



AVEDA INSTITUTE
COSMETOLOGY CURRICULUM |

Hair Cutting



Book

1

Book ONE | Student Guide

1. Introduction to Cutting Hair.....	3
2. Handling the Scissors and Comb.....	16
3. Sectioning.....	25
4. One-Length Technique.....	33
5. Graduated Cutting Technique.....	46
6. Layered Cutting Technique.....	55
7. Texturizing Tools and Techniques.....	79
8. Scissors-Over-Comb Technique.....	89
9. Clipper Cutting Technique.....	93

1. INTRODUCTION TO CUTTING HAIR

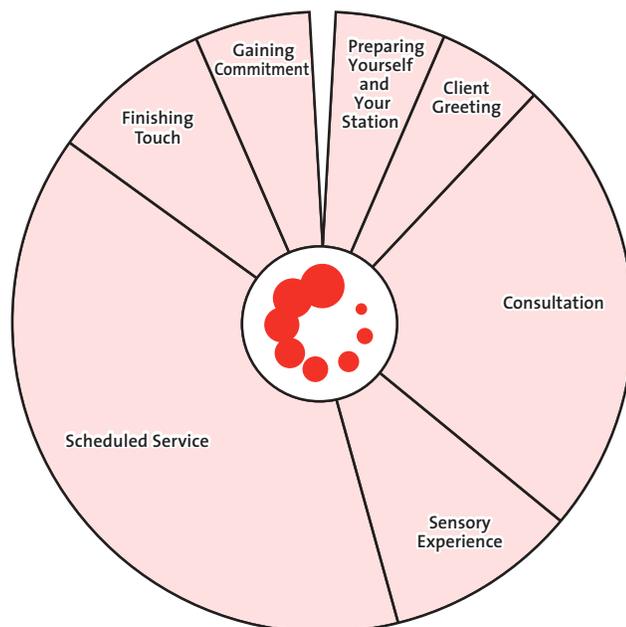
Contents

Aveda Haircutting Principles

Terminology

Aveda Hair Cutting Foundations

Determining Whether to Cut Wet or Dry



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Define the basic terms used in haircutting.
- Learn the Aveda haircutting techniques.
- Identify one-length, graduated, and layered techniques.
- Determine whether to cut hair wet or dry.

OVERVIEW

This lesson prepares you for cutting hair by presenting the basic concepts and terms used in the Aveda haircutting system. Read through this lesson carefully and refer to it when you have questions.

AVEDA HAIRCUTTING PRINCIPLES

The Aveda fundamental haircutting techniques, originated by Horst Rechelbacher, have been developed and refined specifically for the beginning student cosmetologist. These principles provide you with a solid foundation for your future success as a stylist.

Plan Your Work, Work Your Plan

Planning is essential. Once you have your plan, you should stick to it. For example, establishing the length is essential. If a client desires shoulder-length hair, you need to be careful that before you know it, it isn't ear length.

The Aveda system of cutting hair provides you with a plan. If during a cut, you find yourself getting lost, going back to the plan will provide you with the reassurance you need to continue.

Using Tools Most Efficiently

The Aveda system of cutting hair has a unique methodology for manipulating scissors, your primary cutting tool (see *Lesson 2: Handling the Scissors and Comb* in this module). This methodology provides you with the excellent control needed to perform precise and attractive cuts.

You will also learn how to correctly use all the other tools that stylists have available to best meet the needs of their clients.

Developing the Technical Foundations for Cutting

At Aveda, we believe in starting with the foundations and building your technical knowledge to provide you with the necessary techniques to succeed at your chosen career.

You will learn these cutting techniques, each building on one another:

- One-length technique (see *Lesson 4* in this module)
- Graduated technique (see *Lesson 5* in this module)
- Layered technique (see *Lesson 6* in this module)

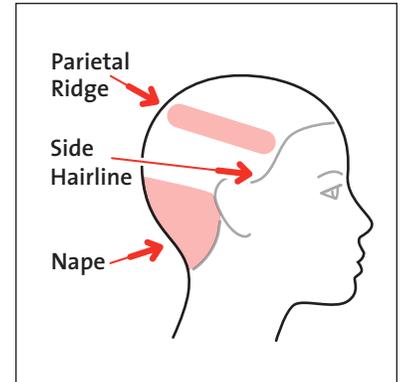
TERMINOLOGY

As you begin learning how to cut hair, it's important to learn the terms that you will be hearing and using daily. Of course, you will be presented with new terms throughout your learning experience, but the concepts presented here are the foundations.

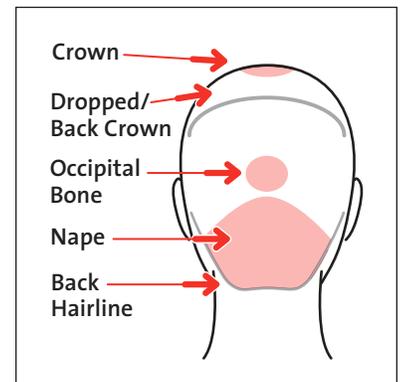
Parts of the Head

For hair cutting purposes, the parts of the head you should know include:

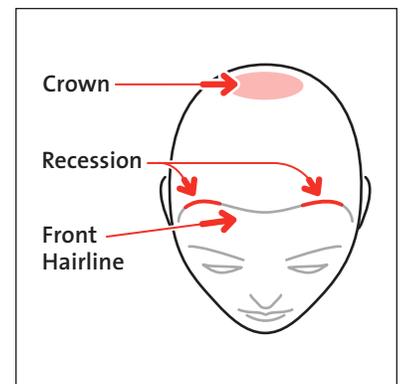
Parietal ridge	The parietal bones form the sides and top of the head. The ridge is the area at the top of the bones.
Nape	The area at the back of the neck
Crown	The area at the top of the head
Dropped/ back crown	The area between the crown and the parietal ridge
Occipital bone	The bone that forms the back of the skull (sometimes called the “bump of knowledge”)
Recession	The areas on the sides of the front hairline that sometimes recede toward the back



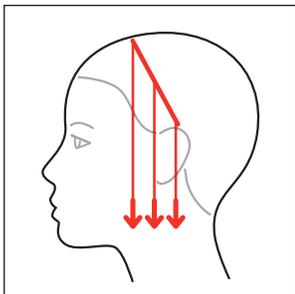
Side of head



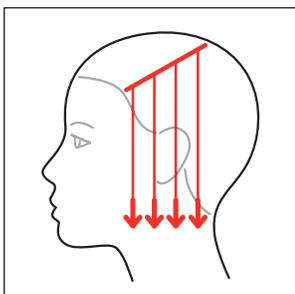
Back of head



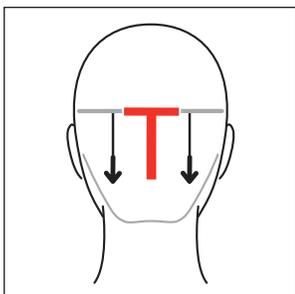
Top of head



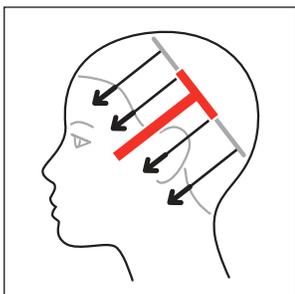
Hair falling to gravity from back-flowing diagonal part



Hair falling to gravity from a forward-flowing diagonal part



T to the horizontal section



T to the diagonal section

Into Gravity

When hair falls into gravity or is combed/brushed into gravity, it is going directly down, rather than being brushed/combed back, forward, up, etc.

T to the Section

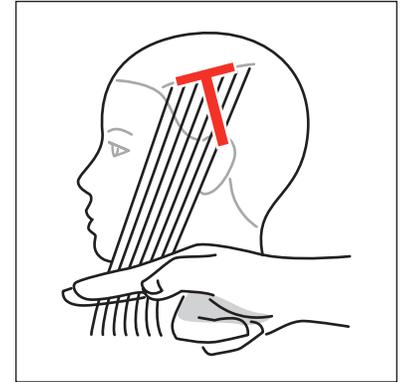
One of the Aveda haircutting principles is that you hold hair at a right angle to the parting, or section. This provides you with more control over the cutting process. The technique is called cutting T to the section.

Shifting Out of T

In some instances, you will move the hair out of T before cutting to build weight in a certain direction. This is called shifting out of T.

Over-Direction

Sometimes, you will hold a section "T," but move your fingers away from parallel to the parting. This technique is called over-direction.

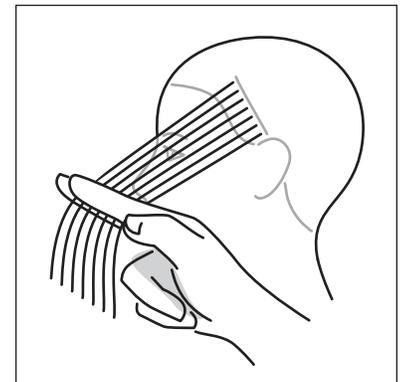


Shifting out of T

Perimeters

The perimeter is the outside design created by the hair when it falls into gravity. You could think of it as the skeleton of the haircut that supports the inside structure. There are three parts to the perimeter:

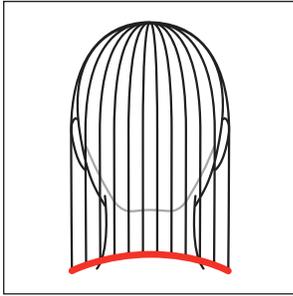
- Back perimeter:** Found when all the hair in the nape and crown area is combed down
- Side perimeter:** Found when all of the hair from the side and top of the head is combed into gravity
- Front perimeter:** Found by combing down the hair in the front hairline. If the front perimeter is above the bridge of the nose, it is sometimes called "bangs" or "fringe."



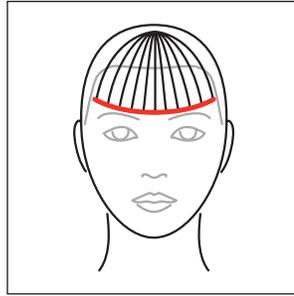
Over-direction

Perimeters come in many shapes, including:

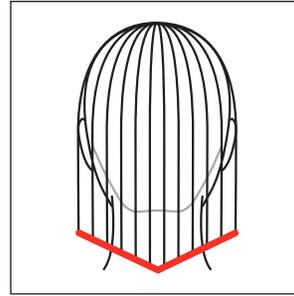
- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Concave | Found in front, back, and side perimeters. The line forms an arc with the curve open at the bottom. (Hint: Think of a cave door.) |
| Convex | Found in front, back, and side perimeters. The line forms an arc, with the curve open at the top. |
| “V” | Found in front and back perimeters. The line forms a V, which is either strongly or slightly angled. The inverted V is the reverse form. |
| Horizontal | Found in front, back, and side perimeters. The line is parallel to the floor. |
| Asymmetrical | Found in front, side, and back perimeters. The hair is longer on one side than the other. |
| Forward Diagonal | Found in the side perimeters. The hair on the side perimeter is shorter at the back, getting progressively longer toward the front. |
| Backward Diagonal | Found in the side perimeters. The hair on the side perimeter is longer at the back, getting progressively shorter toward the front. |



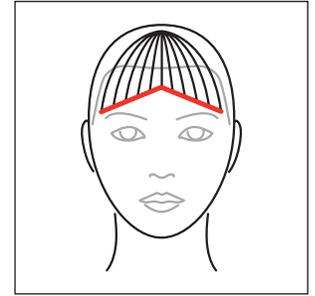
Concave perimeter



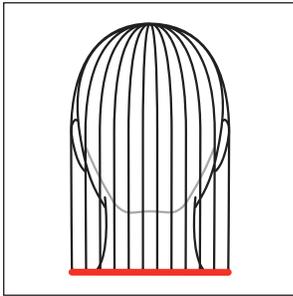
Convex perimeter



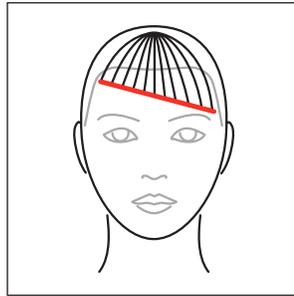
"V" perimeter



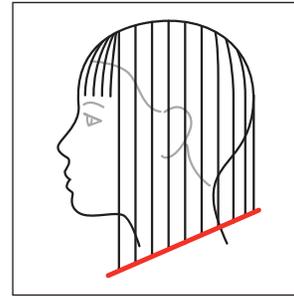
Inverted "V" perimeter



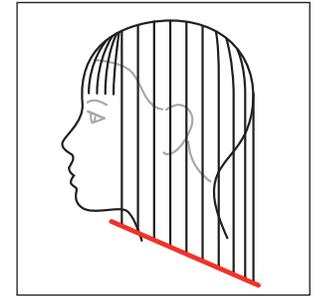
Horizontal perimeter



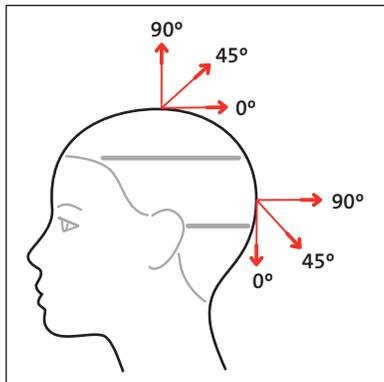
Asymmetrical perimeter



Forward diagonal perimeter



Backward diagonal perimeter



Elevations at different areas of the head

Interior Shape

Interior shape is defined as the shape that would form if all the hair was projected at the elevation at which it was cut.

Weight

Weight is the hair remaining after a client's hair is cut. The hair in a shoulder length one-length cut is literally heavier than the hair in a layered or graduated cut of the same length perimeter. When hair is layered or its density is reduced, it will have a less heavy look and will physically weigh less.

Elevation

Elevation is the angle from the client's scalp at which you raise the hair when cutting. The elevation determines whether the hair is cut one-length (no elevation), graduated (1° to 89°), or layered (90° and more, but usually at 90°).

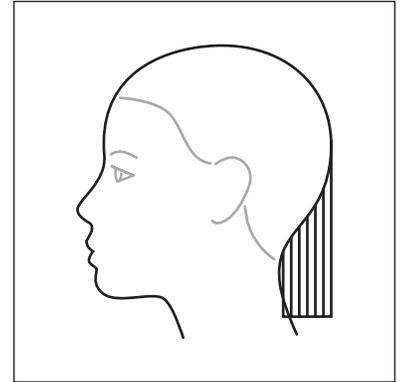
Notice in the illustration that at different areas of the head, the same elevation from the scalp is not the same elevation from the floor. This is because the head is curved.

AVEDA HAIR CUTTING FOUNDATIONS

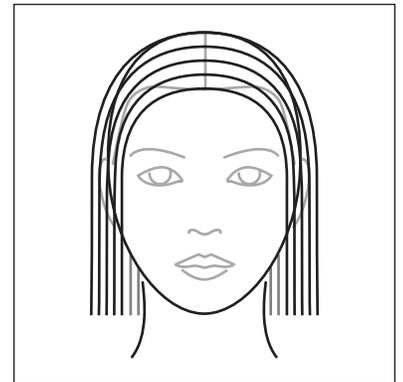
Aveda hair cutting is based on three techniques: one-length, graduated, and layered.

One-Length

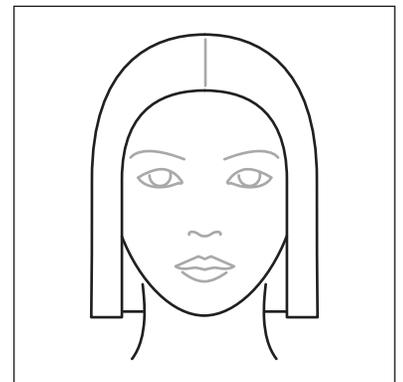
All hair falls to the same perimeter. This technique leaves maximum weight at the perimeter. (See *Lesson 4* in this module.)



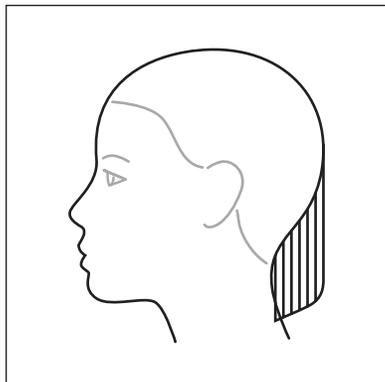
One-length perimeter (maximum weight)



One-length perimeter front view



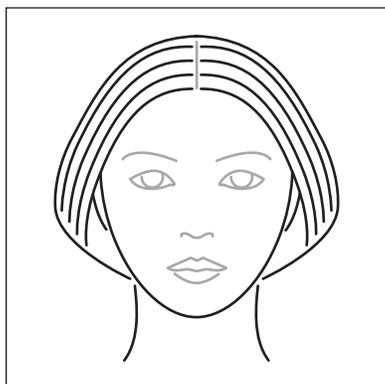
One-length perimeter interior shape



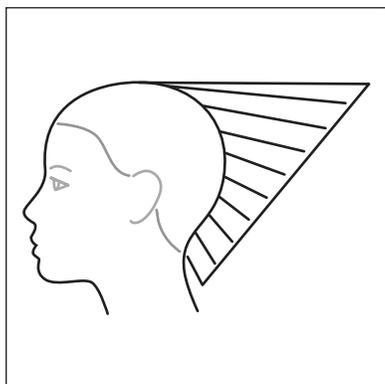
Graduated perimeter (build-up of weight)

Graduated

Hair lengths build into a beveled interior. This technique provides a build-up of weight. (See Lesson 5 in this module.)



Front view of graduated perimeter



Interior shape of graduated cut

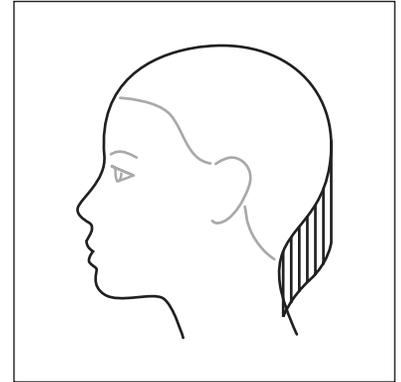
Layered

This technique provides the least weight of the three techniques. (See Lesson 6 in this module.)

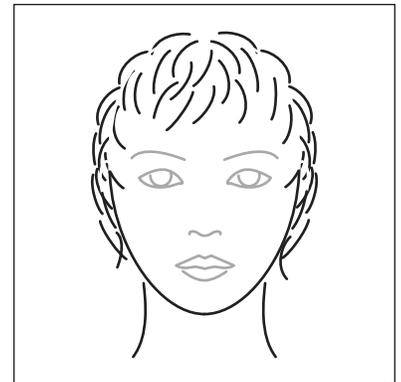
DETERMINING WHETHER TO CUT WET OR DRY

Hair can be cut either wet or dry. Some stylists prefer to cut hair dry all the time. While you are learning and practicing on mannequins, you will cut hair wet because it is easier to control wet hair. However, you may need to cut hair dry in the following circumstances:

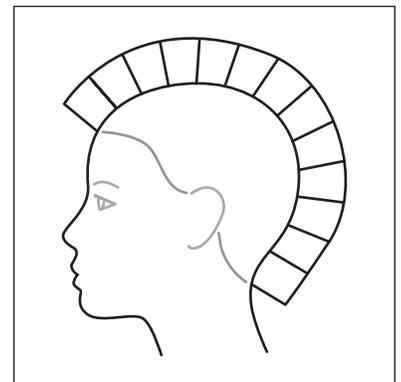
- Very curly hair should always be cut dry because the “spring” in the hair will cause it to look much shorter dry than wet. Cutting curly hair dry gives you control over the final look.
- If the hair has been straightened or relaxed, but there is some new growth at the scalp, you may choose to cut dry.
- Hair at certain parts of the head, including the front hairline and the crown, sometimes moves in directions that aren’t apparent when the hair is wet. These areas have what is called strong growth patterns. For example, a cowlick is a strong growth pattern. Check for these areas during the client consultation and determine whether it would be better to cut them dry.



Layered perimeter (maximum weight removed)



Front view of layered perimeter



Interior shape of layered cut

SUMMARY

The Aveda haircutting method is based on providing stylists with consistent and meaningful tools for becoming successful.

This lesson provided you with the concepts and terminology that will be used throughout your career. Refer back to this lesson if you have questions about basic haircutting information.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Back perimeter
- Bevel
- Crown
- Dropped crown
- Elevation
- Front perimeter
- Graduated technique
- Gravity
- Interior shape
- Layered technique
- Nape
- Occipital bone
- One-length technique
- Over-direction
- Parietal ridge
- Perimeter
- Recession
- Side perimeter
- T to the section
- Weight

2. HANDLING THE SCISSORS AND COMB

 See DVD: Scene 5.4 Scissors Positions
and Scene 5.5, Handling Combs

Contents

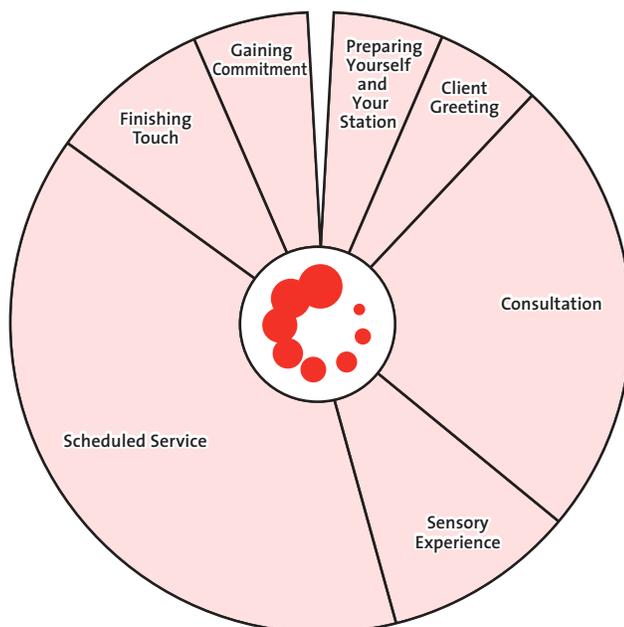
Parts of the Scissors

Scissors Positions

Holding the Scissors

Styling Comb

Holding Comb and Scissors



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Identify the parts of scissors and combs.
- Correctly hold and manipulate scissors and a comb.

OVERVIEW

The Aveda system for handling scissors provides the most accurate, precise cutting approach available. This lesson explains the parts of the scissors and how to hold them for specific purposes.

Once you are comfortable holding the scissors, you will learn how to build your dexterity by holding the comb at the same time. It is important that you practice these techniques daily, for a minimum of one hour.

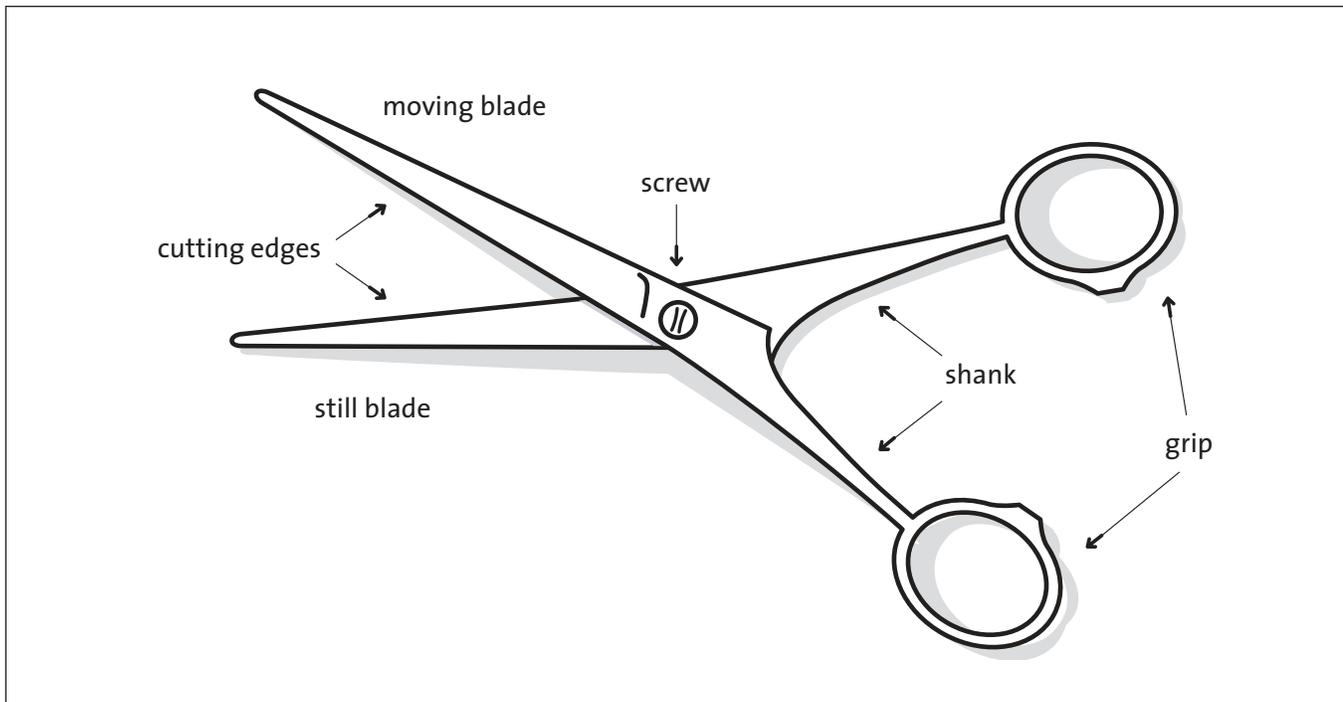
 **NOTE:** If your left hand is dominant, switch left / right hand instructions. If you are ambidextrous, analyze in which hand you usually hold scissors.

PREPARATION

For this lesson, you will need:

- Standard setup (*see Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Mannequin
- Scissors
- Styling comb

PARTS OF THE SCISSORS



Parts of the scissors

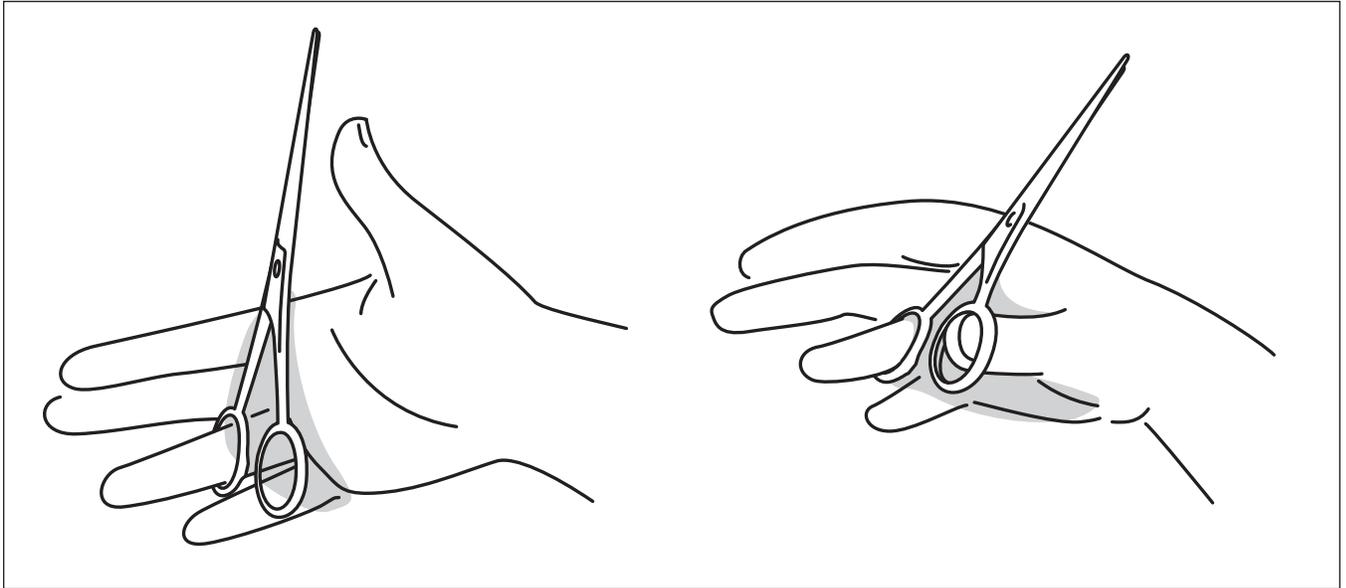
SCISSORS POSITIONS

 See DVD: Scene 5.4, Scissors Position

In the Aveda system, there are two basic scissors positions:

- **Primary.** Use this position for the graduated or layered technique.
- **Secondary.** Use this position primarily for the one-length technique.

In addition, the scissors position you use depends on the position of the hair you are cutting and your access to it.



Finger grip on ring finger

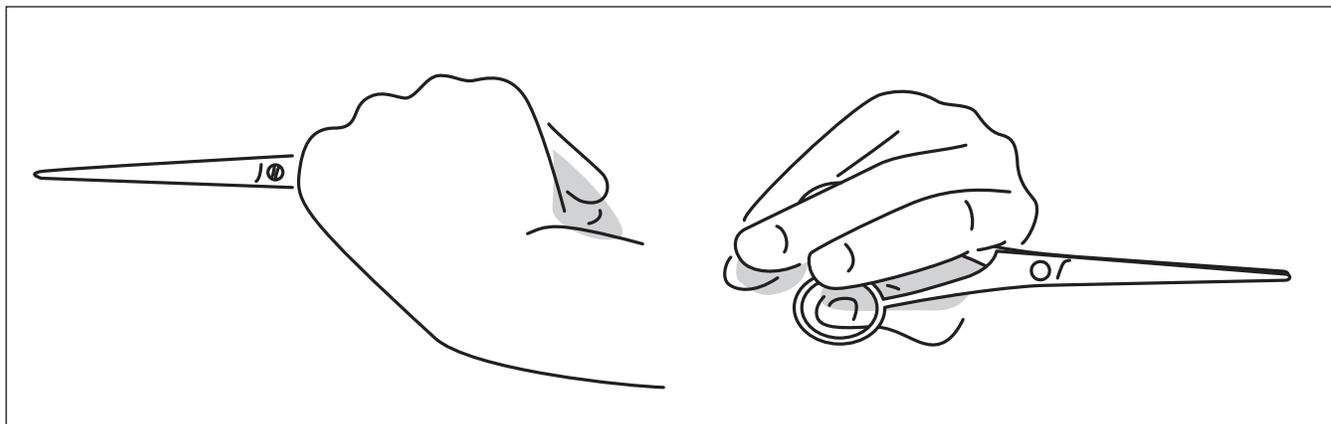
Tip of thumb in grip

HOLDING THE SCISSORS

To hold the scissors:

1. Hold the scissors in your left hand by the cutting tip.
2. Place the finger grip on your right ring finger at the second knuckle.
3. Rest the scissors shank against the third knuckle of your index finger (so that the scissors point toward your left shoulder).
4. Place your index, middle, and little fingers on top of the scissors.
5. Place the tip of your thumb in the thumb grip. Scissors are still pointing to your left shoulder.
6. Bend your elbow so that your arm is parallel to the floor.

 **NOTE:** When cutting, you always move your thumb up and down. Do not move your other fingers. While practicing, place a finger under the still blade to ensure that it is not moving.



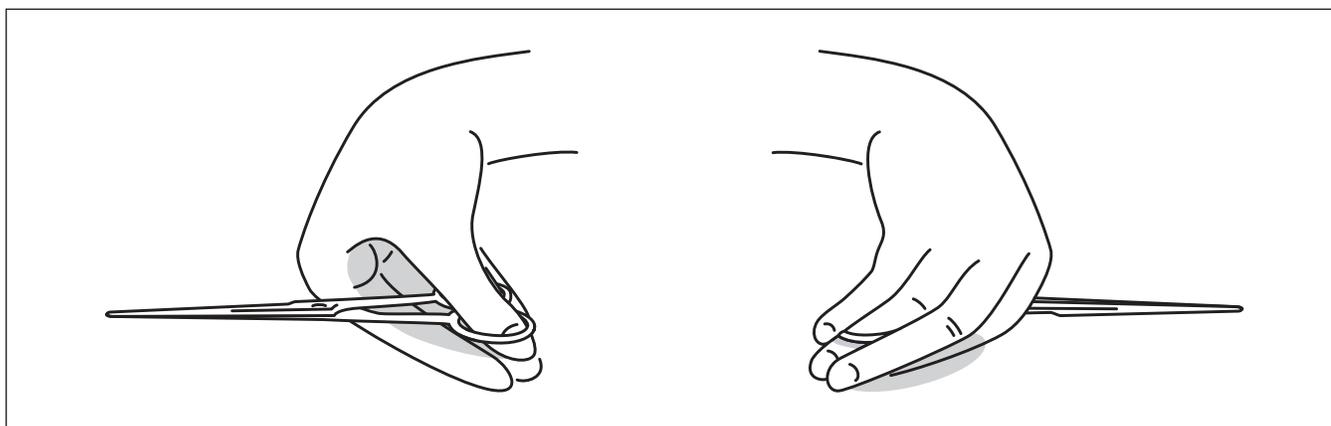
Primary scissors position from front and back

Primary Scissors Position

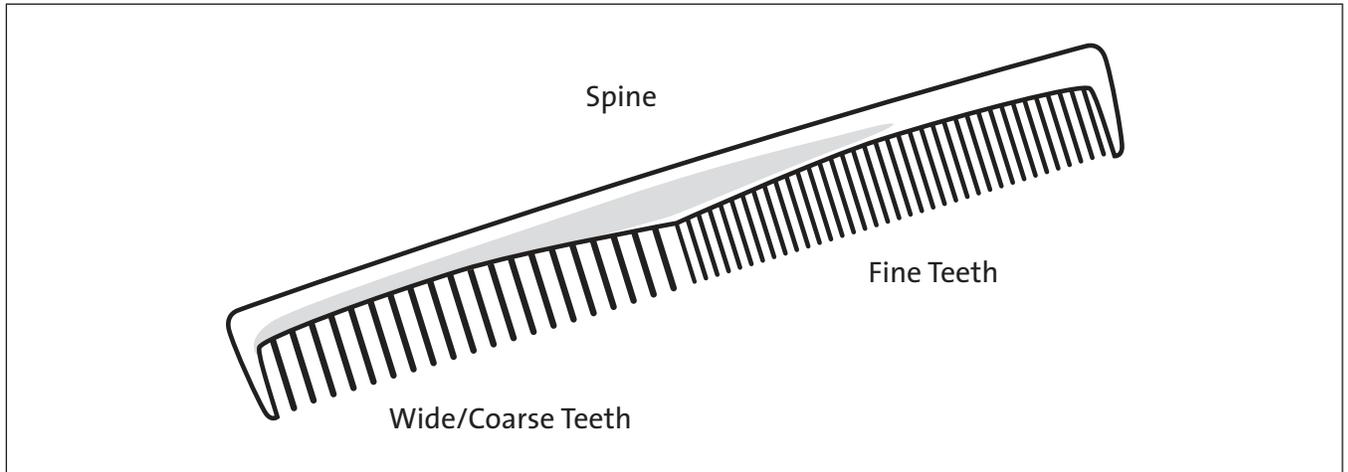
In the primary scissors position, you bend your wrist so that the scissors are parallel to your chest.

Secondary Scissors Position

In the secondary scissors position, you hold the scissors with your wrist up and the scissors parallel to the floor.



Secondary scissors position from front and back



Parts of a styling comb

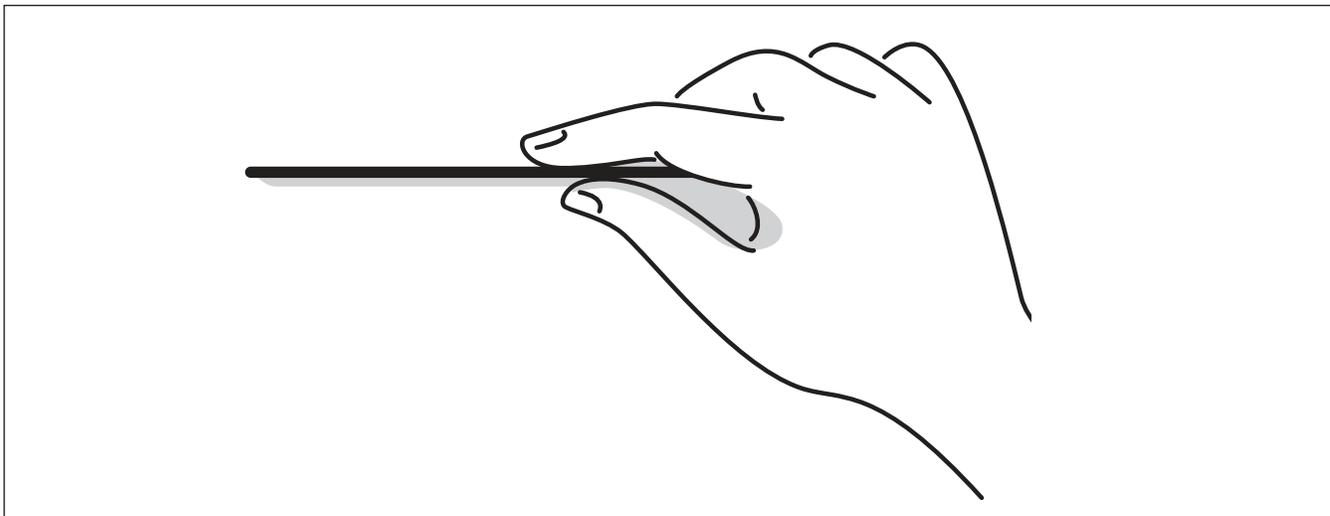
STYLING COMB

You use combs both to distribute hair and to control it while cutting and styling. The type of comb and the part of the comb you use depends on what you want to do. For example, holding the hair against the head with the spine of the comb provides more tension than if you use the wide teeth.

As you learn how to cut and style hair, be aware of which comb is best to use and what parts of it you're using.

There are other types of combs than the styling comb pictured here, including plastic and metal tail combs, and checking combs.

They will be described in this workbook when they are used in cutting and styling.



Combing position

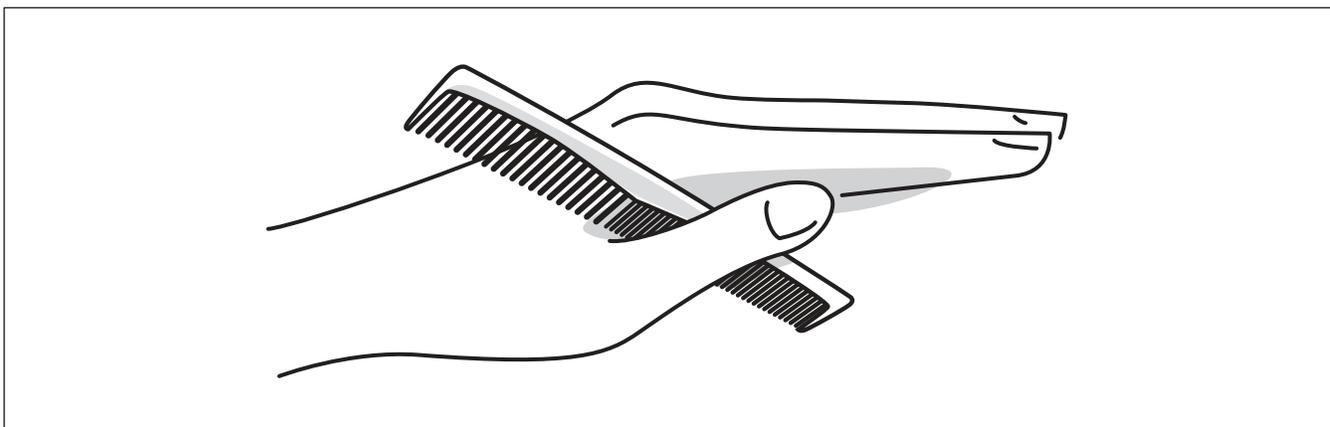
HOLDING COMB AND SCISSORS

 See DVD: Scene 5.5, Handling Combs

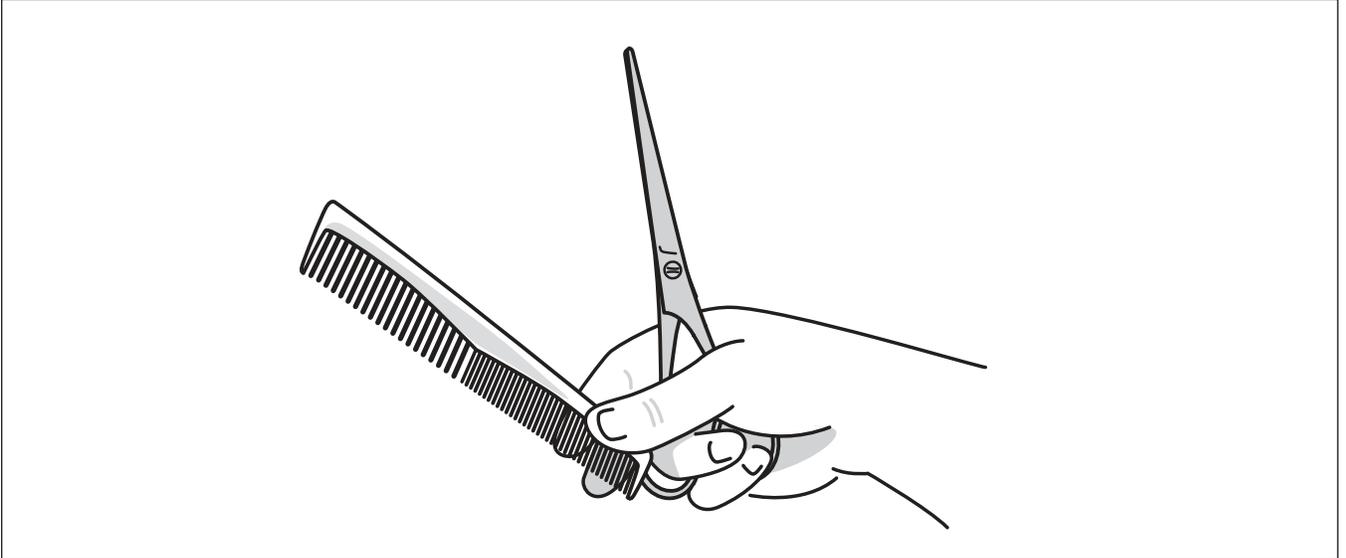
How you hold the comb depends on whether you are combing or cutting.

Holding Comb while Cutting

While cutting, hold the comb in your left hand using your thumb. Extend all your other fingers straight out.



Holding comb while cutting



Scissors palmed

Holding Comb and Scissors while Combing

When combing:

1. Palm the scissors.
2. Hold the comb in your dominant hand between the thumb, index, and middle fingers.

 **NOTE:** Sometimes you will comb using your other hand. Practice with both hands.

3. Keep the scissors palmed and immobile during combing.

SUMMARY

Now you understand how to:

- Identify specific parts of a comb or scissors
- Hold your scissors correctly
- Hold your comb correctly

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Coarse teeth of a comb
- Fine teeth of a comb
- Moving blade of the scissors
- Palming
- Primary scissors position
- Secondary scissors position
- Shanks of the scissors
- Spine of a comb
- Still blade

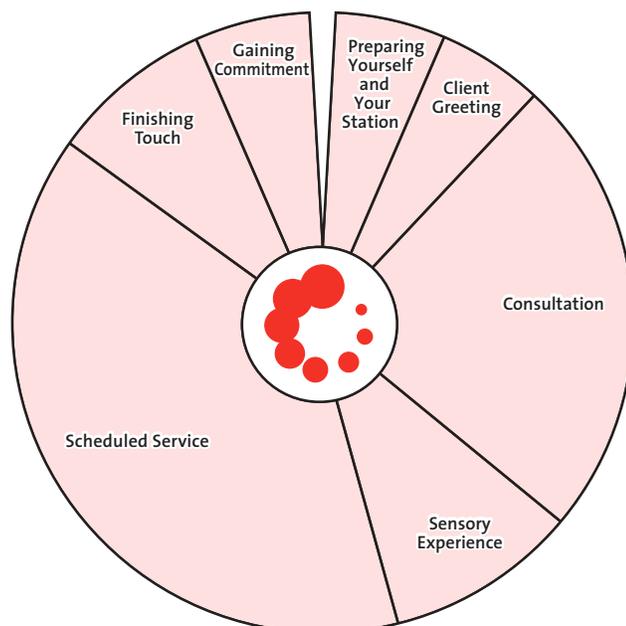
3. SECTIONING

 See DVD: Scene 5.6, Sectioning

Contents

Applying the Six Basic Sections

Basic Subsectioning



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Identify and apply the 6 basic sections.
- Apply the safety section.
- Determine when to subsection.
- Correctly apply subsections.

OVERVIEW

“Carve on the inside what you want on the outside.”

In other words, you determine the final shape you create through the way you section and subsection it.

Use the basic sections to divide the hair so that you can control it and understand the client’s head shape.

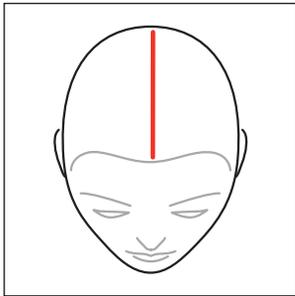
Use subsections to create the shape of the hair.

Successful stylists take care to section the hair for control and as a road map to the cut.

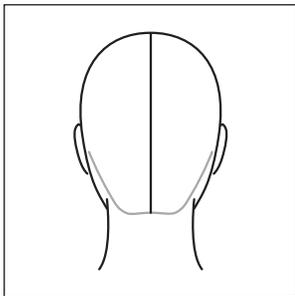
PREPARATION

For this lesson you will need:

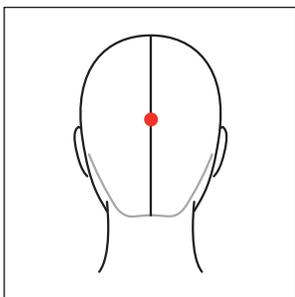
- Standard setup (*see Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Mannequin



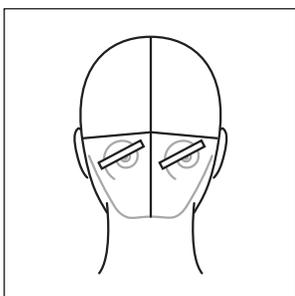
Center part from top



Center part from back



Occipital bone



Sections 1 and 2

APPLYING THE SIX BASIC SECTIONS

 See DVD: Scene 5.6, Sectioning

1. Apply the Center Part

1. Wet the hair.
2. Part the hair from the center front hairline to the center back hairline. This is called the center part.

 **HINT:** Use the tip of the client's nose and the bone at the top of the spine as guides.

2. Apply Sections 1 and 2

1. On the center part, find the occipital bone, which is the bone that protrudes above the nape.
2. Using the wide/coarse end of the comb, part the hair along the occipital from just below the occipital bone to the right hairline (approximately to the mid to upper part of the ear) at a slight diagonal.

Below this parting is section 1.

3. Using a clip, fasten the hair out of the way.

 **NOTE:** Do not set down the comb.

4. From the same point on the occipital bone, part to the left hairline.

This is section 2.

5. Clip section 2.
6. Check that the sections are the same size and shape.

3. Apply Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6

1. Find the point on the parietal ridge that crosses the center part.

*** HINT:** To find the parietal ridge, hold a comb flat against the back of the head and rock it. The line on which it rocks (from the flat to the round part of the head) is the parietal ridge.

2. From the center point on the parietal ridge, part the hair parallel to section 1.

This is section 3.

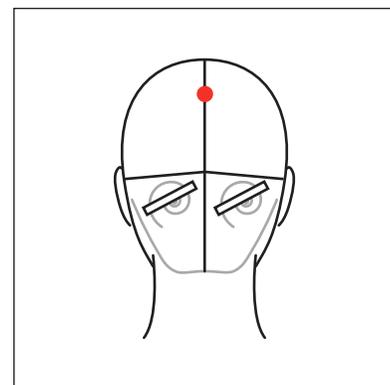
3. Repeat on the left side for section 4.

Continue holding the comb.

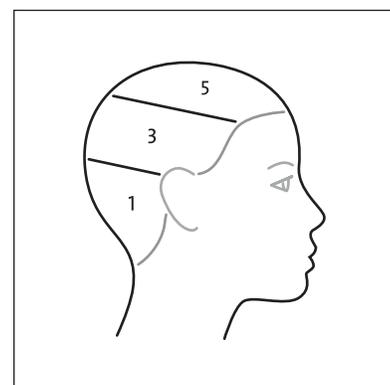
4. Check that the partings are neat and the sections are balanced.

5. Isolate the remaining hair by clipping each of the remaining sections.

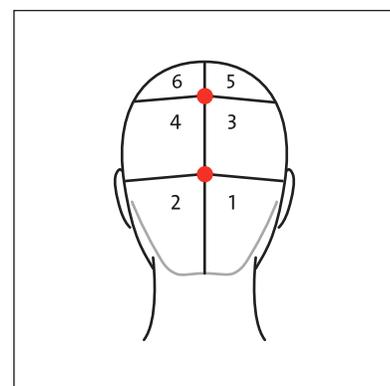
These are sections 5 and 6.



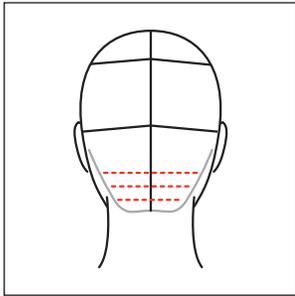
Parietal ridge center



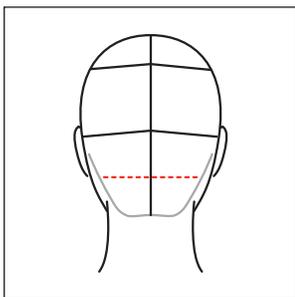
Side view of sections 1, 3, and 5



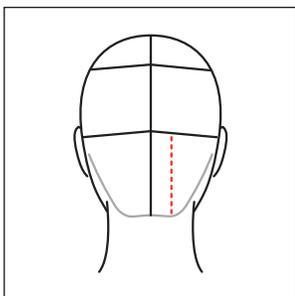
Sections 1 through 6



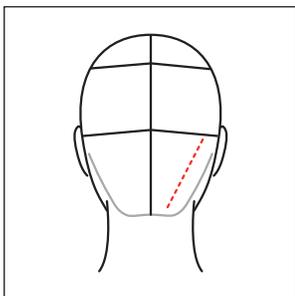
Subdividing sections 1 & 2



Horizontal subsection



Vertical subsection



Diagonal subsection

BASIC SUBSECTIONING

By subdividing the basic sections, you achieve subsections. Subsections vary according to desired result and lie parallel to the haircut's interior or perimeter shape.

In general, when you subsection, you do the following:

- Part parallel to the perimeter or internal shape of each haircut.
- Subsection according to the desired outcome.
- Determine the size of the subsection based on the density of the hair: thicker hair requires more subsections than thinner hair.

Depending on the desired shape, you may use a combination of these kinds of subsections:

- Horizontal subsection
- Vertical subsection
- Diagonal subsection

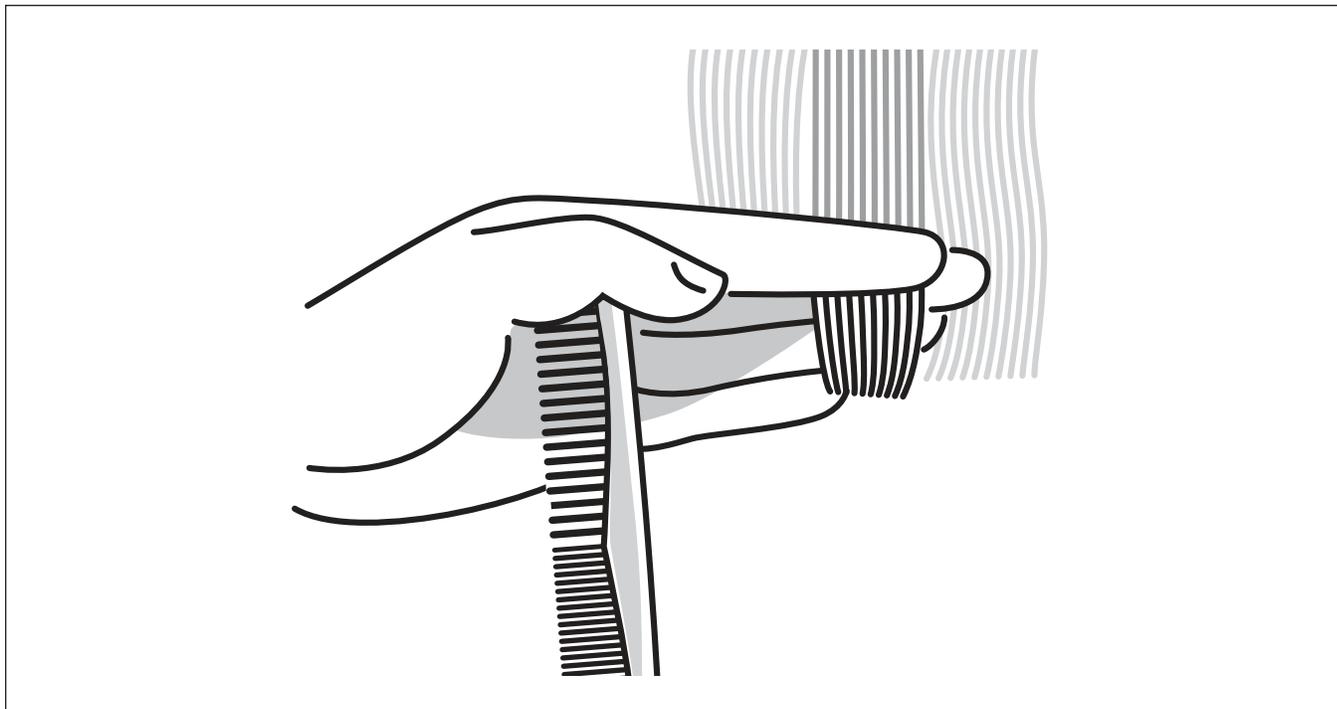
Holding Hair in a Subsection

In general, follow these guidelines:

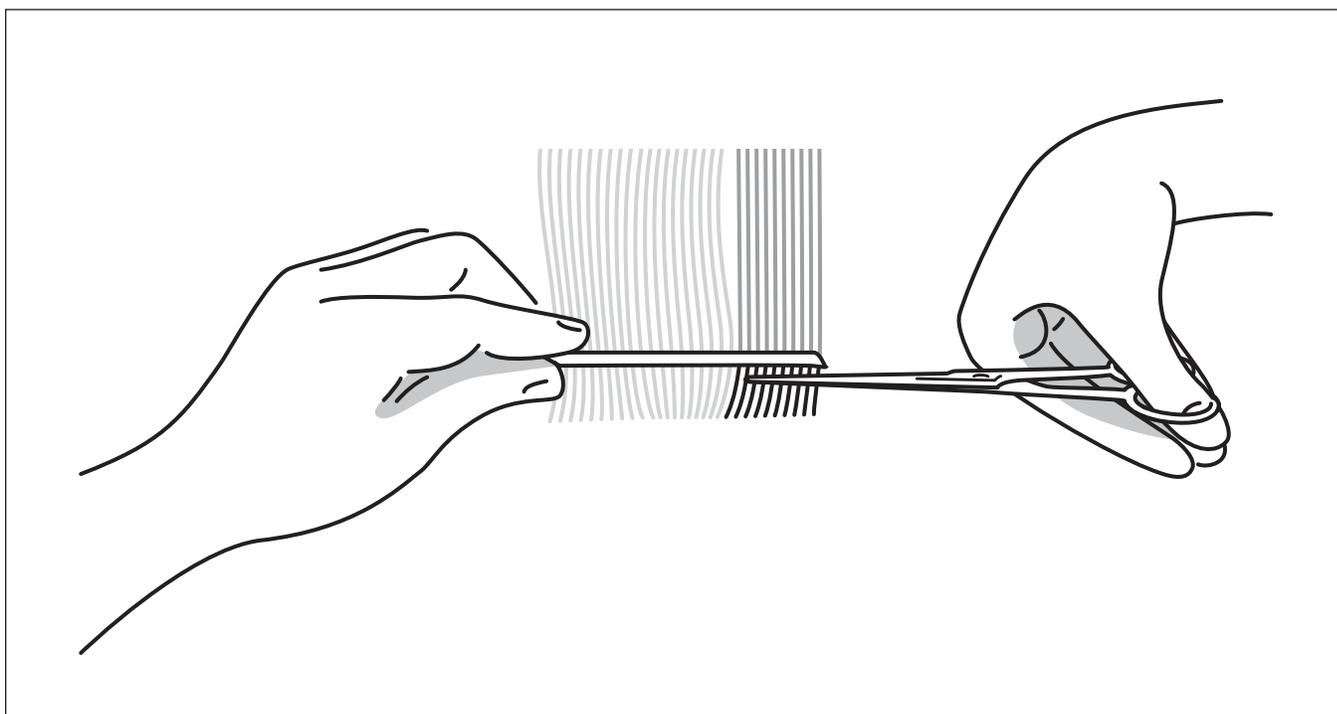
- Only pick up as much hair as you can control.
- Cut about 1" at a time.
- Hold the hair between the index and middle finger, only up to the second knuckle (phalange). Be careful not to cut into the crook of your fingers (the area where the fingers join).

NOTE: In some instances, you will hold the hair in the teeth of the comb while you cut. Follow the same general guidelines.

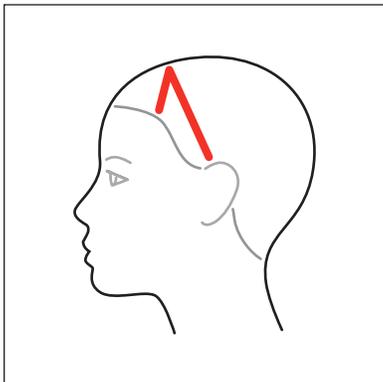
- Comb hair smoothly from the part through the ends, making sure that tension is even.
- Do not shift the hair once it is combed. If you shift the hair, it can buckle, causing the hair to be cut unevenly.
- Hold hair perpendicular to the subsection. This makes a "T" formation and is called "T to the section."



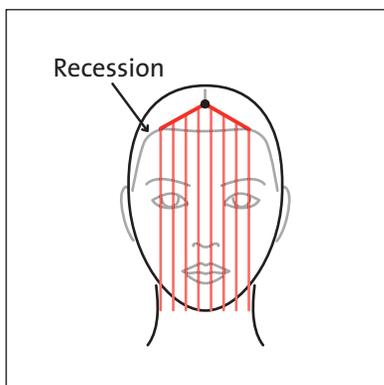
Controlling hair with fingers



Controlling hair with the comb



Safety section from the side



Safety section from the front

Applying a Safety Section

Use a safety section when the front of the hair (front perimeter) needs to be different from the sides and back.

NOTE: The front perimeter is sometimes called “bangs” or “fringe” when it is cut above the bridge of the nose.

A safety section uses a combination of horizontal and diagonal subsections.

To create a safety section:

1. Apply a parting from the front hairline to the crown, unless the client always wears a side part.
2. From a center point no more than 2½” back from the front hairline, make a parting where the right ear connects to the head. Repeat on the other side.

These diagonal subsections will be parallel to the angle of the cut.

3. From the same spot at the top of the head, create a triangle by making two partings, usually to the recession.

NOTE: The width of the triangle depends on how wide a front perimeter the client desires—the longer the perimeter, the narrower the width of the triangle.

4. Analyze natural growth patterns and make sure that hair falls into the natural pattern.

SUMMARY

Now you understand the following:

- Sectioning allows you to determine before you start cutting how you want the finished result to look.
- Subsections reflect the interior and perimeter lines.
- Sectioning and subsectioning isolate specific areas of the head that need to be treated separately.
- Subsectioning provides you with a blueprint of the cut.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Parting
- Section
- Sectioning
- Subsection
- T to the section

4. ONE-LENGTH TECHNIQUE

 See DVD: Scene 1, One-Length Technique

Contents

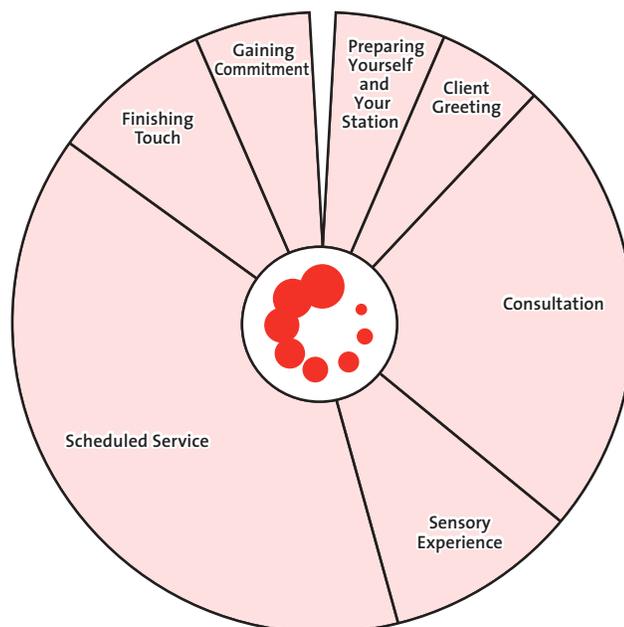
One-Length Above-the-Shoulders Cutting Procedure

One-Length Angle Cutting Procedure

One-Length Below-the-Shoulders Cutting Procedure

Perimeter Options

Hair Style



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to :

- Cut hair in the one-length technique: all the hair reaches the perimeter
- Cut a one-length above the shoulder
- Cut a one-length below the shoulder
- Cut a one-length angle at the side perimeter
- Identify one-length perimeters

OVERVIEW

One-length cuts (sometimes called blunt cuts or bobs), introduced in the early part of the 20th century, have become a classic fashion statement.

A one-length cut, by definition, means that all hair reaches the perimeter, which can be horizontal, concave, etc.

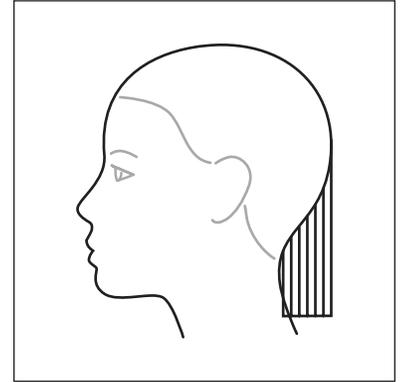
In this lesson, we will cut hair using the one-length technique. You will learn how to cut the one-length technique for a horizontal, above-the-shoulder perimeter, an angled front perimeter, and a below-the-shoulder perimeter.

One-length cutting places all the emphasis on the accuracy of the perimeter. Developing a perimeter length that compliments the client is crucial. Your ability to accurately develop the perimeter depends on your concentration and control.

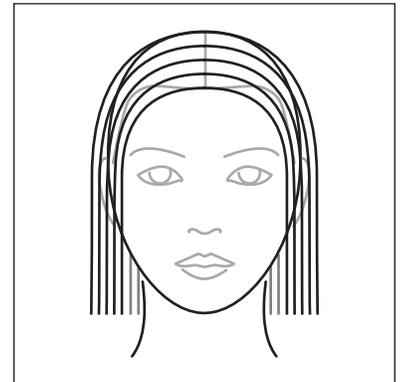
PREPARATION

For this technique you will need:

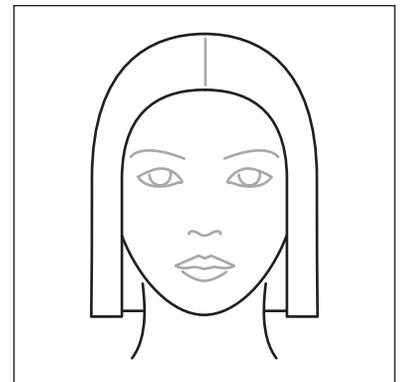
- Standard setup (see *Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- At least 6 clips
- Water bottle
- Scissors
- Styling comb
- Mannequin



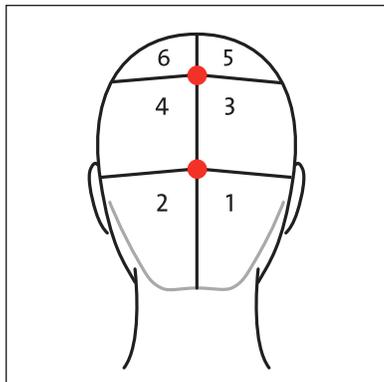
One-length perimeter (maximum weight)



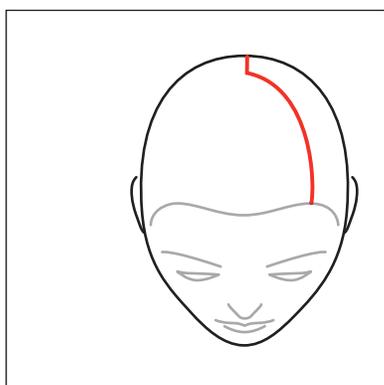
One-length perimeter front view



One-length perimeter interior shape



Basic sections



Side part sectioning

ONE-LENGTH ABOVE-THE-SHOULDERS CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 1.1, One-Length Above-the-Shoulder.

1. Section Hair

The sectioning for a one-length technique cut is the six basic sections.

If the client always wears a side part, angle the side part from the front hairline to the center crown. This side part connects with the back middle part. However, if the client wants to be able to change the part or wear a center part, part the hair in the center for cutting.

2. Check Client's Body Position

Raise the client's chair to where the perimeter will be at your chest level.

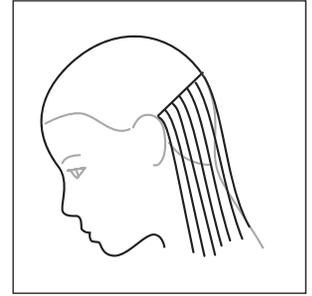
 **HINT:** Make sure that the client's legs are not crossed. Crossed legs tilt the client's body, making it harder to cut hair evenly.

3. Cut/Establish the Guideline (Cut Sections 1 and 2)

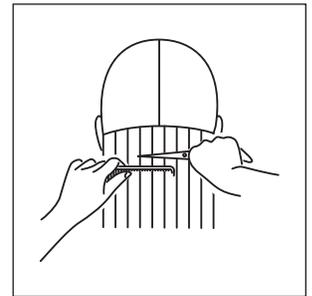
1. To begin cutting, center yourself directly behind the client.
2. For control, position the client's head forward to create a solid plane (the neck) on which to cut.
3. Take out the clips that are securing sections 1 and 2.

NOTE: Make sure that the hair is consistently wet or dry as you cut. Cutting some hair while it is wet and other hair while it is dry can cause inconsistencies in the shape.

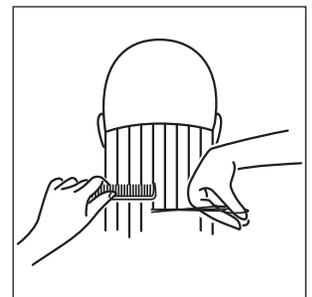
4. Using the fine teeth of the comb to create maximum tension, comb the hair into gravity (don't shift hair to the side) and at 0° (without elevation).
5. Starting at the center at the nape, use the spine of the comb to secure a portion of the section (a little from each of sections 1 and 2) against the nape of the neck.
6. Holding the scissors in secondary position (thumb and fingers down) and parallel to the section parting, cut the hair.
7. Repeat the cutting on the client's right side. Then return to the center and cut from the center to the client's left side.
8. Check the balance in the mirror and make corrections before continuing.



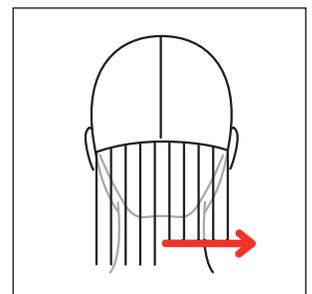
*Client's head is forward;
Comb hair against neck
at 0°*



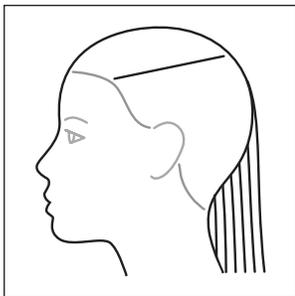
*Comb and scissors are
parallel*



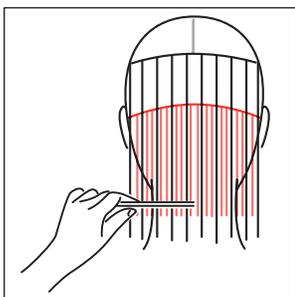
*Comb secures hair;
Scissors in secondary
position*



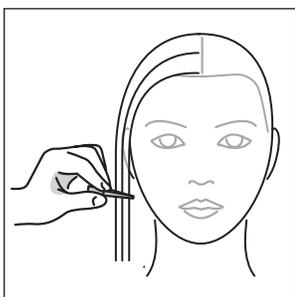
*Cut first from back center to
client's right side*



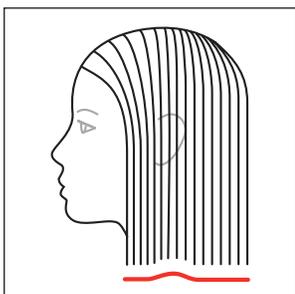
Drop sections 3 and 4 and comb into gravity



Cut to the guideline



By the ear, use light tension to hold hair



Uneven perimeter at ear

4. Cut Sections 3 and 4

1. Position the client's head upright.
2. Drop sections 3 and 4.
3. Subsection the hair if you cannot see the guideline clearly. Remember that higher density requires smaller subsections. You should always be able to see the guideline.
4. Comb the hair into gravity, following with the scissors held in secondary position.
5. Secure the hair at the center of the back by placing the large teeth of the comb through the hair and against the client's neck.
6. Using secondary scissors position, cut to the guideline. Remember to cut at 0°.
7. Again, cut from the center to the right, and then from the center to the left.
8. Check the balance in the mirror and make corrections before continuing.

Cutting by the Ear

When cutting by the ear, hold the hair with the wide teeth of the comb to produce light tension. Allow the ear to protrude and let the hair fall loosely. Not taking extra care in this area can cause an uneven perimeter below the ear.

5. Cut Sections 5 and 6

1. Drop all remaining hair.
2. If the hair is dense, subsection as necessary.
3. Comb the hair into gravity and evenly distribute it.

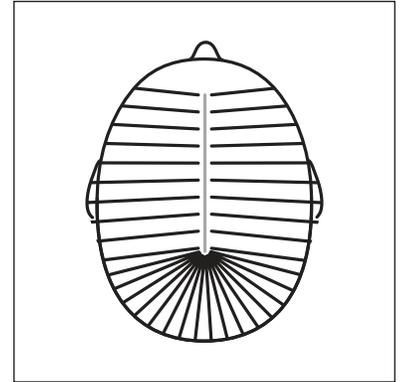
NOTE: It is important to evenly distribute the hair and comb it into gravity, without allowing it to shift forward. Shifting the hair forward will cause a convex side perimeter.

4. Using secondary scissors position, cut to the guideline (not above or below) starting at the back center.
5. Cut from the center to the right front hairline, and then from the back center to the left front hairline.
6. Check the balance in the mirror and make final corrections as necessary.

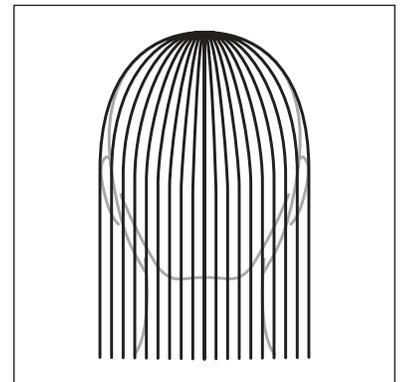
Strong Growth Patterns

Growth patterns will affect the way you cut. Keep these points in mind:

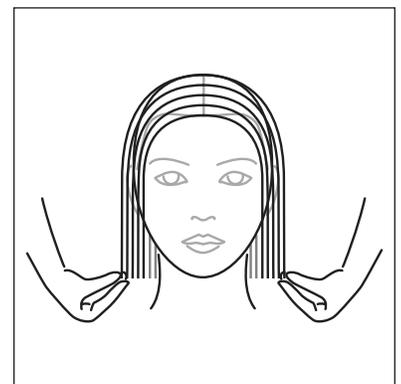
- Allow strong growth patterns to fall naturally into gravity.
- Use very light tension when combing and cutting hair with strong growth patterns.
- As an alternative, dry the hair before cutting any hair with strong growth patterns or strong curl.



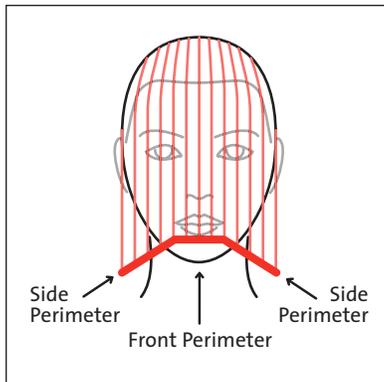
Overhead view of hair fanned



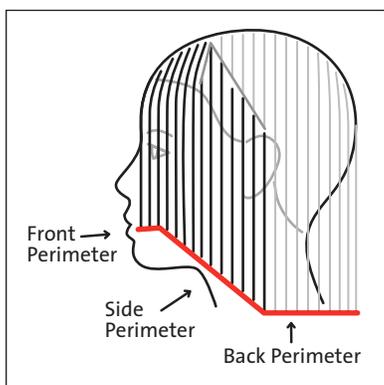
Back view of hair fanned



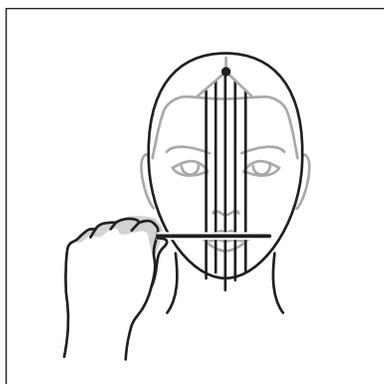
Check your work in the mirror



Line of final front and side perimeters



All hair falls to the perimeter



Cut front perimeter

ONE-LENGTH ANGLE CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 1.2.1, Cut One-Length Angle

In this variation, an angle is added to the side perimeter. When combed into gravity, all the hair comes to the angled perimeter. By adding a one-length angle, you can add softness around the face. The angle of the cut can vary from just a subtle angle off the side perimeter to a sharp angle connecting to a very short front perimeter.

 **NOTE:** The front perimeter is also known as “bangs” or “fringe” if it is above the bridge of the nose.

You can cut a one-length angle on a one-length, graduated, or layered technique cut.

1. Create a Safety Section and Cut the Front Perimeter

When you create a safety section, the width of the triangle depends on how wide a front perimeter you want. In general, the longer the hair in the perimeter, the narrower the width of the triangle.

For more information about creating a safety section, see *Lesson 3: Sectioning* in this module.

1. Create a safety section.
2. Hold the hair in the front perimeter with the large teeth of the comb to create extremely light tension.

 **NOTE:** If growth patterns in the front hairline are extremely strong, cut the hair freehand.

3. Using secondary scissors position, cut the center guide to the length agreed on in the client consultation.
4. Use the center guide to cut to the right, and then from the center to the left.

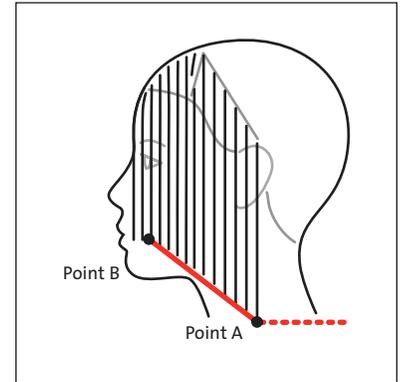
2. Cut the Side Perimeter

You will now cut the angle in the side perimeter. To do this you cut from the point where the side and back perimeters meet below the center of the ear. This is called Point A.

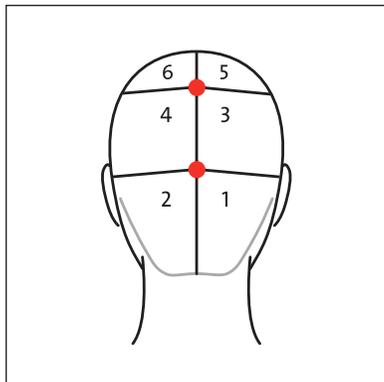
You cut from Point A to the point where the front and side perimeters meet. This is called point B.

It is crucial that you cut from Point A without cutting any length at Point A. If you cut into the length of Point A, the hair will appear shorter than desirable when viewed from the front.

1. Comb the right side hair into gravity.
2. Carefully determine the locations of points A and B.
3. On the right side, use secondary scissors position and cut freehand from Point A to Point B.
4. Repeat on the left side.
5. Drop the remaining hair and comb it into gravity.
6. Cut any hair hanging past the established perimeter line.
7. Check the balance in the mirror and make corrections as necessary.



Cut from Point A to Point B



Basic sections

ONE-LENGTH BELOW-THE-SHOULDERS CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 1.3, *One-Length Below the Shoulder*

In this variation, the client is standing during the cut, and you cut the side perimeters with the client's head turned.

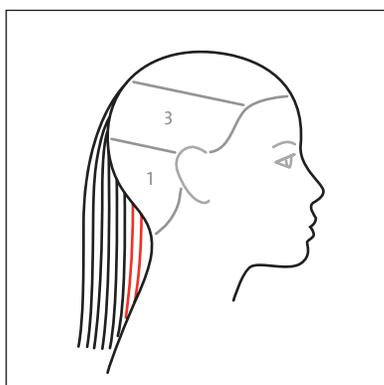
1. Position Client

The client should be standing with her or his back to you.

2. Section Hair

 **ATTENTION:** Sometimes with long hair, the hair in sections 1 and 2 will be shorter than in sections 3, 4, 5, and 6. This is because the hair in the nape area tends to be finer, has contact with clothing, binders, etc., and so it breaks more often than the hair higher up.

Therefore, before establishing a guideline, be very careful to know where the final perimeter will be so that you don't cut sections 1 and 2 too short. In some cases, some or all of sections 1 and 2 will not be long enough to be cut at all. In this case, use the longer hairs in sections 1 and 2 for your guideline. Or, you may have to use sections 3 and 4 as your guideline.

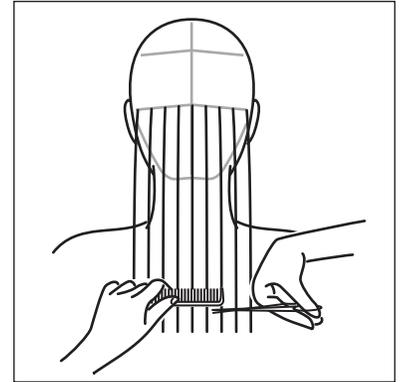


Hair at the nape can be shorter than the rest of the hair

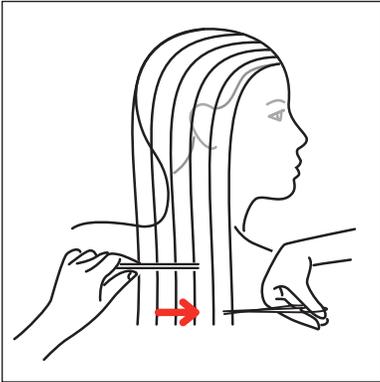
Section the hair into the six basic sections.

3. Cut/Establish the Guideline (Cut Sections 1 and 2)

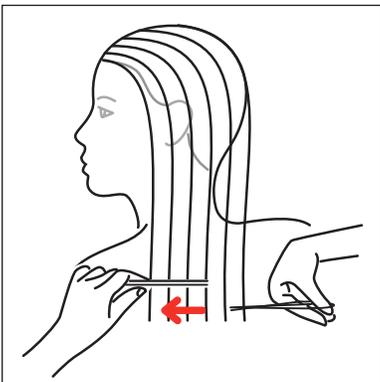
1. Drop sections 1 and 2.
2. Tilt the client's head forward.
3. Comb the hair into gravity.
4. Hold the hair securely against the back using the spine of the comb.
5. Using secondary scissors position and 0° elevation, cut from the center to the right, and then from the center to the left.
6. Check for balance in sections 1 and 2 by stepping away to view the perimeter.



Cut from center to right and then center to left



Client looking over right shoulder



Client looking over left shoulder

4. Cut Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6

1. Position the client's head upright.
2. Drop sections 3 and 4 and comb the hair into gravity, evenly distributing it.
3. Cut the back perimeter to the guideline.
4. Turn the client's head to look over her or his right shoulder.
5. Comb all the hair on the right side into gravity onto the client's back, using no elevation. You do this in order to have a flat surface on which to work. If the hair is over the shoulders and cut, you run the risk of causing unwanted graduation.
6. Use the teeth of the comb to hold the hair against the back.
7. Cut from the center to the right side, cutting to the previously established guideline.
8. Repeat on the left side with the client looking over her or his left shoulder and cutting to the left side.
9. Drop sections 5 and 6 and comb the hair into gravity, evenly distributing it.
10. Cut the back perimeter, and then repeat the process of having the client look over her or his shoulder as you cut the side perimeters.

5. Check for Balance

1. Comb all the hair behind the shoulders and step away to check the back perimeter.
2. Comb all hair into gravity including in front. Turn the head to each side, checking side perimeters.

NOTE: Remove any graduation. Directing the hair out of gravity will cause undesired "softness" in side perimeter areas.

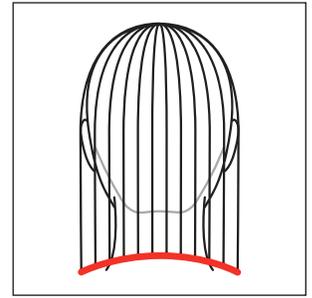
PERIMETER OPTIONS

It's important to understand that a one-length technique cut does not mean that hair is always cut horizontal (parallel) to the floor. One-length means that all hair reaches the perimeter.

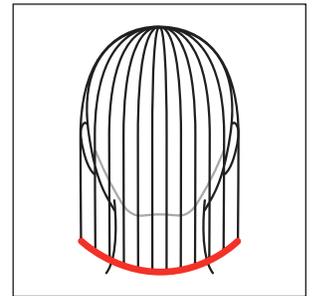
Some perimeter options include:

- Horizontal
- Concave
- Convex
- "V"
- Inverted "V"
- Asymmetric

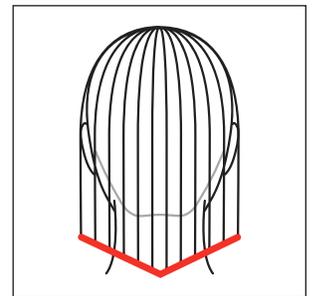
Discuss the perimeter options with your client.



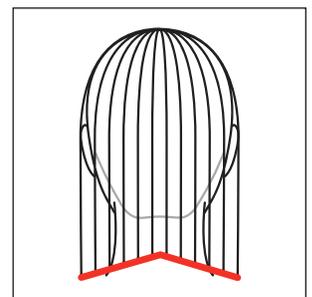
Concave back perimeter



Convex back perimeter



"V" back perimeter



Inverted "V" back perimeter

HAIR STYLE

The one-length technique can be styled in numerous ways, depending on the client's natural curl, texture, styling habits, and desires.

See Module 5: Styling Hair for more information.

SUMMARY

The one-length technique is a method of cutting hair so that all hair reaches the perimeter. When cutting the one-length technique, remember the following:

- The outside perimeter is free of any graduation.
- Use basic sectioning. Subsection as the hair density requires.
- Use secondary scissors position throughout the cut.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Guideline
- One-length angle
- One-length technique

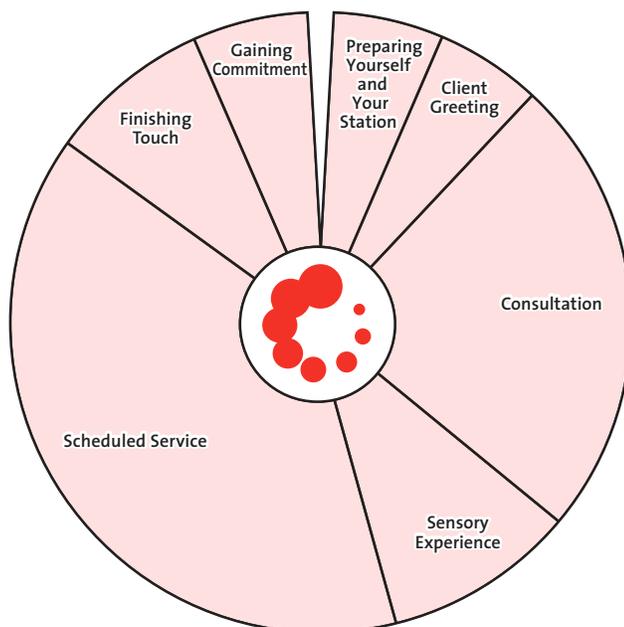
5. GRADUATED CUTTING TECHNIQUE

 See DVD: Scene 2, Graduated Technique

Contents

Graduated Cutting Procedure

Graduated Angle Cutting Procedure



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Cut hair using the graduated technique
- Cut using natural graduation
- Cut a graduated front perimeter
- Cut a graduated angle at the side perimeters

OVERVIEW

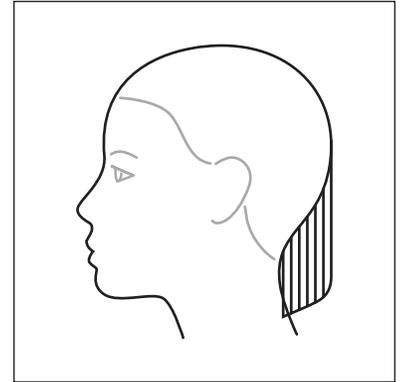
A graduated cut means that the interior shows a progression of lengths, creating a beveled appearance.

In this lesson, we will cut hair using the graduated technique for the back perimeter and a graduated angle technique for the front and side perimeters.

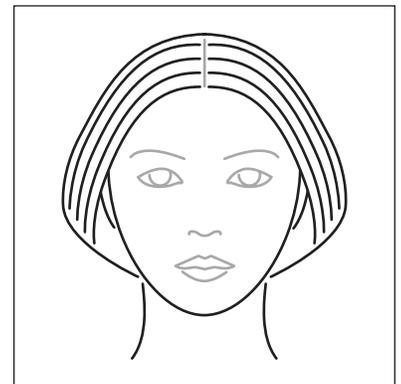
PREPARATION

For this lesson, you will need:

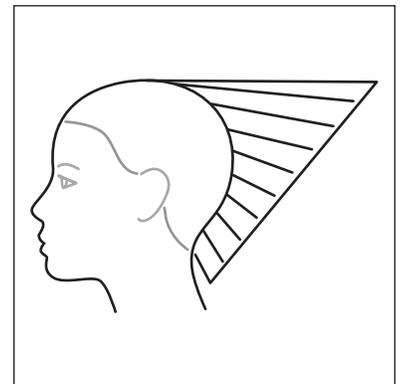
- Standard setup (*see Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Mannequin
- Scissors
- Styling comb



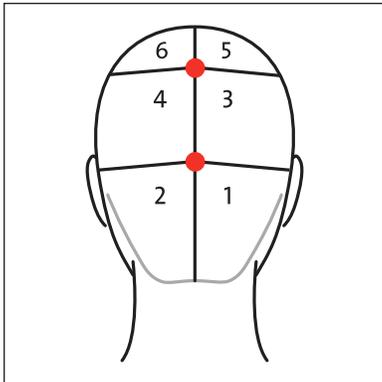
Graduated perimeter (build-up of weight)



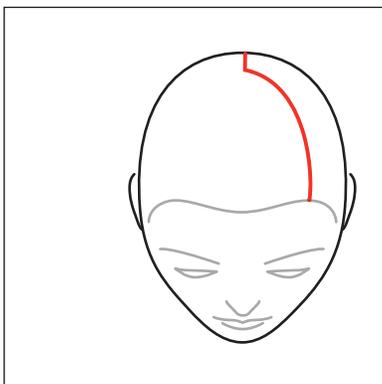
Front view of graduated perimeter



Interior shape of graduated cut



Basic sections



Side part sectioning

GRADUATED CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 2.1, Graduated

1. Section Hair

The sectioning for a graduated technique cut starts with the six basic sections. (See Lesson 3: Sectioning in this module.)

If the client always wears a side part, angle that part from the front hairline to the center crown. This side part connects with the back center part. However, if the client wants to be able to change the part or wear a center part, part the hair in the center for cutting.

2. Check Client's Body Position

Raise the client's chair to where the perimeter will be at your chest level.

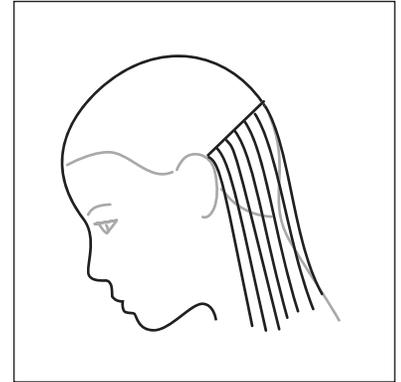
 **HINT:** Make sure that the client's legs are not crossed. Crossed legs tilt the client's body, making it harder to cut hair evenly.

3. Cut/Establish the Guideline (Cut Sections 1 & 2 One-Length)

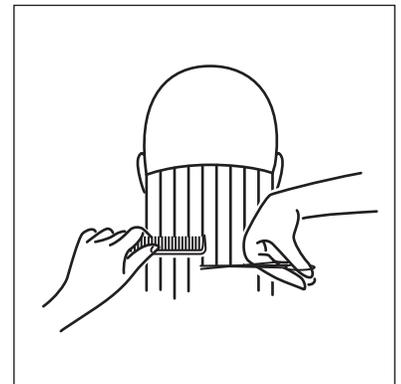
Cut sections 1 and 2 as you did for the one-length technique.
The natural elevation in this area is 0° .

Remember:

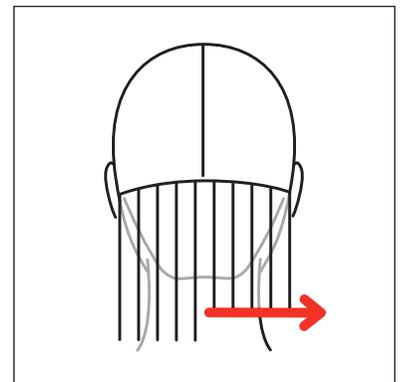
- The client's head is forward to create a solid plane (the neck) on which to cut.
- Comb with the fine teeth of the comb to create maximum tension to get a clearly defined line.
- Comb the hair into gravity (don't shift hair to the side) and at 0° (without elevation).
- If the hair is dense, subsection it.
- Use the spine of the comb to secure the hair against the nape of the neck.
- Use secondary scissors position (thumb and fingers down) to cut.
- Hold both the comb and the scissors parallel to the section parting.
- Always cut from the back center to the client's right side. Then return to the center and cut from the center to the client's left side.
- Check the balance in the mirror and make corrections before continuing.



*Client's head is forward;
Comb hair against neck at 0°*



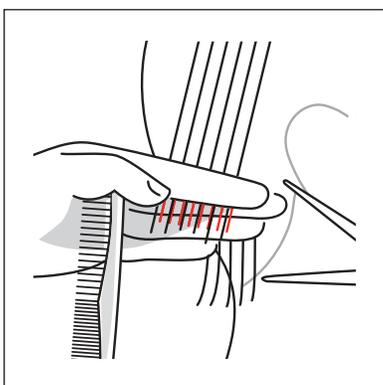
*Comb secures hair;
Scissors in secondary position*



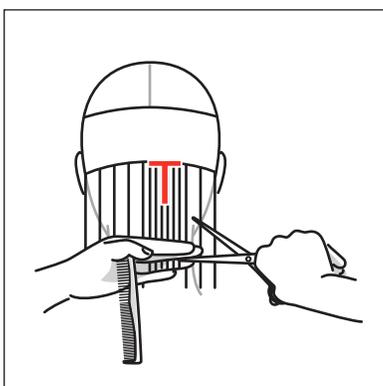
*Cut first from back center to client's
right side.*



Hold comb in parting with thumb



Find the guide



Hold hair T to section;
Cut parallel to the section and to the
guide

4. Cut Sections 3 and 4

This is where you begin graduating the hair. Remember that you are performing a natural graduation, where the elevation is determined by the curve of the head.

1. Position the client's head upright.
2. Drop basic section 3 and make a subsection that is approximately 1" thick:
 - The size of the subsection depends on the density (higher density requires smaller subsections).
 - Make the subsection parallel to the perimeter.
 - Clip aside the rest of the section to control it.
3. Repeat for section 4, making sure that the subsections on each side are the same size.

NOTE: Use light tension when combing a subsection that contains a strong growth pattern.

4. Determine the correct elevation:
 - Place an end of the comb in the parting of the subsection you're about to cut. Hold it in place with your thumb.

The degree that the comb lifts away from the head is the correct elevation for cutting (also called "comb elevation"). When you cut sections 1 and 2, the comb elevation was 0°, which is why you cut it one length.

 - Pick up a portion of the subsection at the center of the back. Include a small portion of the guide from underneath.
 - Bring the hair up to the comb elevation.
 - Hold the hair T to the subsection parting.
 - While holding the hair at the comb elevation, recheck the elevation by placing the comb at the parting again, and then slide out the comb while maintaining the elevation.

5. Find the guideline.
6. Using primary scissors position, cut hair to the guideline.
7. Working from the center to the right and then from the center to the left, repeat finding the correct elevation and cutting to the guideline for the remainder of sections 3 and 4.

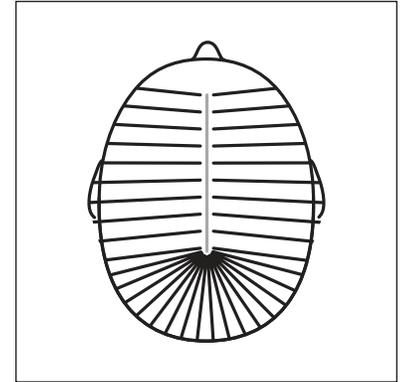
When you get to the ear area, there will be no guideline underneath. Continue the back perimeter line through to the front hairline. Hold the hair with light tension in the wide teeth of the comb. The elevation right over the ears is 0° .

M NOTE: As you work on subsections further up the head, be careful to take only a small amount of hair from underneath to use as your guide. If you take too much hair, you could become confused about which previously cut hair is your guide.

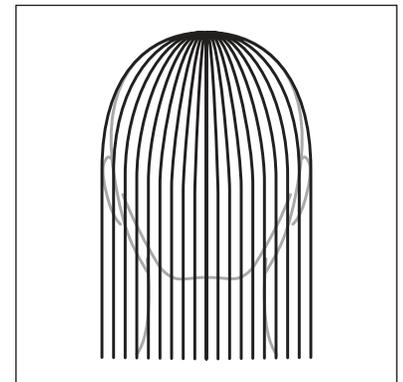
8. Check for balance.

5. Cut Sections 5 and 6

1. Drop sections 5 and 6.
2. Using the wide teeth of the comb, distribute the hair evenly (fanned out) over the crown.
3. With the client's head upright, continue using the comb elevation to graduate the hair. Keep in mind:
 - Elevation is not the same everywhere. For example, at the sides of the head, elevation can be almost 0° , while at the top of the head, the elevation is high.
 - Use smaller subsections (approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ ") in sections 5 and 6 to transition from the side to the top of the head.
 - Hold hair T to the section.
 - Use primary scissors position.
 - As always, use a light tension when cutting hair that has a strong growth pattern.
 - Hold your scissors parallel to the subsection part.



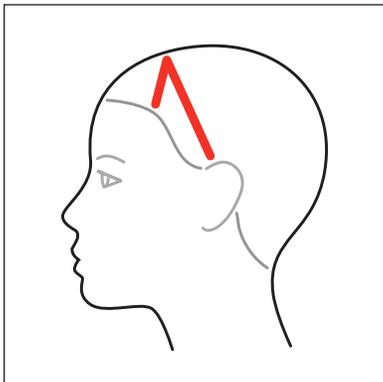
Overhead view of hair fanned



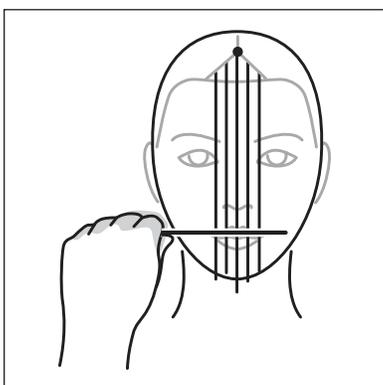
Back view of hair fanned



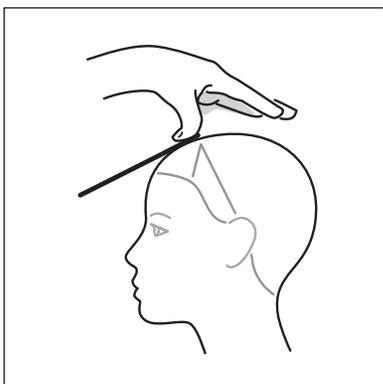
Check elevation in front



Safety section parting



Cut front perimeter



Check comb elevation for front perimeter

GRADUATED ANGLE CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 2.2, Graduated Angle

In this variation, an angle is added to the side perimeter. By adding a graduated angle, you can add softness to the cut. The angle of the cut can vary from just a subtle angle off the side perimeter to a sharp angle connecting to a short front perimeter.

 **NOTE:** The front perimeter is also known as bangs or fringe if it is above the bridge of the nose.

You can cut a graduated angle on a one-length, graduated, or layered technique cut.

1. Graduate the Front Perimeter

1. Create a safety section. (See Lesson 3: Sectioning in this module, if necessary.) Remember that the width of the triangle in the safety section determines the size of the front perimeter.
2. Using secondary scissors position and holding the hair in gravity, cut a front perimeter to the length desired.

 **NOTE:** If you are cutting a short front perimeter (shorter than the bridge of the nose), the perimeter will have less weight due to the graduation. Therefore, determine the length accordingly.
3. Find the comb elevation for the front perimeter by holding the comb at the point where the lines of the triangle meet.
4. Bring the front perimeter hair up to the comb elevation and cut the hair to the guide (the bottommost hair).

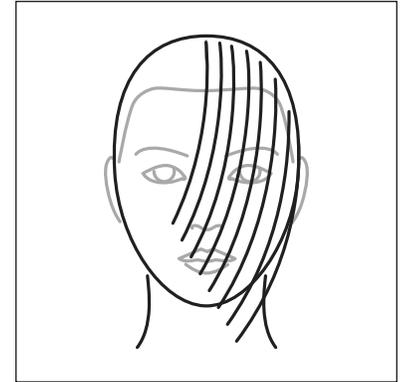
2. Graduate the Side Perimeters

1. Stand on the side that you're graduating.
2. Comb the rest of the hair in the side perimeter (the hair in front of the diagonal parting) forward T to the section.
3. Determine the comb elevation.
4. Carefully determine the location of points A and B.

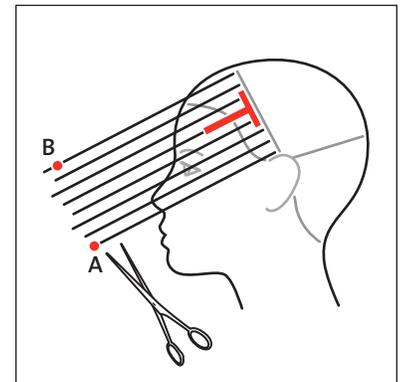
It is crucial that you cut from Point A without cutting any length at Point B. If you cut into the length of Point A, the hair will appear shorter than desirable when viewed from the front.

5. On the right side, hold the hair in your fingers and use primary scissors position to cut from Point A to Point B.
6. To continue, create a 1" subsection parallel to the diagonal side parting.
7. Determine the comb elevation.
8. Pick up a part of the subsection and some of the previously cut guide.
9. Recheck the elevation, bring the hair up to the comb, and then slide out the comb.
10. Check for the guide, and then cut to it.
11. Continue subsectioning and graduating the side until no more hair reaches the guide. Usually, basic sections 1 and 2 will not reach the guide.
12. Repeat the graduation process on the other side.

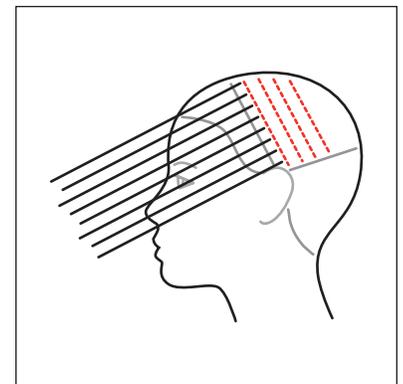
NOTE: If you want to maintain length toward the back, continue subsections into the back, combing forward to the guide without elevation.



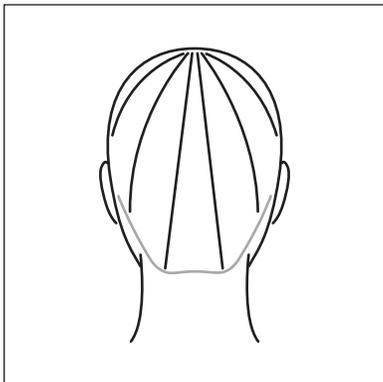
Comb hair forward



*Hold T to the section;
Cut from point A to point B*



*Continue subsectioning and
graduating*

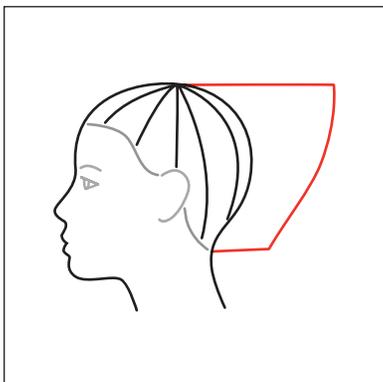


Cross check using pie sections

3. Check the Haircut

Cross checking is the process of sectioning the hair in the opposite direction from the way it was cut in order to find errors made while cutting the hair. For example, if you section the hair horizontally, you check vertically. When you check the hair, you are looking for hair that stands out from the line you are creating.

Cross check the graduated cut by lifting out vertical pie-shaped sections towards you. Hold the hair at the elevation it was cut.



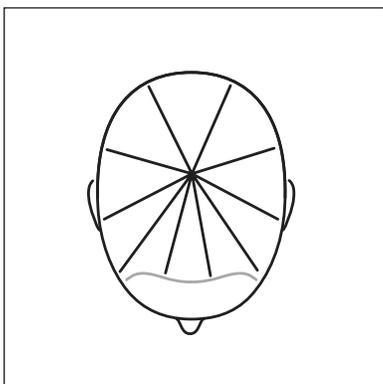
*Pie sections side view;
Outline of correct shape*

SUMMARY

Now you understand how to apply the proper pattern and cutting techniques to produce a natural graduation and graduated angle. The styling options for this technique are as diverse as your clients.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Comb elevation
- Graduated angle
- Graduated technique
- Natural graduation



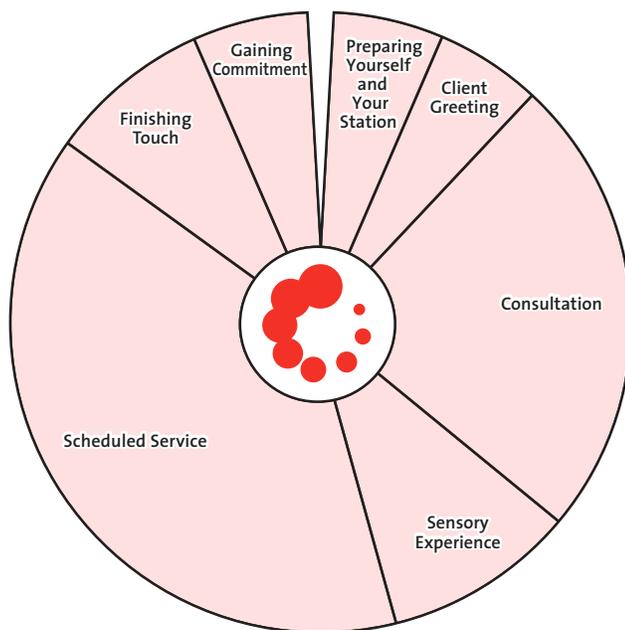
Pie sections top view

6. LAYERED CUTTING TECHNIQUE

 See DVD: Scene 3.1, Long Layers
and Scene 3.2, Diagonal Layers

Contents

- Long Layers Cutting Procedure
- Diagonal Layers Cutting Procedure
- Horizontal Layers Cutting Procedure
- Vertical Layers Cutting Procedure
- Layering the Top of the Head
- Cleaning Up the Perimeter



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Cut a long layers technique.
- Cut a diagonal layers technique.
- Cut a horizontal layers technique.
- Cut a vertical layers technique.
- Determine and cut the best pattern for layering the hair at the top of your client's head.
- Clean up the hairline for a short layered cut.

OVERVIEW

Layering is the technique of removing more weight than a one-length or graduated technique. This lesson covers standard layering techniques, which can be divided into two categories:

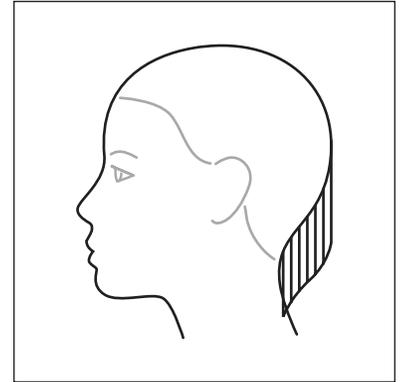
- Shorter on top, progressing to longer at the bottom. The technique used to create this is called the long layer.
- Similar lengths all over the head. To achieve this look, you can cut using diagonal, horizontal, or vertical subsections. These layering techniques can be applied for very short to medium length layered results.

Once you become skilled at these techniques, you will be able to adapt them or combine them to meet your clients' needs.

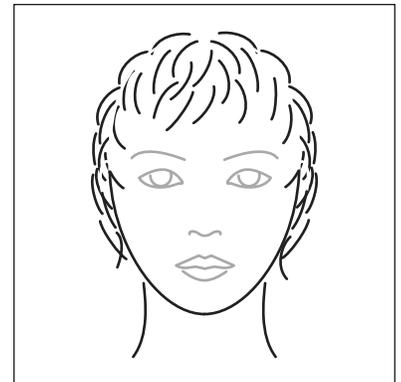
PREPARATION

For this lesson, you will need:

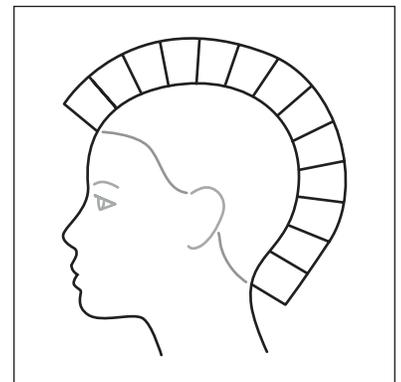
- Standard setup (see *Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Mannequin
- Scissors
- Styling comb



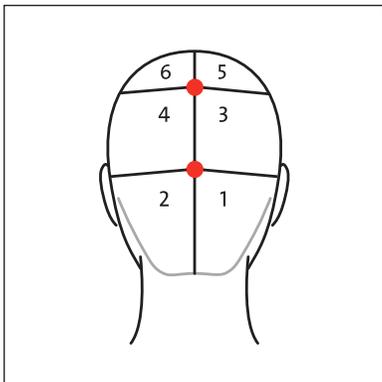
Layered perimeter (maximum weight removed)



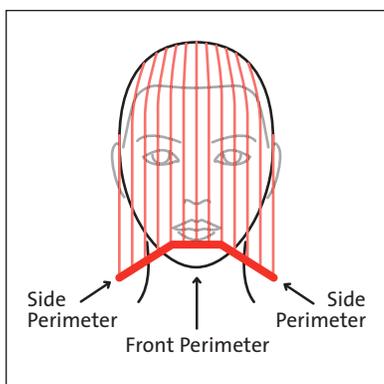
Front view of layered perimeter



Interior shape of layered cut



Six basic sections



Front and side perimeters before layering

LONG LAYERS CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 3.1, Long Layers

Long layering creates layers in the interior while leaving length and weight in the perimeter. It is an excellent technique for long hair with a fine density. Once mastered, this skill is a very quick way to layer a one-length or graduated form.

Before layering, you establish a one-length or graduated back, side, and front perimeter.

1. Section Hair and Cut One-Length or Graduated

1. Apply the six basic sections.
2. Drop sections 1 and 2, and cut them one-length.
3. Drop sections 3 and 4.
4. If the hair from these sections reaches the perimeter, cut it either one-length or graduated, depending on how much weight you want. A one-length perimeter has more weight than a graduated one.
5. Drop sections 5 and 6, and cut them either one-length or graduated if they reach the perimeter.

2. Cut a Front and Side Perimeter

Before applying layers, establish a front and side perimeter. The front perimeter is the guide for layering the top of the head.

1. Create a safety section.
2. Cut a one-length or graduated front perimeter.
3. Cut a one-length or graduated side angle.

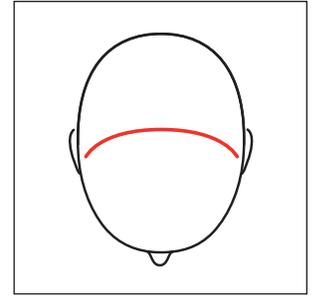
3. Cut the Interior Guide

1. Create an ear-to-ear parting to divide the front from the back: Part the hair from the front of the right ear (where the ear attaches to the head) across the top of the head to the front of the left ear.

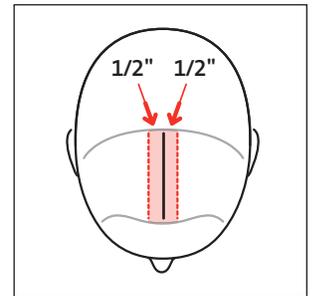
NOTE: The ear-to-ear parting can be slightly further back on the head if the hair is fine, but no more forward. This is dependent on hair density and head shape.

2. At the top of the head, create a 1" vertical subsection from the front hairline to the ear-to-ear parting. Take 1/2" from each side of the middle.
3. Stand on the client's right.
4. Hold the subsection (or as much of it as you can control) at 90°.
5. Drop all but a little of the safety section. What's left of it (the hair closest to the uncut hair) is your guide.
6. Cut the 1" rectangular subsection:
 - Elevate the subsection to 90°.
 - Cut in a backward flowing angle. Position the fingers holding the hair at an angle that goes from short to long so that the scissors can follow the direction of your fingers.
 - Repeat until the entire subsection has been cut.

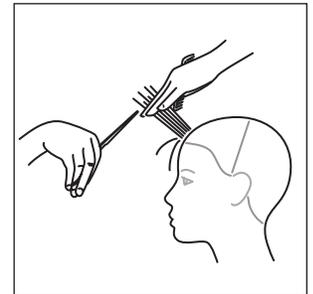
NOTE: Instead of cutting the hair in a backward flowing angle, you can choose to cut it forward (shorter in back than front) or horizontal (flat on top). Discuss the options with your client and determine the best look.



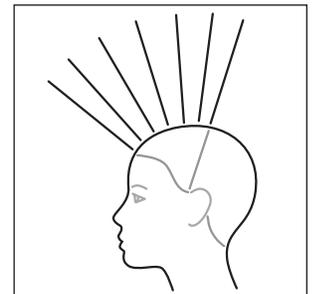
Ear-to-ear parting



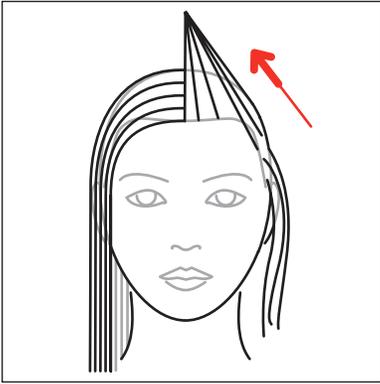
1" vertical section to ear-to-ear parting



Cut vertical section to guide;



Hold hair at 90°



Bring hair up to the stationary center guide

4. Layer the Front

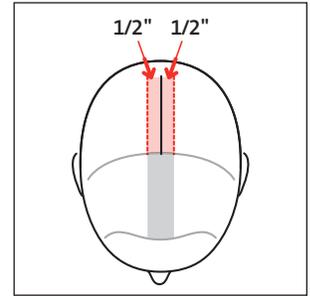
When you layer the front, you are layering the hair in front of the ear-to-ear parting.

1. Make sure that the ear-to-ear part remains clean. If necessary, clip the back to isolate it from the front.
2. Now stand on the client's left. You will be layering the hair on the right, and keeping the guide closest to you.
3. Pick up the rectangular section that you just cut, and hold it at 90° from the center top.
4. Use the comb to bring up a 1" subsection without changing the elevation of the original guide. The subsection is:
 - Parallel to the guide.
 - On the side away from you (the client's right).
5. Cut the subsection to the length of the guide, following the angle of the guide.
6. Continue bringing up subsections in front of the ear-to-ear parting to the guide until no more hair on the right side reaches the guide. Make sure that the guide is always at 90° to the center of the head.

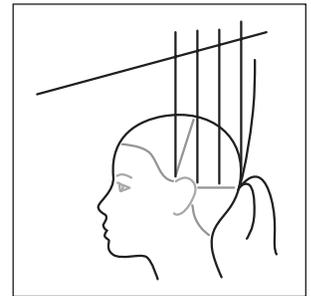
The hair not reaching the guide falls away and remains perimeter weight.
7. Stand on the client's right and repeat for the left side.

5. Layer the Back

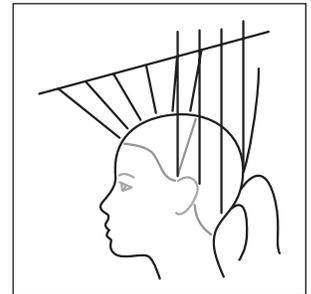
1. Keep the ear-to-ear part in place.
2. Continue the rectangular subsection into the back.
3. Section out some of the guide hair from in front of the ear-to-ear parting to use as a guide in the back.
4. Comb up the rectangular subsection into 90° from the top of the head.
5. Cut a backward flowing angle from the guide. The cut rectangular subsection will act as the guide for layering the back.
6. Standing on the side with the guide, continue bringing up rectangles of hair and cutting to the guide. Notice how the hair that doesn't reach the guide falls away and becomes perimeter weight.
7. Always standing on the guide side, layer the rest of the back section.



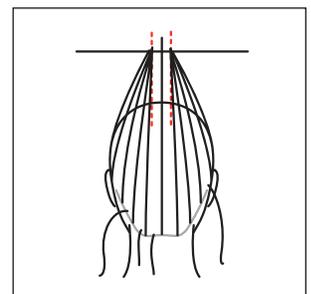
Continued subsection guide for back



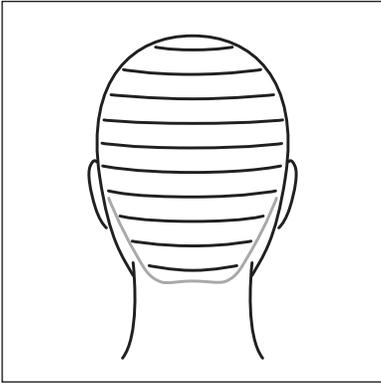
Hair brought up to the guide and cut at angle



Not all hair reaches the guide



Back view of hair being drawn up to the guide



Cross check using horizontal subsections

6. Check the Haircut

Cross checking is the process of combing the hair in the direction opposite to how it was cut in order to find errors made while cutting the hair. When you check the hair, you are looking for hair that stands out from the line you are creating.

Cross check the long layers cut by lifting upward using horizontal subsections.

DIAGONAL LAYERS CUTTING PROCEDURE

 See DVD: Scene 3.2, *Diagonal Layers*

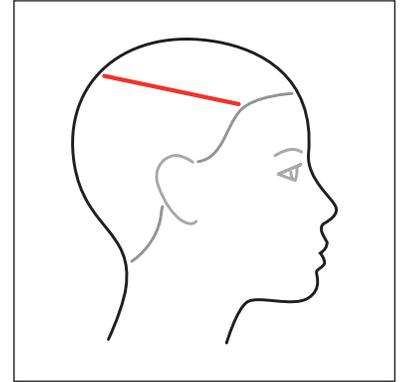
The diagonal layers technique, usually done on mid-length to short hair, minimizes weight at the sides while maintaining length at the parietal ridge. As its name suggests, this layering pattern uses diagonal subsections.

To implement this cut, you do the following:

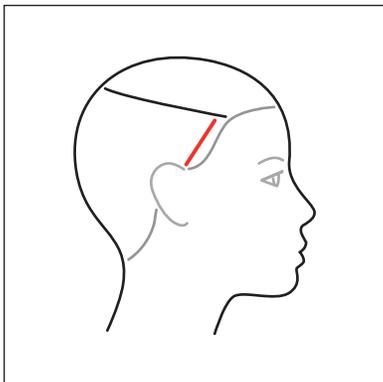
- Isolate and clip away sections 5 and 6.
- Create a guide.
- Layer the hair below sections 5 and 6.
- Establish the front perimeter.
- Cut the remaining hair, connecting sections 5 and 6 with previously cut hair.
- Layer the top using one of the layering options for the top of the head.
- Cross check the cut.

1. Section the Hair

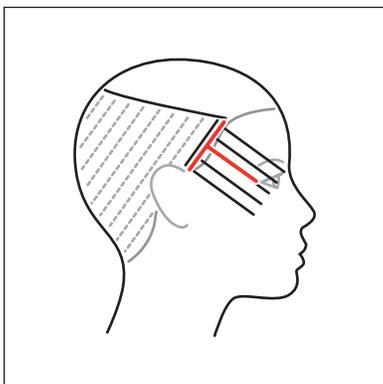
1. Create a center part.
2. Create basic sections 5 and 6. All the hair above the parietal ridge should be isolated.



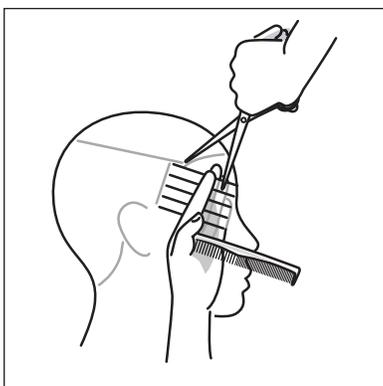
Isolate sections 5 and 6



First subsection—acts as a guide



Hair is positioned T to the section



Hand, scissors, and parting are parallel;
Use primary scissors position

2. Cut the Hair Below Sections 5 and 6

1. Start on the client's right side.
2. Apply a ½" diagonal subsection in front of the ear. The subsection should be parallel to the hairline.
3. Separate the remaining hair and clip it out of the way if necessary.
4. Using the fine teeth of the comb, position the hair T to the section.
5. Comb and hold the hair at 90°, T to the section. Hold with medium and even tension.

NOTE: To maintain weight in the side perimeter, you can cut the first two subsections at a lower elevation.

6. Cut the hair:

- Use primary scissors position.
- Cut to the desired length.
- As you cut, your scissors and fingers holding the hair are parallel to the parting/subsection.
- Cut from top to bottom if you're right-handed and bottom to top if you're left-handed.

7. Comb the guide down to check to see how it falls. Adjust as necessary.
8. Pick up some of the guide and then the next ½" diagonal subsection, parallel to the first. Hold at 90° and cut to the guide. Repeat for the next ½" diagonal subsection.

HINT: As you work around to the back of the head and nape, tilt the client's head slightly to create a flatter surface to work on.

9. Pick up some of the previously cut hair to serve as your guide and a ½" diagonal subsection parallel to the first two.

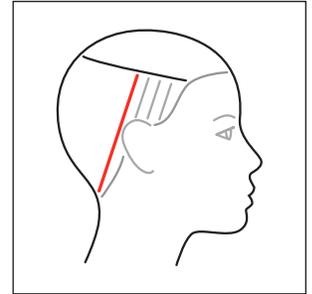
This 4th parting extends down behind the ear and to the back hairline.

10. Hold the hair at 90° and cut to the guideline. Where there is no guideline (below the ear), just continue the line.
11. Continue creating ½" to 1" diagonal subsections until you reach the center part. Notice that the hair at the bottom is past center.
12. Cross check the entire right side by combing in the opposite diagonal subsections.
13. Repeat steps 1–12 for the left side.

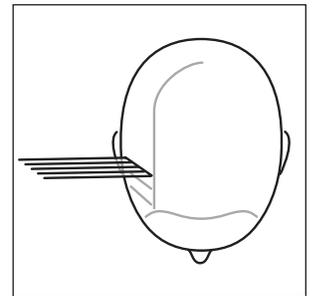
3. Cross Check

Cross check as follows:

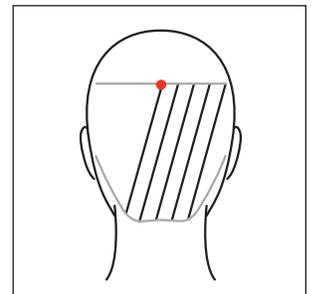
- Check the left side using diagonal subsections opposite to the way you cut.
- Pay particular attention to the center back area to ensure an even connection of the left side to the right.
- Use horizontal subsections in the back to check that area. This assures symmetry.



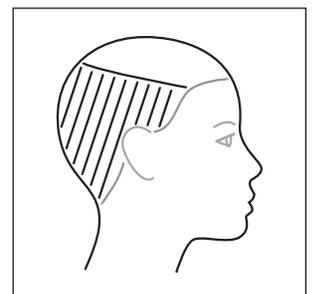
4th subsection extends to back hairline



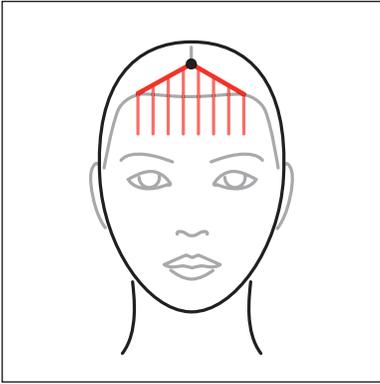
Elevate to 90°



Continue cutting until top of subsection reaches the center of the parietal ridge parting



Side view of completed subsectioning on right side



Safety section triangle

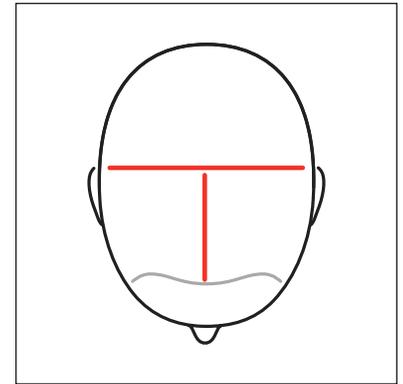
4. Sections 5 & 6: Cut Front Perimeter

1. Drop sections 5 and 6.
2. Apply a safety section to the front perimeter.
3. Using primary scissors position, cut the safety section to the desired length.
4. Cut the remainder of the front perimeter, if necessary,

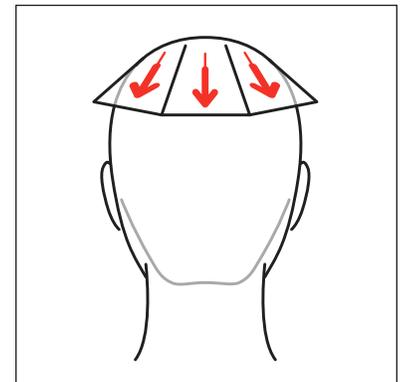
5. Connection

You will now connect the hair from above the parietal ridge.

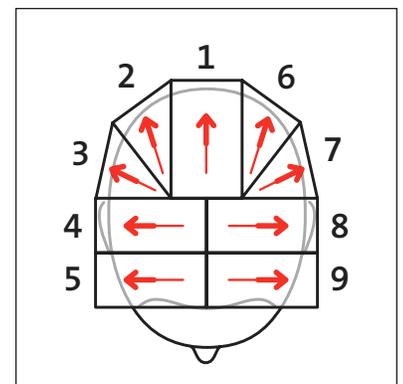
1. Create a center parting from the front hairline to the top of the crown. Then add an ear-to-ear parting.
2. Starting at the center back, comb hair in the crown, distributing it evenly through the crown.
3. Create a 1"-wide center subsection behind the ear-to-ear parting (subsection 1 in the bottom illustration).
4. Pick up the subsection and some of the cut hair underneath as a guide.
5. Using comb elevation (the ear-to-ear parting is the location for the comb), cut to the guide.
6. Move to the right and divide the remaining pie-shaped section into two smaller sections (subsections 2 and 3 in the illustration).
7. Using comb elevation, cut each of the pie sections using the hair just underneath as a guide.
8. Still on the right, create two rectangular subsections (subsections 4 and 5 in the illustration).
9. Using comb elevation, cut each of the rectangular subsections to the guide (hair just underneath).
10. Move to the left and repeat steps 6 through 9 for the left side.



Ear-to-ear and center partings



Evenly distribute hair in crown



Subsections and order of cutting

6. Layer the Top

There are many possible patterns for layering the top. They are described later in this lesson in the section called *Layering the Top of the Head*.

7. Check the Cut

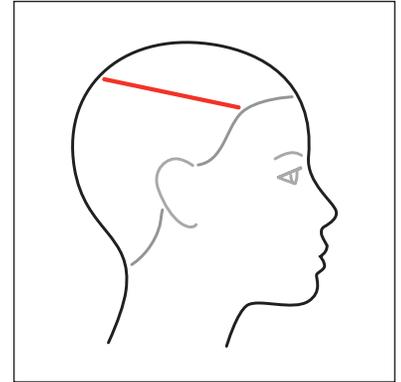
Cross check the connection area in the direction opposite from that used for cutting. Clean up the entire perimeter. See *Cleaning Up the Perimeter* later in this lesson.

HORIZONTAL LAYERS CUTTING PROCEDURE

This procedure is often done to achieve a short to medium length. Horizontal layers can create weight or length in the back and sides of the head.

The main differences between the diagonal cutting procedure and the horizontal one are as follows:

- The subsections are horizontal.
- You start sectioning and cutting at the back hairline rather than at the side.

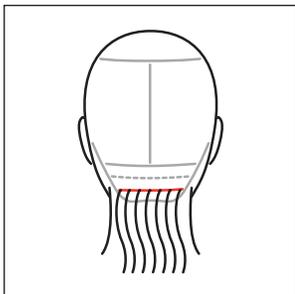


Isolate basic sections 5 and 6

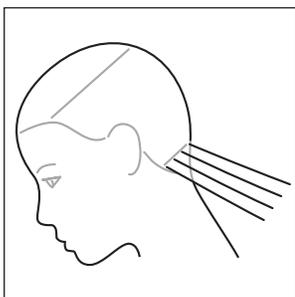
1. Section the Hair

1. Create a center part.
2. Create basic sections 5 and 6. All the hair above the parietal ridge should be isolated.

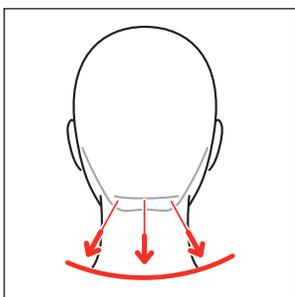
 **NOTE:** If the hair is long, use the six basic sections to better control the hair.



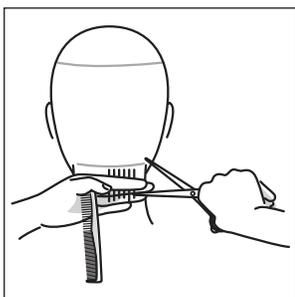
First subsection



Client's head position



Cut T to the section



Cut using primary scissors position

2. Section Off and Cut the Guide

1. Apply a ½" to 1" horizontal subsection from the right hairline to the left hairline.
2. Isolate all the remaining hair.
3. Tilt the client's head forward.
4. Using the fine teeth of the comb and even tension, elevate a panel in the center of the subsection to 90°.
5. Using primary scissors position, cut a perimeter that is parallel to the subsection parting. Cut to the length determined during the client consultation.
6. Repeat to the right hairline and then to the left. Be careful to always keep the hair at 90° and T to the section. Move around the client as necessary to stay T to the section.
7. Comb what you've cut to see how it falls.
8. Check for balance.

Variations

- A. You can cut at elevations lower than 90°. The lower the elevation, the more weight will be left as you progress through the haircut.

The first subsection cut creates the guide:

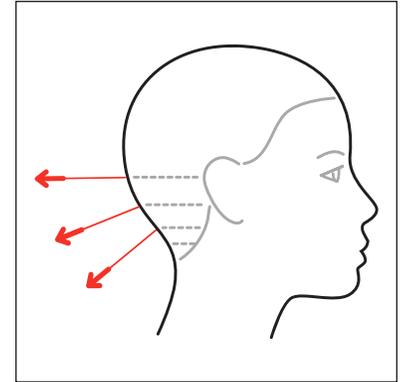
- Higher elevation creates a softer perimeter.
- Lower elevation creates a more solid, heavy perimeter.
- For maximum weight in the perimeter, cut the first subsection at 0° (against the skin).

- B. Shift out of T or over-direct the hair to create weight in the corners of the nape.

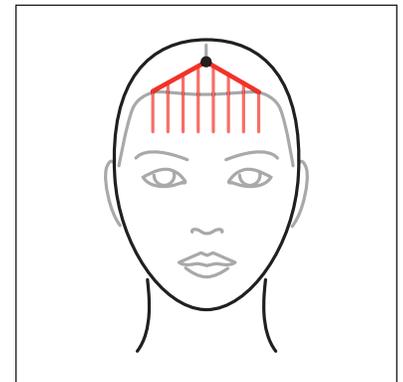
3. Continue Cutting Up to the Parietal Ridge

Using the perimeter as a guide, continue cutting until you reach the parietal ridge. Keep in mind the following:

- Use previously cut hair as the guide.
- Use horizontal subsections that go from the right hairline to the left hairline.
- Use $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" subsections depending on the density of the hair.
- Elevate the hair to 90° from the scalp.
- Use even tension when cutting.
- Use primary scissors position.
- In each subsection, first cut a center panel, and then cut the right and left sides all the way to the hairline.
- Comb each section down to check how it falls.
- Check both sides for balance.
- Cross check using vertical subsections.



Hair at 90°

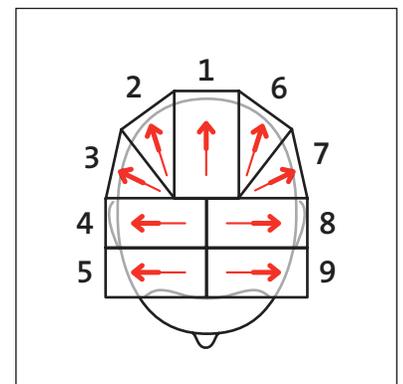


Safety section triangle

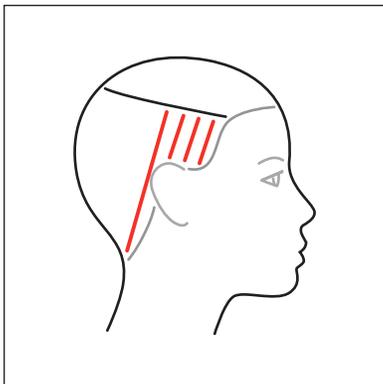
4. Connection

The rest of the cut is identical to the diagonal cut:

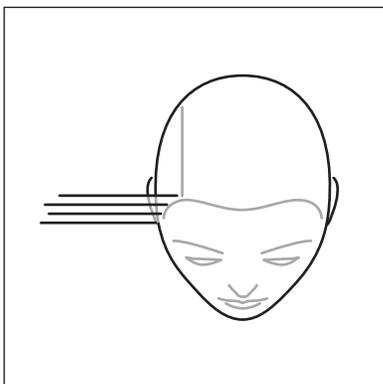
1. Create a safety section and cut the front perimeter to the length desired.
2. Connect the uncut hair of sections 5 and 6 to the cut hair.
3. Layer the top (see *Layering the Top of the Head* in this lesson).
4. Clean up the perimeter (see *Cleaning Up the Perimeter* in this lesson).
5. Cross check using sections opposite to the way the hair was cut.



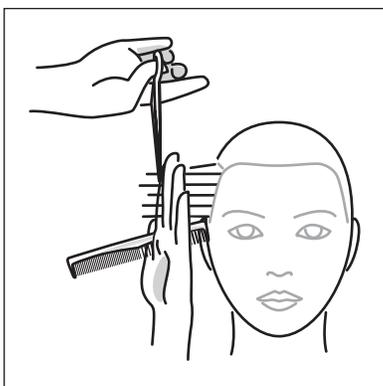
Subsections and order of cutting



Start with subsection parallel to hairline and pivot to vertical subsections



Hair is held at 90°



Hand, scissors, and parting are parallel;
Use primary scissors position

VERTICAL LAYERS CUTTING PROCEDURE

Vertical layers create the least amount of weight in the back and side areas of the head.

The main difference between the diagonal layers cutting procedure and the vertical one is that you use vertical subsections rather than diagonal.

1. Section the Hair

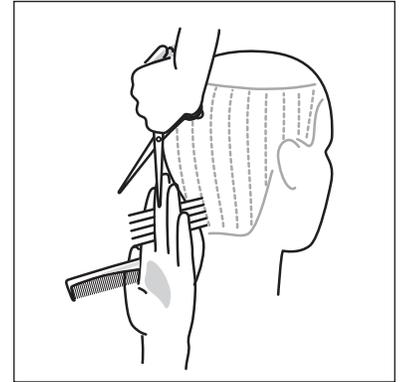
1. Create a center part.
2. Create basic sections 5 and 6. All the hair above the parietal ridge should be isolated.

2. Create a Guide

1. Start on the client's right side.
2. Apply a ½" to 1" subsection.
3. Separate the remaining hair and clip it out of the way if necessary.
4. Use the fine teeth of the comb to position the hair T to the section.
5. Use your fingers to hold the hair at 90°, T to the section. Hold with medium and even tension.
6. Cut the hair:
 - Use primary scissors position.
 - Cut to the length you want to use as a guide.
 - As you cut, your scissors and fingers holding the hair are parallel to the parting.
 - Cut from top to bottom if you're right-handed and bottom to top if you're left-handed.

3. Layer Hair Below Sections 5 & 6

1. Comb the guide down to check how it falls. Adjust as necessary.
2. Pick up some of the guide and then the next ½" to 1" vertical subsection, parallel to the first.
3. Hold the subsection at 90° and cut to the guide.
4. Continue cutting vertical subsections until you reach the center of the back.
5. Repeat cutting vertical layers at 90° on the left side.
6. Use horizontal subsections to cross check the cut, paying particular attention to the center back area to ensure that the connection of the right to the left side is even.

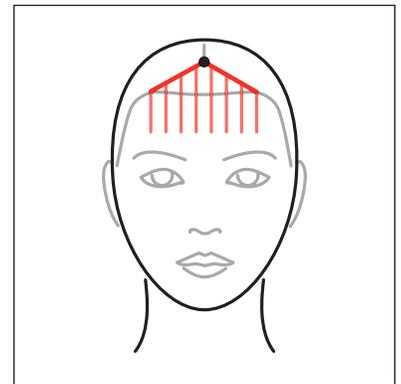


Cutting a vertical subsection in the back

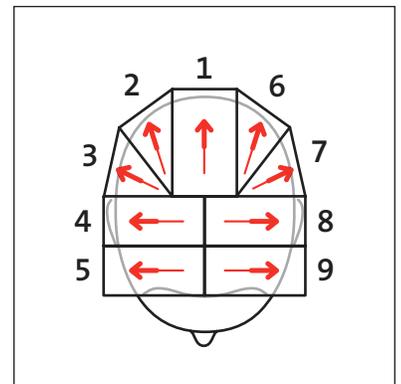
4. Connection

The rest of the cut is identical to the diagonal cut:

1. Create a safety section and cut the front perimeter to the length desired.
2. Connect the uncut hair to the cut hair.
3. Layer the top (see *Layering the Top of the Head* in this lesson).
4. Clean up the perimeter (see *Cleaning Up the Perimeter* in this lesson).
5. Cross check using horizontal subsections.



Safety section triangle



Subsections and order of cutting

LAYERING THE TOP OF THE HEAD

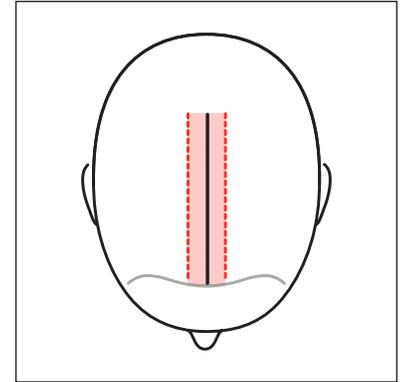
The diagonal, horizontal, and vertical layering techniques leave the decision of how to layer the top to you and your client. There are several different sectioning patterns that you can use depending on:

- Where he/she wears a part.
- Where you want to maximize and minimize the weight.
- Your client's preferences.

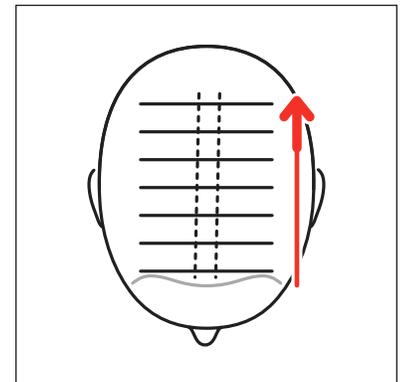
Layering the Top of the Head Procedure

The procedure for cutting varies slightly depending on the pattern you use. This procedure is for cutting a horizontal layered top.

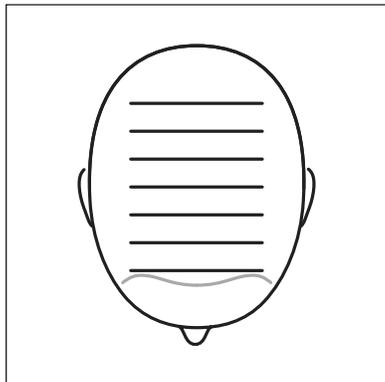
1. Stand on the client's right side.
 2. Position the client's head upright.
 3. Cut a vertical, 1" center guide to the back of the crown, cutting from front to back. For patterns other than horizontal, make certain that the guide section is placed correctly for the pattern.
 4. Stand behind the client.
 5. Make a ½" to 1" horizontal subsection behind the front perimeter.
 6. From this subsection, pick up part of the center guide and the hair to the right of it.
 7. Hold the hair at 90°.
 8. Cut the hair to the guide.
 9. Repeat on the left side of the subsection.
- NOTE:** If you can control all the hair at once, hold it at 90° and cut the hair on both the right and left sides of the guide.
10. Repeat steps 5 through 9, working to the back crown. The number of subsections will depend on the density of the hair.
 11. Cross check the hair with vertical subsections. For patterns other than horizontal, cross check the hair using subsections opposite to the way it was cut.



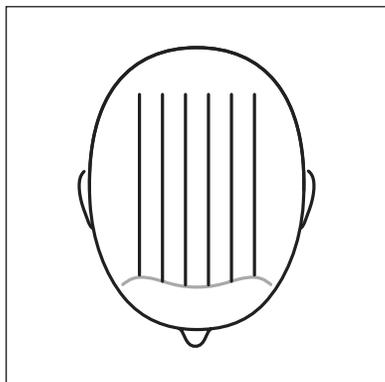
Vertical center guide



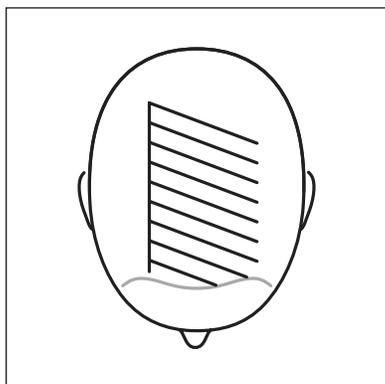
Cut horizontal sections from front to back



Horizontal



Vertical



Diagonal

Patterns for Layering the Top of the Head

Possible subsection patterns for layering the top include the following:

Horizontal

Commonly used when a part is not desired.

Medium weight in left and right parietal areas; minimal weight in the center of the head. Creates a square shape (square layers).

Vertical

Commonly used when a part is not desired and the hair is worn forward.

Medium weight in the right and left parietal areas; follows the head shape.

Diagonal

Commonly used with a side parting.

Maximum weight above the left parietal area; minimal weight above the right parietal area.



NOTE: The guide is set when you cut the safety section and is followed according to the shape being cut.

Concave

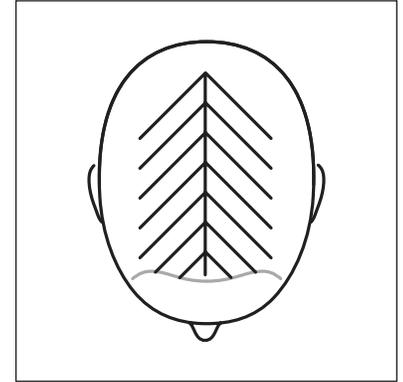
Part can be worn on the left, right, or center.

Maximum weight in both the right and left parietal areas; minimal weight at the center or side part.

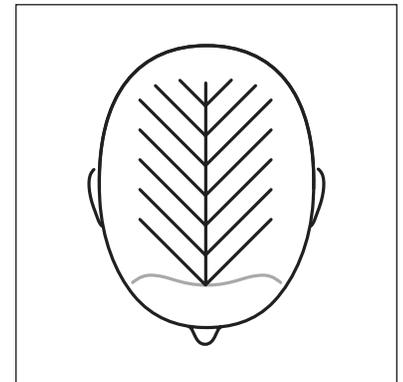
Convex

Part can be worn on the left, right, or center.

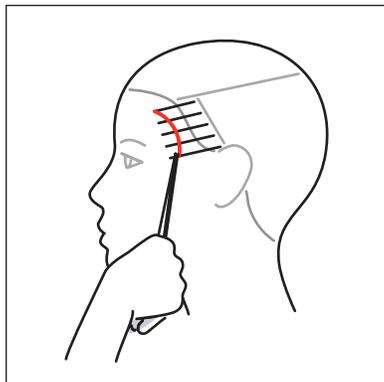
Minimal weight in both the right and left parietal areas; maximum weight at the center or side part.



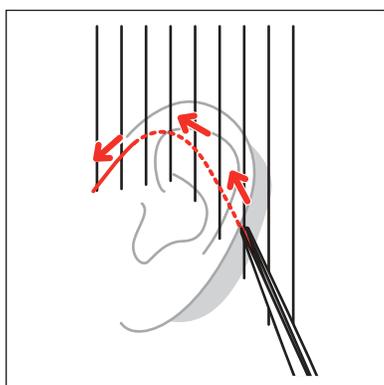
Concave with center part



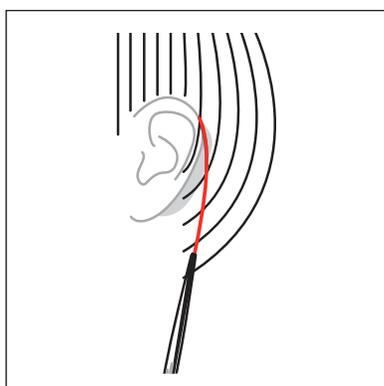
Convex with center part



Cut perimeter in front of ear



Cut hair above ear



Cut hair behind ear

CLEANING UP THE PERIMETER

 See DVD: Scene 5.7, Scissors-Over-Comb Cutting, and Scene 5.8, Clipper Cutting

After layering the hair, you may need to fine tune the perimeter. With short lengths, this is especially important for the area above and around the ears.

The length of the hair will usually determine the technique you use to reach this area:

- Use scissors to clean up hair that is long enough to control between your fingers. See Lesson 8: Scissors-Over-Comb Technique in this module.
- Use a scissors-over-comb or clippers technique for hair that is too short to control between your fingers or to cut against the skin. See Lesson 9: Clipper Cutting Technique in this module.

Side perimeter Comb the hair forward and cut, duplicating the shape of the hairline.

Above the ear Comb the hair into gravity and cut.

Behind the ear Comb the hair into gravity and cut the appropriate perimeter. On shorter cuts, bend the ear forward before cutting.
Cut from the back upwards to where the front of the ear attaches to the head, and then cut down in front of the ear.

Back hairline Create the appropriate line depending on the client's needs.

SUMMARY

You will use the layering techniques you learn here during your entire career as a stylist. These layering techniques can be used to create a spectrum of styles on men and women. By varying lengths and mixing and matching patterns, you can have a huge assortment of layered looks at your fingertips.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Connection
- Diagonal layers
- Ear-to-ear parting
- Horizontal layers
- Long layers
- Vertical layers

7. TEXTURIZING TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

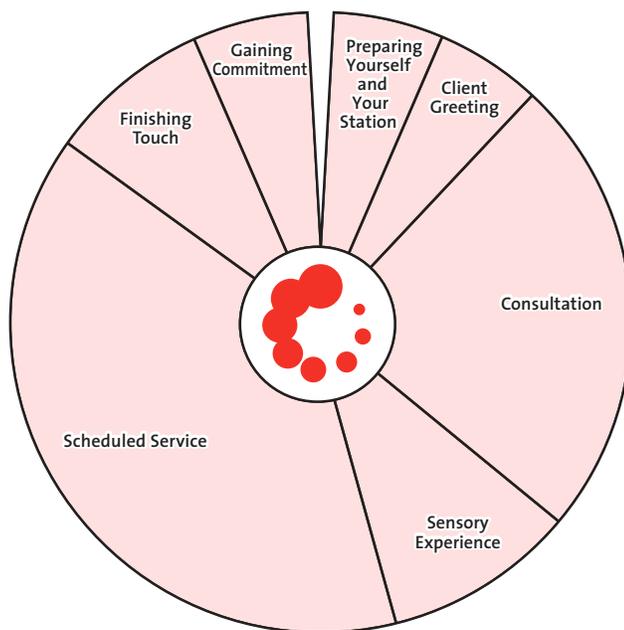
Contents

General Process for Texturizing Hair

Texturizing Tools

Texturizing Techniques

Quick Reference



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Demonstrate the techniques described.
- Determine the appropriate techniques and tools applicable to the situation.

OVERVIEW

The techniques described in this lesson will provide you with the ability to customize a haircut according to the hair's texture and the client's desires. Using these techniques, you may do one or more of the following:

- Enhance the overall shape of the haircut
- Reduce weight of the hair
- Release curl
- Increase volume
- Decrease volume

This lesson focuses on the tools and techniques you will use to enhance your work.

PREPARATION

For this lesson, you will need:

- Standard setup (*see Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Mannequin
- Blending shears
- Razor
- Standard scissors

GENERAL PROCESS FOR TEXTURIZING HAIR

In general, you use these texturizing techniques after cutting the hair and establishing the length and shape. Most techniques can be used with either wet or dry hair (except if you are using a razor, which is always done with wet hair). You then determine a technique to use based on the following:

- The desired effect: more or less volume, more or less softness, etc.
- Density of the hair
- Texture of the hair (coarse, medium, or fine; curly or straight)
- Amount of curl
- The tools most appropriate for the situation

When using any of these techniques, constantly check for the reaction of the hair and the amount of texture being created. Also, after styling the hair, check it again and correct the texture as necessary.

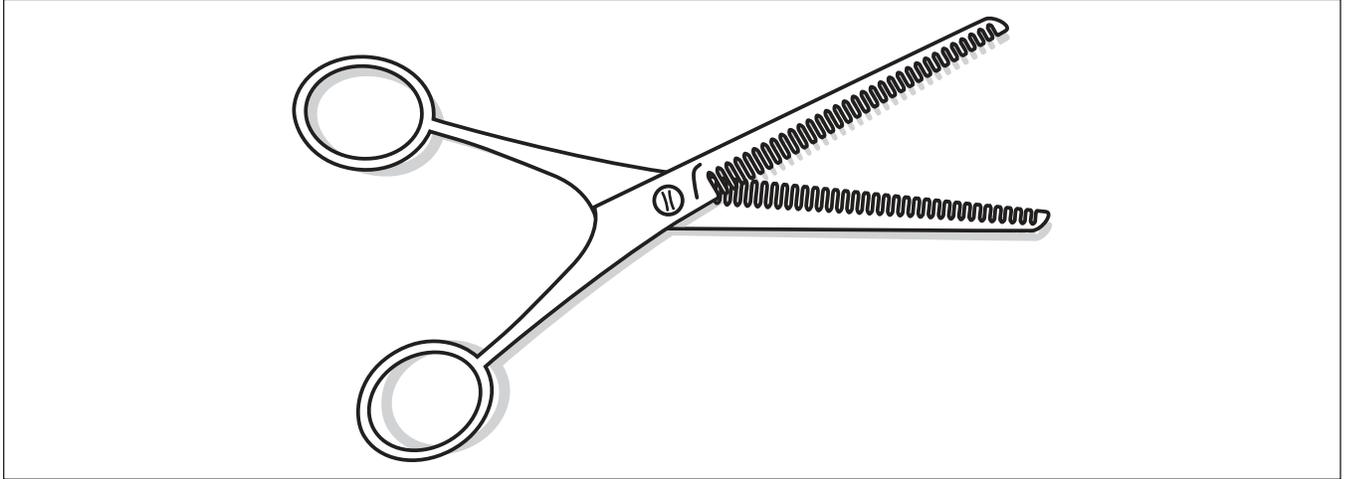
 **NOTE:** Hair that is extremely curly and/or coarse should not be "thinned" too much. Removing too much weight can cause the hair to expand or release too much volume.

TEXTURIZING TOOLS

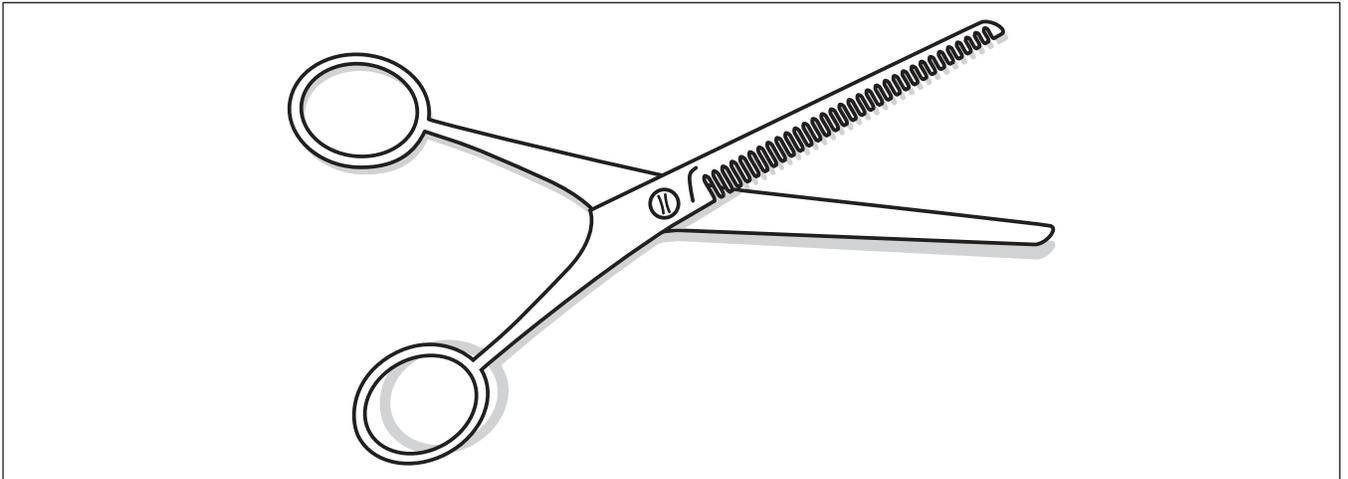
In addition to standard scissors, you use these tools to texturize hair:

- Blending shears
- Thinning shears
- Razor

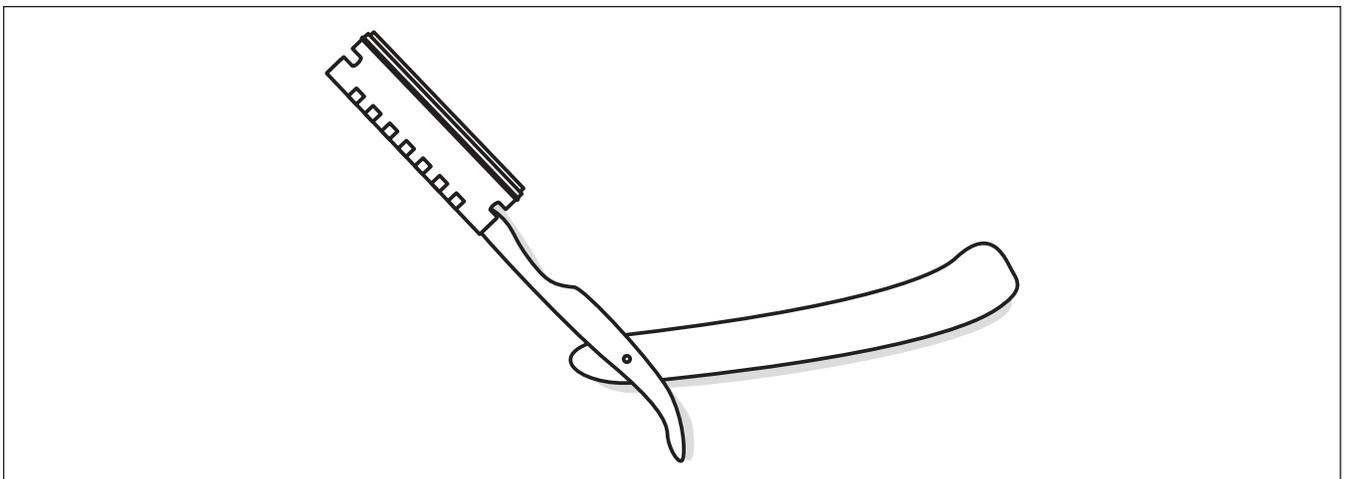
When texturizing hair, you use these tools to thin, remove length, and release curl. All of these tools can also be used for other haircutting techniques.



Blending Shears



Thinning Shears



Razor

Blending Shears

Blending shears have notches on both blades, and remove approximately 25% of the weight in a section. When used on the ends of the hair shaft, it helps to soften one-length cut ends. When used closer to the scalp or the middle of the hair shaft, the shorter pieces create lift and volume.

This tool is usually used with dry hair.

Thinning Shears

Thinning shears have fine notches on one blade, while the other blade is a cutting blade. This tool removes 50% of the weight in a section. Use it to remove bulk in a haircut and soften the ends of coarse hair.

This tool is usually used with dry hair.

Razor

Used with a soft touch, the razor softens the hair by tapering each hair strand.

Always hold the razor with the guard toward you and never remove the guard to cut.

TEXTURIZING TECHNIQUES

 **ATTENTION:** Use caution when applying any of these techniques closer to the scalp than mid shaft. If too much density is removed, the haircut may collapse. If the hair is coarse, short ends may “pop up.”

Thinning

Use either the blending or thinning shears as your primary tools to thin hair. To lightly soften the edges of the hair, place the thinning shears over the section to be cut and move the shears back and forth over the section until the length is removed.

Point Cutting

To point cut, use the points of the standard scissors as follows:

1. Place the blade of the scissors approximately 1 to 1½" into the ends of the hair to be cut.
2. Angle the blades slightly.
3. Cut a "V" shape into the hair.

Point cutting not only removes length, it also creates softness in the perimeter line by releasing weight and creating an uneven finish to hair ends.

Chipping

This technique is performed with a standard scissors. You use the scissors blades to cut into the perimeter from the outside inward.

Use this technique to create open spaces in the weight of the perimeter, producing a soft to wispy effect.

Slide Cutting

This technique is performed with a standard scissors. Run the scissors blades down the hair shaft toward the end with the blade closing slightly.

Use this technique throughout the haircut to create separation, reduce bulk, and soften the cut.

Slithering

This technique is performed with a standard scissors. Use the scissors blades in a back-combing motion with the blade closing slightly.

Use this technique throughout the haircut to create separation, reduce bulk, and soften the cut.

Twisting

Use this technique either to create an entire haircut or to texturize a specific area.

1. Take a 1" square section of hair and twist it.

 **NOTE:** If the client has finely textured hair, the section can be larger. If the hair is extremely dense, you can reduce the size of the square section.

2. Place the open blade of the standard scissors at the bottom of the twisted hair.
3. Slide the blade through the strand, opening and closing the scissors slightly.
4. When you reach the end of the section and want to remove length, close the scissors as you slide through the ends.
5. Release the twist and comb the hair down.

You will find a variation of lengths within the twisted section. This variation gives the hair volume and movement, without thinning the hair too much.

Channeling

This technique is performed with a standard scissors in the interior of a haircut in either long or short hair. Use it to create a strong effect with noticeable variations in length. Also use it to reduce bulk or weight in a shape.

1. Starting at the first section where you want to reduce weight, place the stationary blade of a standard scissors against the head.
2. Slide the scissors diagonally across the section until you reach the end of that section.
3. Comb the area where the hair has been cut.
4. Check to see if you have removed enough weight.
5. If necessary, repeat the process.
6. Repeat with additional areas where you want to reduce weight.

Razor Tapering

This technique is performed with a straight razor. Use a light touch to produce a softness at the ends of the hair. Or, to create a dramatic effect in the interior of the hair, cut at a 45° angle to the hair strand.

Use extreme caution when using the razor on extremely curly hair. It can be difficult to judge the tension when curly hair is wet. Don't use a razor on bleached hair because it can cause the hair strands to stretch and break.

Back-Slashing

Use this technique to create a "shattered" look to the hair ends. This unique approach creates a soft, beautiful look.

1. Create a circular section on the top of the head, encompassing the crown, and let the rest of the hair fall away.
2. Be sure that plenty of hair falls away. If not, reduce the size of the circle.
3. Pick up a subsection of the circular section and strongly back-comb it. This hair should stand off the top of the head on its own.
4. Place an open blade of the scissors into the back-combed subsection and slide it up toward the ends.
5. Repeat 2 more times.
6. Comb down the subsection to see the results. If necessary, repeat the back-combing and back-slashing process.
7. Repeat steps 3–6 for additional subsections of the circular section.

QUICK REFERENCE

Use the following table as an aid in determining the best technique to use for your circumstance.

Technique	Texture	Tools	Effect
Point Cutting	All types	Scissors or blending shears	Subtle to dramatic
Chipping	All types	Scissors	Minimal to heavy
Slide Cutting	All types	Scissors or razor	Subtle perimeter Soft, wispy ends
Twisting	Medium	Scissors or razor	Dramatic interior Variations in interior length
Channeling	All types	Scissors or razor	Subtle to noticeable Variations in interior length
Razor Tapering	All types	Razor	Subtle to dramatic
Back-Slashing	All types	Scissors	Subtle to noticeable

Keep in mind the following:

- Always use the razor on wet hair. Other tools can be used on either wet or dry hair.
- Use extreme caution when applying any of these techniques on highly textured or overly processed hair.

SUMMARY

Now you understand how to:

- Determine the texturizing technique to use for the effect you want.
- Determine which tool to use for the texturizing technique.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

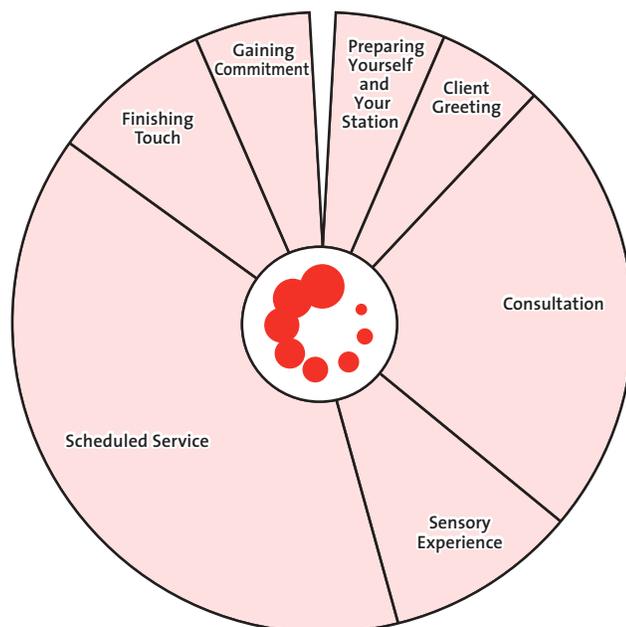
- Back-slashing
- Channeling
- Chipping
- Point cutting
- Razor tapering
- Slide cutting
- Twisting

8. SCISSORS-OVER-COMB TECHNIQUE

 See DVD: Scene 5.7, Scissors-Over-Comb Cutting

Contents

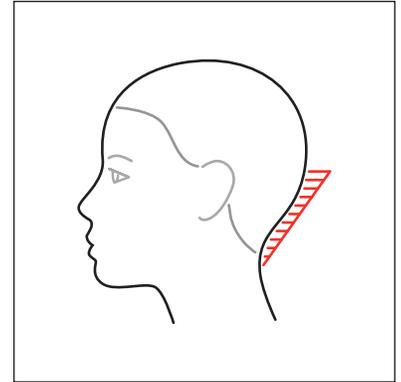
Scissors-Over-Comb Process



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Determine the comb position for cutting the correct length with the scissors-over-comb technique.
- Hold the comb and scissors correctly for implementing this technique.
- Cut hair shorter than what you can control with your fingers.



Graduated shape (beveled)

OVERVIEW

Originally used by barbers, this technique has become a standard for hairstylists everywhere.

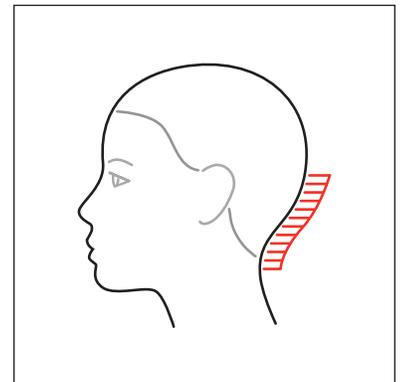
In general, the scissors-over-comb technique is performed on hair that is 1" or shorter—too short to be held in the fingers. It is used with dry hair only.

The shapes that can be created include:

- Beveled from short to long
- Even lengths throughout

In addition, this technique is used to clean up hair lines and shorten previously cut hair. To produce a similar effect mechanically, you could use clippers.

This technique is also called “shingling” or “tapering.”

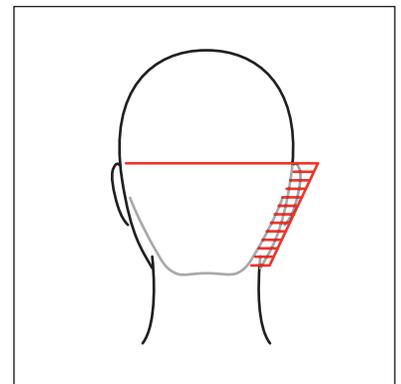


Layered shape from side (even lengths throughout)

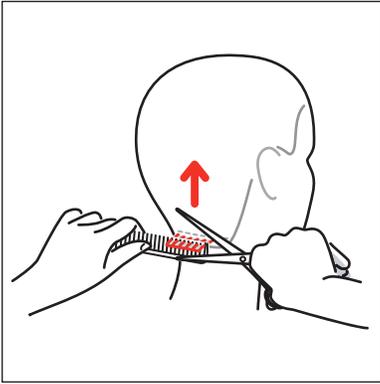
PREPARATION

For this lesson, you will need:

- Standard setup (see *Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Mannequin



Layered shape from back



Scissors-over-comb process

SCISSORS-OVER-COMB PROCESS

1. Make sure that the hair is dry.
2. Determine the length and shape to be created.
3. Section away any hair that is not to be cut. This is usually above the parietal ridge.
4. Holding the comb in your subordinate hand, use it to elevate the hair from 1° to 90° , depending on the shape desired. Lower elevation builds weight (creating a graduated shape); higher elevation removes weight.

NOTE: Pick up only as much hair as you can control with consistent elevation.

5. Move the comb to the desired length of the hair. The closer you hold the comb to the head, the shorter the hair will be cut.
6. Using the primary scissors position, begin at the hairline. Cut a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " area near the end of the comb, moving the scissors and comb together up the head in a fluid movement. Do not stop and cut, stop and cut.
7. Cut from the center out to the sides and remain aware of the head shape at all times.
8. To change the length of the hair and adjust to the head shape, simply rotate the comb away from you for shorter hair or toward you for longer hair.
9. Check for accuracy by stepping away and looking for incorrect areas of weight (usually indicated by dark areas).

Keep in Mind

Follow these guidelines while cutting:

- Constantly move the comb either up or down to prevent cutting gouges or steps into the haircut.
- Use the large teeth of the comb to remove length and bulk.
- Use the fine teeth of the comb to clean and bevel the hairline.
- Use the mirror to determine shape and balance.

SUMMARY

The scissors-over-comb technique is a method of cutting hair shorter than can be held in your fingers. This technique is especially useful for trimming areas around the ears and creating areas that are shorter than the rest.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Scissors-over-comb technique
- Shingling
- Tapering

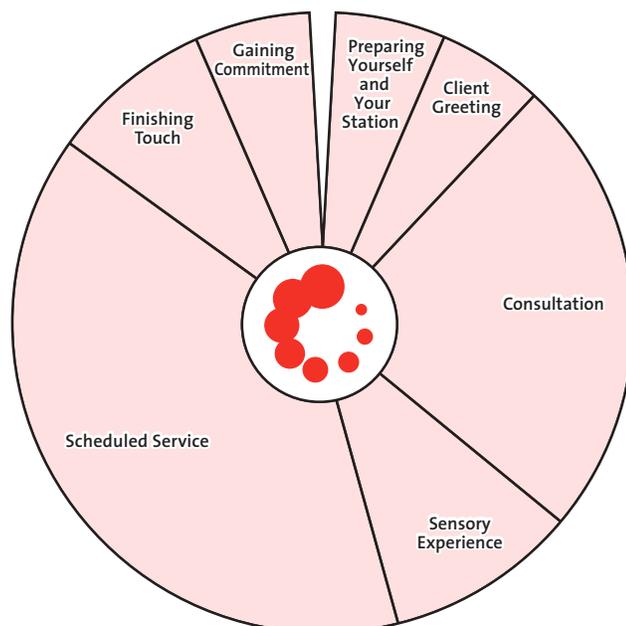
9. CLIPPER CUTTING TECHNIQUE

 See DVD: Scene 5.8, Clipper Cutting

Contents

Clipper

Clipper Cutting Process



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- Determine the comb position for cutting the correct length with the clipper cutting technique.
- Hold the comb and clipper correctly for implementing this technique.
- Cut hair shorter than what you can control with your fingers.

OVERVIEW

Clipper cutting is a precise and fast technique for cutting an entire short haircut, or it can be combined with other techniques to produce various effects.

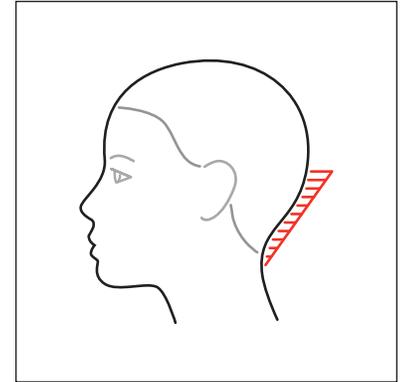
In general, this technique is performed on hair that is 2" or shorter, but clippers can be used for any length hair. This lesson describes using the clipper to cut a shorter length.

The shapes you can create include:

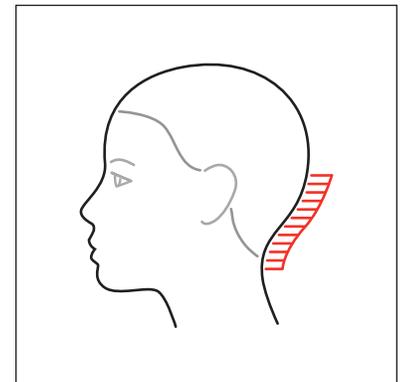
- Graduated from short to long
- Even lengths throughout

In addition, use this technique to clean up the perimeter and interior lengths.

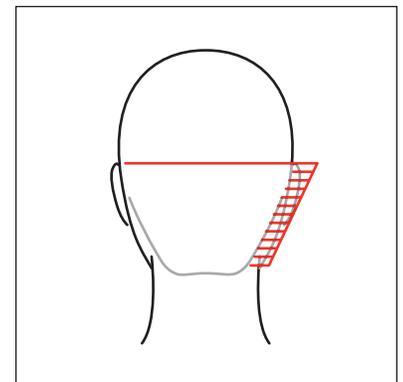
Mastering clipper cutting provides the stylist with a valuable technique for producing short haircuts. In fact, it is a mechanical alternative to the scissors-over-comb technique.



Graduated shape (length builds from shorter to longer)



Layered shape from side (even lengths throughout)



Layered shape from back

PREPARATION

For this lesson, you will need:

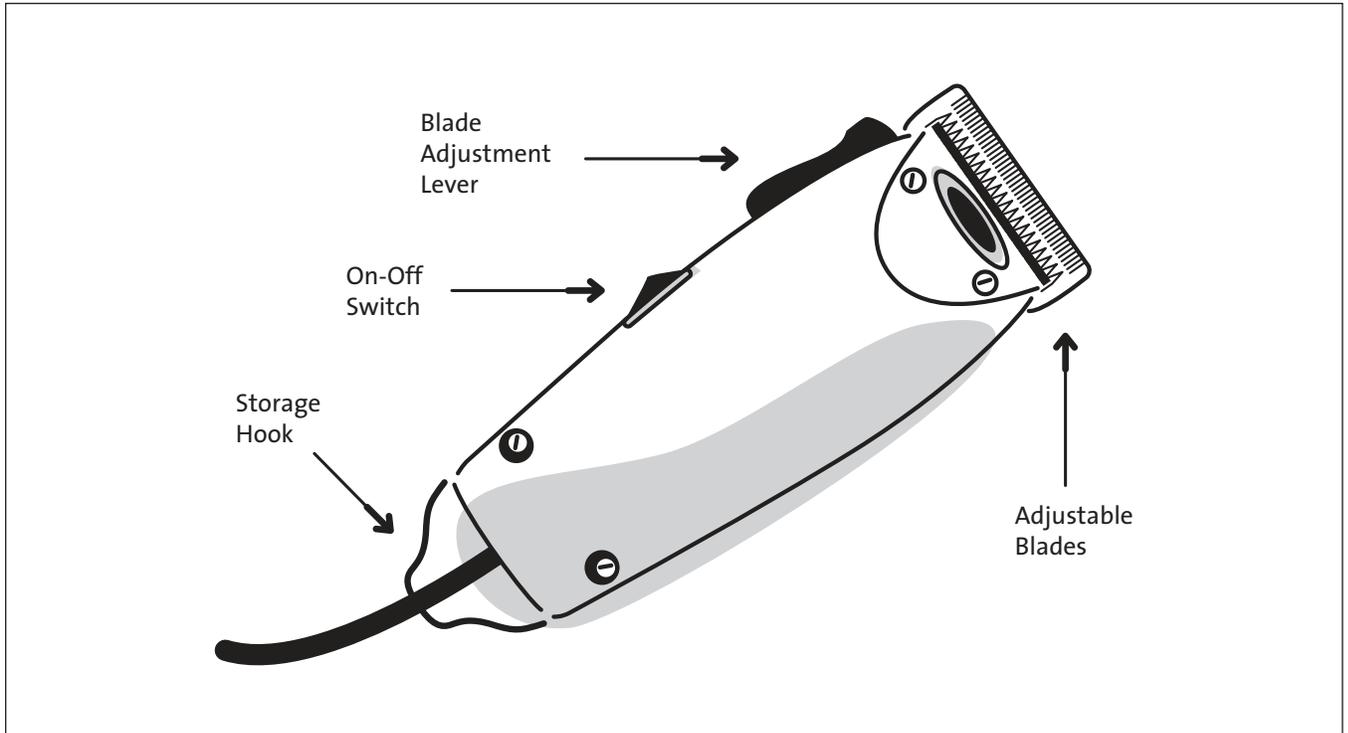
- Standard setup (*see Module 3, Lesson 3: Preparing Your Station*)
- Clipper

CLIPPER

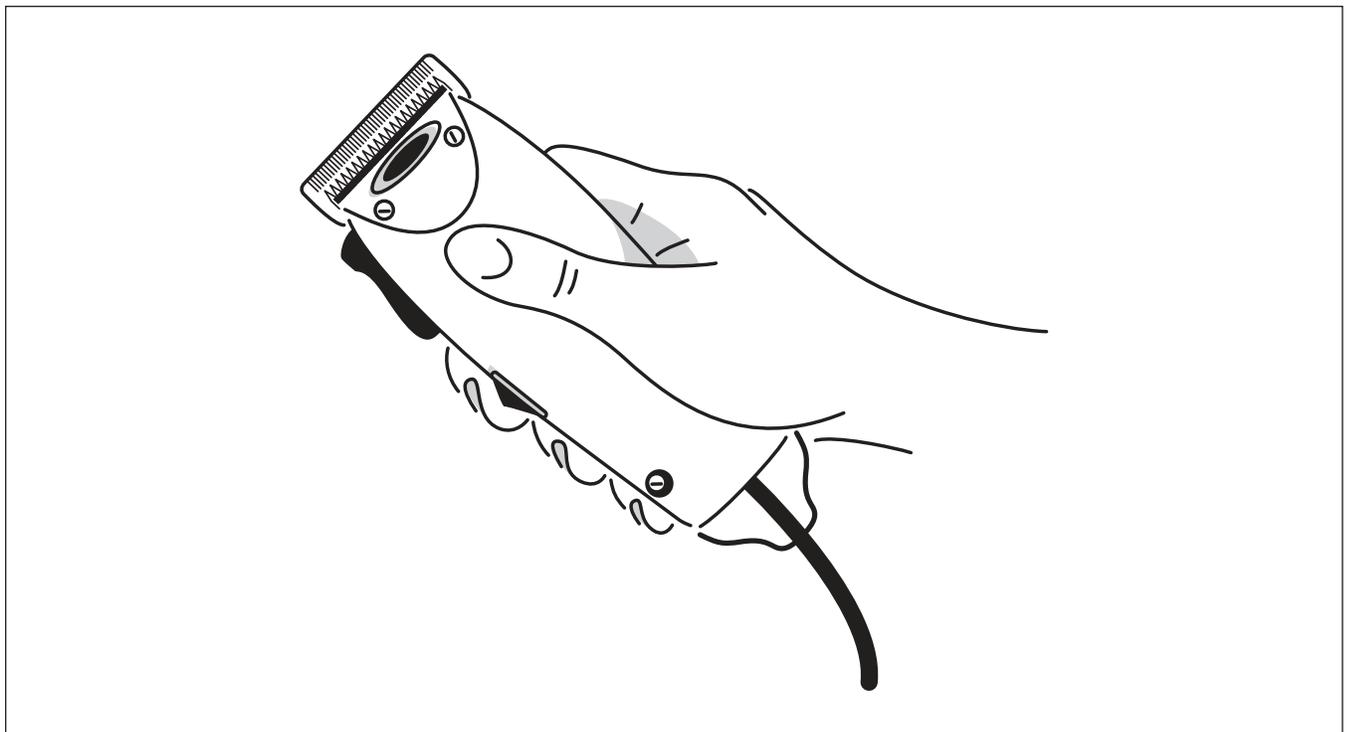
There are two blades on each clipper. One blade is stationary while the other one moves side to side as it cuts hair. The stationary blade can be adjusted up (to cut less length) or down (to cut more). For additional adjustment, you can add attachments, called “guards,” to help ensure that you cut a consistent length.

An edger is a small clipper with very fine teeth used for doing finishing work in hairlines and sideburn areas. It is sometimes used for cleaning up perimeters.

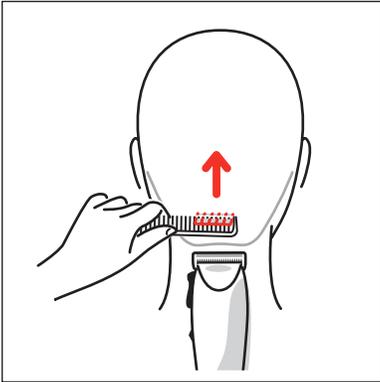
Both kinds of clippers can add strong definition to the perimeter.



Parts of a clipper



Holding the clipper



Comb and clipper move up the head as one

CLIPPER CUTTING PROCESS

1. Determine the length you want.
2. Determine the shape to be created.
3. Section away the hair above the parietal ridge.
4. Holding the comb in your subordinate hand, use it to elevate the hair from 1° to 90° , depending on the shape desired. Lower elevation builds weight (creating a graduated shape); higher elevation removes weight.

NOTE: Pick up only as much hair as you can control with consistent elevation. When first learning this technique, you might find it easier to control hair if you pick up and cut near the end of the comb, rather than toward the middle.

5. Move the comb out to the desired length of the hair. The closer you hold the comb to the head, the shorter the hair will be cut.
6. Hold the clipper as if you were shaking hands.
7. Beginning at the hairline, comb and cut what you can control.
8. Using the comb, lift the previously cut hair up to the uncut hair to serve as a guide for the next section. The comb and clipper move up the head as one.

NOTE: Always keep the comb between the blades and the head to prevent cutting gouges or steps into the haircut.

9. To change the length of the hair and adjust to the head shape, simply rotate the comb away from you for a shorter result and toward you for a longer result.
10. Check for accuracy by stepping away and looking for incorrect areas of weight (usually indicated by dark or shaded areas). Then use the mirror to determine the shape and the balance, turning the chair to see all sides of the hair.
11. Comb the hair and cut it vertically to cross check and clean up.

Keep in Mind

Follow these guidelines while cutting:

- Use the large teeth of the comb to remove length and bulk.
- Use the fine teeth of the comb to clean and bevel the hairline.

SUMMARY

The clipper cutting technique described here is a method of cutting or trimming short hair. This technique is especially useful for trimming areas around the ears and creating areas that are shorter than the rest.

TERMS TO REMEMBER

- Clipper cutting
- Clipper guard
- Edger

