

XI

Hair Colouring

Objective

To learn the art of using colour to cover grey hair and introduce colour for variety and beauty.

Preparation of Tray

(a) Vegetable Hair Colour

1. Decoction of either tea or coffee.
2. Amla
3. Egg
5. Mehendi that has been mixed.
6. Gloves
7. Plastic brush
8. 2 black towels (Big)
9. 1 Plastic sheet
11. Tint brush
10. Water
12. Plastic or glass bowl

(b) Chemical Hair Colour

1. Dye
2. Dye brush
3. Plastic or glass bowl
4. Timer
5. 2 dark towels (big)
6. Gloves
7. Shampoo

Selection of Colour

- (a) Vegetable Hair Colour
- (b) Chemical Hair Colour

Skin Test

Before giving colouring treatment to the hair, it is necessary to test the skin 24 hours earlier to check, whether the chemical will suit or not.

Method : Mix a small amount of dark tint with H₂O₂ (20 vol.). Clean the area with cotton wool and spirit, either behind the ear, inner elbow or behind knee. Apply and leave it on for 24-48 hours. If the chemical reacts, the indication will be redness or irritation or swelling. In this case wipe off the colour from the skin, and do not use for colouring of hair.

Draping the Client

Before giving hair tint service, the draping of client is very important so that her clothes are totally safe.

- (1) Seat the client in a comfortable position.
- (2) Drape the client with a plastic sheet around her neck.
- (3) Her jewellery is to be removed.
- (4) Drape the client with 1 big dark (black) towel.
- (5) Apply protective cream around the hair line in case of chemical hair colour.

Preparing Henna mixture for Colouring Purpose

- (1) A decoction of either tea or coffee is made and strained.
- (2) Amla is used for making the colour darker. In this case, mehendi is soaked in an iron pan overnight. The mixture looks black in the morning.
- (3) Egg is added for conditioning effect.
- (4) Harad and beheda powder are used to reduce dandruff.

- (5) Mehendi (Henna) is usually mixed in hot water.

Preparing Henna for Conditioning

- (1) A decoction of tea is made and strained.
- (2) Egg is added for conditioning effect.

Application of Henna

- (1) The hair is shampooed and dried to almost dry but not completely dry. Some people prefer washing the hair afterwards. It has been found in practice that shampooing the hair immediately afterwards removes some of the colour.
- (2) Start with the strand of hair at the crown apply henna to its whole length and twist it as if you were making a bun. Now keep taking strands around it and wind it around the same centre. By the time you finish, you will have a big round bun on the crown. Now cover the superficial layers of the hair and the bun with more Mehendi.
- (3) Mehendi starts dripping after a while because of the body warmth. Clean up around the hair line and cover the ears, place wads of cotton wool on the ears and nape.
- (4) Wait for 1 to 2 hours depending on the results desired.
- (5) Now rinse the hair thoroughly.

Sectioning and Practice in Application of Chemical Dye

- (1) Analyse the result of skin test and check the scalp.
- (2) Divide the hair in four equal parts (from ear to ear and from middle of forehead till nape).
- (3) Prepare the mixture according to manufacturer's instructions and wear gloves.
- (4) Start applying dye on the area in which the hair is resistant (i.e. crown area).
- (5) By taking a few strand at a time apply the dye.
- (6) To apply the dye, take 1/4 inch part. After you have applied the

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dye on the whole head, set the timer. On spots where dye is needed, reapply the dye according to the manufacturer's instructions. Keep the dye on hair and after the fixed time wash it with luke warm water and a mild shampoo.

- (7) Check if there are any stains of dye near the hair line, face, neck or ears and remove them.

Precautions

Before giving any treatment — either colouring or perming — you must analyse the type of hair and determine the condition of the hair and scalp of your client and it is important to first to check whether the hairs are virgin or chemically treated hair because in both the cases we have to be careful about the time needed for processing as it varies in both the cases.

Secondly, the scalp condition should also be checked — ensure that the scalp does not have any cuts or abrasions or any open sores because the burning and stinging sensation from the waving or perming lotion or dye might cause great irritation.