



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

Unit code: H1N8 11

Superclass: HL

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Summary

This is a mandatory Unit in the NPA Barbering Skills Award at SCQF level 5, but can be taken as a freestanding Unit. This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to develop knowledge, skills and techniques, to perform a range of basic gents' haircuts. This will be achieved through developing effective communication skills, theoretical knowledge and practical activities.

This Unit is suitable for candidates who have no previous qualifications and wish to gain an introductory award as part of a general education or to a more specialised study.

Please note that the responsibility is with the centre to fully comply with the EU Directive regarding Pre-16 restrictions within the hair and beauty industry on the use of colour chemicals, cutting implements and skin tests.

Outcomes

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge of gents' haircutting techniques, categories and maintenance of tools.
- 2 Prepare for the haircut.
- 3 Perform a gent's haircut incorporating clipper work and give aftercare advice.
- 4 Perform a gent's haircut incorporating use of razor cutting and give aftercare advice.

Recommended entry

Entry is at the discretion of the centre. It would be beneficial if candidates have attained Cosmetology: Barbering Practical Skills (Intermediate 1) or equivalent.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 5: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5*)

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

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**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

Complete Core Skill None

Core Skill component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the support notes of this Unit specification.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of gents' haircutting techniques, categories and maintenance of tools.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify hair cutting tools and techniques to achieve the desired look.
- (b) Describe the techniques used to achieve the specified cutting categories.
- (c) Describe angle of the tools in relation to the head.
- (d) Demonstrate correct cleaning and maintenance of tools.

Outcome 2

Prepare for the haircut.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Consult with the client to establish requirements.
- (b) Clarify and agree client requirements.
- (c) Prepare the client in accordance with salon procedures.
- (d) Select the techniques to achieve the desired look.
- (e) Select the appropriate tools to achieve the techniques.

Outcome 3

Perform a gent's haircut incorporating clipper work and give aftercare advice.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Perform the haircut in a methodical manner considering hair type and client requirements.
- (b) Use selected cutting techniques appropriately to achieve the desired style.
- (c) Achieve the desired style to client requirements.
- (d) Comply with relevant current health and safety requirements.
- (e) Confirm client satisfaction and provide advice on aftercare.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

Outcome 4

Perform a gent's haircut incorporating use of razor cutting and give aftercare advice.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select the correct type of razor to produce the desired effect.
- (b) Hold and control the razor safely and effectively.
- (c) Remove hair using the razor.
- (d) Comply with relevant current Health and Safety Legislation.
- (e) Provide advice on aftercare and confirm client satisfaction.

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Performance evidence and written/oral recorded evidence which cover all the Outcomes and Performance Criteria is required for this Unit.

Outcome 1 (a), (b), (c) and (d) — Assignment

An assignment will be set which candidates will complete in open-book conditions.

The assignment must show that the candidate has a clear understanding of cutting techniques used, and the effects each technique has on the hair. A description of each cutting tool with an explanation of how to maintain them is required.

- ◆ tools — scissors, thinning/tapering scissors, clippers, razor, comb, neck brush
- ◆ techniques — club cutting, tapering, freehand cutting, scissor over comb, clipper over comb, razor cutting, pointing
- ◆ categories — layered, graduated
- ◆ describe accurately angle of the tools in relation to the head
- ◆ maintenance of cutting tools

Outcome 1 (d) — Performance evidence

Candidates will be required to demonstrate, by practical activity on a minimum of two occasions, that they are able to clean and maintain tools.

An assessor observation checklist must be used to provide evidence performance.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

Outcomes 2 and 3 — Performance evidence

Outcomes 2 and 3, should be assessed holistically. **Two cuts** incorporating clipper cutting, (clipper gauges are not permitted).

Candidates will be required to demonstrate by practical activity, a **minimum of two occasions** that they are able to:

- ◆ consult with client to establish requirements taking into account influencing factors: head/face shape, hair: growth pattern; movement; density; texture; weight; length
- ◆ clarify and agree client requirements
- ◆ prepare the client in accordance with salon procedures
- ◆ select the appropriate tools to achieve the techniques, scissors, thinning/tapering scissors, clippers, comb, neck brush
- ◆ select the techniques to achieve the desired look, club cutting, tapering, freehand cutting, scissors over comb, razor cutting, pointing
- ◆ perform the haircut in a methodical manner considering hair type and client requirements
- ◆ achieve the desired style to client requirements

Outcomes 2 and 4 — Performance evidence

Outcomes 2 and 4 should be assessed holistically. Two cuts incorporating razor cutting using a variation of manufacturers' tools.

Candidates will be required to demonstrate, by practical activity, on a **minimum of two occasions** that they are able to:

- ◆ consult with the client to establish requirements
- ◆ clarify and agree client requirements
- ◆ prepare the client in accordance with salon procedures
- ◆ select the techniques to achieve the desired looks
- ◆ select the appropriate tools to achieve the techniques
- ◆ select the correct type of razor to produce the desired effect
- ◆ hold and control the razor safely
- ◆ remove hair using the razor effectively
- ◆ comply with relevant current health and safety requirements
- ◆ confirm client satisfaction and provide advice on aftercare

All practical performance must be carried out on clients.

Performance must be supported by accurately completed client consultation records and assessor observation checklist.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Candidates should initially be encouraged to develop knowledge of influencing factors to be taken into account prior to carrying out a haircut, and to develop communication skills for consulting effectively with the client.

Candidates will learn how to present themselves in a hygienic and professional manner, and prepare the working environment following current health and safety legislation, as well as learn how to prepare the client. How to consult effectively should be an integral part of the learning process. Communication skills will include — clear speech, listening skills, questioning techniques.

The candidate should develop a sound knowledge of cutting tools, maintenance of tools, techniques and their effects on different hair types, movement, density and length. This knowledge should be used in practical situations whilst producing a commercially viable 'look'.

Key areas of knowledge are:

- ◆ tools — scissors, thinning/tapering scissors, clippers, razor, comb, neck brush
- ◆ techniques — club cutting, tapering, freehand cutting, scissor over comb, clipper over comb, razor cutting, pointing
- ◆ categories — layered, graduated
- ◆ describe accurately angle of the tools in relation to the head
- ◆ maintenance of cutting tools
- ◆ the importance of adhering to the requirements of appropriate current legislation, personal protection equipment (PPE), Electricity and Work Regulations, Data Protection Regulations
- ◆ organisational requirements relating to — working environment, storage of products, minimising and correct disposal of waste
- ◆ consultation and effective communication with clients
- ◆ conditions of work — dress code, professional appearance, personal conduct
- ◆ client preparation
- ◆ hygiene procedures
- ◆ hair grown patterns — nape whorl, double crown, cow's lick, widows peak

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

There should be an introduction to the Unit which allows the candidate to understand fully what is required and the approaches that will be adopted.

Practical demonstration relating to cleaning tools, and prevention of cross-infection. Candidates should be given time to practice before progressing to work on clients.

This Unit is essentially candidate-centred with knowledge and skills acquired through practical situations. Demonstrations by the lecturer, and the use of appropriate videos, are strongly recommended.

The candidate should acquire basic experience through practice on clients with different degrees of hair movement using a variety of cutting tools and techniques. When practical activities are carried out on clients, the candidate is encouraged to integrate knowledge from all Outcomes to select appropriate tools, techniques and cutting methods to achieve the desired end result and of the health and safety requirements. The learning and teaching should arise naturally throughout the practical activity.

Candidates should be shown how to prepare the client appropriately for the service ensuring client comfort and protection. Candidates should be able to give clients relevant aftercare and homecare recommendations and understand how this could, potentially, relate to the process of selling products.

The cut styles can be carried out using a combination of techniques to reflect viable commercial styles. Pictures, diagrams or photographs could be generated taking into account before and after looks.

It is important that the candidates are made aware of the fact that handling, disposing and storing of equipment and materials must comply with both the organisational and manufacturer's instructions and legal requirements.

Achievement of this Unit will be dependent on candidates being able to carry out practical activities in a realistic working environment which involves working on a variety of clients, working with others, so developing good working practice.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Gents Cutting to Incorporate Clipping and Razoring

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

The Evidence Requirements are fully expressed in the mandatory section of this Unit specification.

The theory aspects of this Unit should be taught and assessed early in the delivery of this Unit to give candidates the understanding required for all aspects for gents' cutting.

It is recommended that the written assessment for Outcome 1 is completed prior to the practical assessments of Outcomes 2, 3 and 4. This will assist candidates to gain knowledge and understanding of the categories of cuts, techniques and effects created by each cutting technique and tool.

Evidence for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 — This should be carried out when the candidate has had the benefit of practice and support to develop their skills.

The Assessment Support Pack provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It includes an assignment brief for Outcome 1, and assessor observation checklist and client consultation record for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In this Unit candidates will carry out practical activities which involve listening and talking to clients. These are good opportunities for developing aspects of the Core Skill of *Communication*. Candidates will learn how important it is to work together as part of a salon team to meet the needs of clients which will allow the development of aspects of the Core Skill of *Working with Others*.

This Unit has the Critical Thinking component of *Problem Solving* embedded in it. This means that when candidates achieve the Unit, their Core Skills profile will also be updated to show they have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	A European Directive has been issued regarding the use of colouring on and by pre-16s.	18/04/2013

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