipper

Clippers are mainly used for removing unwanted hair from the neck such as in crew cut and boy cut.

Clippers are of two types

1. Electric clipper
2. Manual clipper

Like the thinning scissors there are notches in clippers. They need to be oiled regularly. The hand or manual clippers requires manual force, while on electric clipper is operated electrically. Thus the electric clipper uses less time as compared to a manual clipper.



Hair Clipper

(E) Hair Shaping Combs

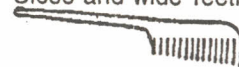
- (i) Tail comb
- (ii) Cutting comb

Tail Comb : It is also known as a Rat tail comb. With help of a tail comb the hair can be sectioned easily. It is used while styling and while working on sections. Some types of tail combs are listed below:

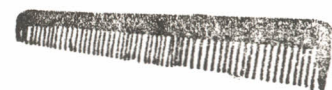
1. Close teeth comb
2. Wide teeth comb
3. Pin tail comb



Close and wide Teeth comb



Tail Comb



Cutting Combs

Barber comb or Cutting comb : Is used for cutting hair from the nape

Notes

of neck area mainly in men's hair. In this comb there are close teeth on one end and wide teeth on other end.

Basic Sectioning for a Hair Cut

The main principle of sectioning the hair is to determine the actual size and bone structure of the head.

The sectioning quantity of hair in a particular section is referred to as top, sides, crown and nape area section.

11.4 Designing a hair style

Advising a client on a style is a key part of a hairdresser's job. There are five main factors to consider:

1. Facial structure – whether the face shape is round, square, heart – shaped etc.
2. Problem features – such as a large nose
3. Hair texture – fine hair, for example, tends to be limp
4. Personality of client – a quiet person does not normally want an extravagant style.
5. Client's lifestyle – such as how easy the style is to maintain or if the person likes sports.

Intext Questions 11.1

1. Match Column A with B

A	B
a) Tail comb	(i) To cut hair close to scalp.
b) Hand clippers	(ii) To thin hair
c) Styling brush	(iii) To straighten on crimp hair
d) Serrated Scissors	(iv) Sectioning and lifting
e) Styling iron	(v) Blower drying

11.5 Hair Texture

Fine hair is narrow in diameter and tends to be limp. It looks its fullest when it is club cut and allowed to grow no longer than chin length. Extremely fine, lank hair may also require a soft perm to give it extra body without a great deal of curl.

Coarse hair has a larger diameter and is usually strong and wiry. It can be allowed to grow longer unless it is also very curly in which case it will go very bushy. Coarse hair may have to be layered or thinned to make it more controllable.

Medium hair is the easiest type of hair to manage and combined with medium body it is suitable for most hairstyles and most hair lengths.

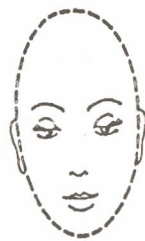
The shape of the hair can alter the shape of the face by emphasizing good features and minimizing others. When designing a hairstyle for the client there are five main points to be taken into consideration:

1. facial structure (the shape of the face)
2. problem features
3. texture of hair
4. personality of client
5. lifestyle of client

11.6 Facial structure

It is important that the professional stylist is able to recognize the various facial shapes. An oval face shape is believed to be the most perfect and the stylist must aim to achieve the illusion of an oval shape on her client.

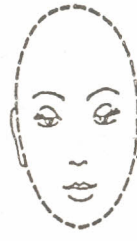
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(a) Oval



(b) Long



(c) Round



(d) Square



(e) Heart-shaped



(f) Pear-shaped



(g) Rectangular

Basic Face Shapes

Long face

To avoid a long face effect, create width at the sides using loose, soft waves or curls. Medium length hair is best with the fullness around the ears. Fringes can shorten the effect of an over-long face.



Right



Right



Wrong

Possible styles for a long face

Round face

Short hair is most suitable for a round face, with height on top of the head and the side hair flat, preferably covering the cheeks. An asymmetrical hairstyle or a parting will minimize the roundness but a full fringe across the forehead will emphasise the roundness of the lower face.



Right



Wrong

Possible styles for a round face

Square face

A soft design is needed to reduce the angular jawline. Fullness at the temples and cheekbones give an illusion of roundness and the face shape can be softened by covering the jawline if possible.



Possible styles for a square face

Heart-shaped face

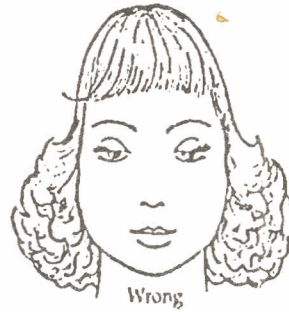
Play down width at the temples and create fullness round the chin. An asymmetrical style or a side parting also looks effective on this face shape.

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Pear-shaped face

Hair should be given width above the chin and left soft at the nape to soften the lower part of the face.



Possible styles for a pear-shaped face

Rectangular face

Longer than a square-shaped face but with the same strong jawline that should be disguised with softness around this area. A fringe will help reduce the length of the face and a side parting offsets the angular features of this face shape.



Possible styles for a rectangular face

Problem Features

Where features are good, the hair may be pulled back to reveal them but problem features should be disguised so that the eye is drawn away from them and the more attractive features then gain attention. Less attractive features include.

- Prominent nose
- Heavy jawline or chin
- High or receding forehead.

Prominent nose

Emphasise other parts of the face and head with soft curls at the chin line or hair that hugs the face. If a fringe is worn it should be full and loose. Avoid centre partings as this emphasizes the length of the nose and draws attention to it.



Styling for a prominent nose

Heavy jawline or chin

A smooth definite style that clings to the jawline should be used. Fringes help to balance the face. Hair that is drawn back from the face will accentuate the jawline.

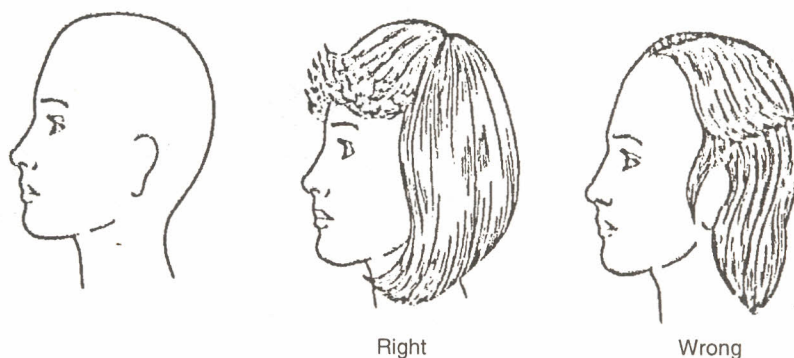
Notes



Styling for a heavy jawline

High or receding forehead

Full fringes minimize a high forehead and a medium length hair-style either smoothly curving or flicked back at the sides will emphasise the shape of the head rather than the forehead. Centre partings should be avoided but a side parting may be used if the hair is draped across the forehead. A side parting will make the forehead appear broader and so will only be effective on a narrow high forehead.



Styling with a high forehead

Intext Questions 11.2

1. State whether True (T) or False (F)
 - a) The personality of a client is important when styling.
 - b) Fringes do not shorten the effect of a long face.
 - c) Coarse hair is strong and wiry.

- d) Razer can be used for cutting all types of hair.
- e) A good thinning shears has 50-60 notches.
2. Fill in the blanks :
- a) An _____ face is considered perfect for styling.
- b) _____ hair is the easiest to manage.
- c) _____ hair is suitable for round face.
- d) _____ minimize a high forehead.
- c) A _____ parting makes the head appear broader.

Personality of client

The personality of the client is important when designing a hair-style. A quiet subdued person will not thank the stylist for an extravagant hairstyle which will draw unwanted attention to themselves. Likewise a client with an outgoing and extroverted personality will require a style which is different and individual. A client who is neat and meticulous will need a hairstyle that is sleek and uncluttered.

11.7 What have you learnt

In this lesson you have learnt to

- Recognize the different tools and equipment used for hair styling.
- The appropriate use of these tools.
- Understand and recognize facial structure .
- Handling problem features of the clients.
- Styling for different shape faces.

11.8 Terminal Questions

1. Name the different kinds of combs used for hairdressing? Briefly describe each.
2. With the help of illustration, show the different shapes of faces.

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3. What points would you keep in mind when styling hair for women with a prominent jawline and a receding hairline?

11.9 Answers to Intext Questions

11.1

1. a) (iv)
b) (i)
c) (v)
d) (ii)
e) (iii)

11.2

1. a) T b) F c) T
d) F e) F
2. a) oval b) medium
c) short d) fringes
e) side