

Trade Profile

Hairstylist



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TRADE PROFILE

HAIRSTYLIST



STRUCTURE OF THE TRADE PROFILE

This profile has two sections that provide a snapshot of the trade's description, and all trade activities as they are organized in the Red Seal Occupational Standard:

Description of the Hairstylist trade: An overview of the trade's duties, work environment, job requirements, similar occupations and career progression

Task Matrix: a chart which outlines graphically the major work activities, tasks and sub-tasks of this trade

Major Work Activity (MWA): the largest division within the standard that is comprised of a distinct set of trade activities

Task: distinct actions that describe the activities within a major work activity

Sub-task: distinct actions that describe the activities within a task

A complete version of the occupational standard, which provides additional detail for the trade activities, skills and knowledge can be found at www.red-seal.ca.

DESCRIPTION OF THE HAIRSTYLIST TRADE

“Hairstylist” is this trade’s official Red Seal occupational title approved by the CCDA.

Hairstylists shampoo, cut, style and chemically treat hair. In some jurisdictions, hairstylists may also provide services such as scalp treatments, hair addition applications and barbering techniques.

To be a successful hairstylist, one must incorporate technical and interpersonal skills. Continuous personal and professional development and client retention are crucial for long-term success. Hairstylists may recommend styles based on trends, clients’ physical features and lifestyle. Critical thinking, questioning and listening skills are important to serve their clientele. Depending on the workplace and jurisdiction, recommending and selling hair and skin products may be done by the hairstylist.

According to jurisdictional requirements, hairstylists may work in hair salons, spas, barber shops, schools, hair replacement clinics, health care establishments, hotels, and in the tourism, fashion and entertainment industries. With experience, hairstylists may move into other positions such as salon managers, salon owners, fashion consultants, educators, platform artists and product sales representatives. Hairstylists may be remunerated through salary, commission, a combination of salary and commission or chair rental agreements. Some hairstylists work out of their residences where by-laws allow.

Hairstylists work with various tools and equipment including brushes, combs, shears, clippers, razors, hair dryers and thermal tools. They own most of their tools and must keep them sanitized, disinfected and maintained according to health and safety rules and regulations.

Some hairstylists specialize in areas such as cutting, hair additions, chemical services and gender-spectrum services. In addition, diversity across Canada may require further specialization in ethnic specific services.

Hairstylists work in clean environments, though the chemicals that they use may irritate their skin and have strong odours and fumes that may result in respiratory issues. Some physical considerations of this trade are long periods of standing, posture fatigue and repetitive motion. This may result in repetitive strain injury, back and foot pain, although ergonomic considerations may reduce these effects.

Key attributes for people entering this trade are communication skills, personal interaction, self-motivation, coordination, manual dexterity, stamina, colour vision and depth perception. Respect, professionalism, teamwork, tact, discretion and creativity are important personal qualities. To keep current with trends and styles, hairstylists need to update their skills through trade shows, online platforms and other educational venues. They may need skills in using and maintaining social media sites to showcase and promote their services to existing and potential clients. They must also understand and implement personal and public hygiene procedures to maintain workplace health and safety.

Continuous learning and upgrading on styles, techniques, products and tools are crucial to this trade for professional success.

HAIRSTYLIST TASK MATRIX

A – Performs common occupational skills

12%

Task A-1 Performs safety-related and hygienic functions 31%	A-1.01 Disinfects tools and equipment	A-1.02 Sanitizes towels, capes and smocks	A-1.03 Maintains safe and hygienic work environment
Task A-2 Uses tools and equipment 27%	A-2.01 Uses manual tools	A-2.02 Uses electric tools	A-2.03 Uses major equipment
Task A-3 Prepares for client services 23%	A-3.01 Consults with client	A-3.02 Plans client services	A-3.03 Drapes client
	A-3.04 Uses documentation		
Task A-4 Uses communication and mentoring techniques 19%	A-4.01 Uses communication techniques	A-4.02 Uses mentoring techniques	

B – Performs hair and scalp care

9%

<p>Task B-5 Analyzes and responds to hair and scalp conditions 53%</p>	<p>A-5.01 Analyzes hair and scalp for non-chemical services</p>	<p>A-5.02 Analyzes hair and scalp for chemical services</p>	<p>A-5.03 Responds to unfavourable hair and scalp reactions</p>
<p>Task B-6 Shampoos and conditions hair and scalp 47%</p>	<p>A-6.01 Brushes hair</p>	<p>A-6.02 Controls flow and temperature of water</p>	<p>A-6.03 Manipulates hair and scalp using shampoo and conditioner</p>
	<p>A-6.04 Performs hair and scalp treatment</p>		

C – Cuts hair

20%

<p>Task C-7 Cuts diverse textures of hair using cutting tools 78%</p>	<p>C-7.01 Cuts hair with elevation</p>	<p>C-7.02 Cuts hair without elevation</p>	<p>C-7.03 Customizes haircuts</p>
<p>Task C-8 Cuts facial and nape hair 22%</p>	<p>C-8.01 Trims facial and nape hair</p>	<p>C-8.02 Removes facial and nape hair with straight razor</p>	

D – Styles hair

13%

Task D-9 Prepares and styles wet hair 51%	D-9.01 Uses styling aids for wet hair	D-9.02 Dries hair	D-9.03 Places hair using freestyle techniques
	D-9.04 Sets wet hair into style pattern using setting tools	D-9.05 Styles hair using finger waves and pin curls	
Task D-10 Styles and finishes dry hair 49%	D-10.01 Uses styling and finishing aids for dry hair	D-10.02 Styles hair using thermal tools and equipment	D-10.03 Styles updos
	D-10.04 Creates hairstyle with hair additions	D-10.05 Finishes hair	

E – Performs chemical texture services on hair

14%

Task E-11 Chemically waves hair 59%	E-11.01 Wraps hair	E-11.02 Processes hair with waving and neutralizing solutions	E-11.03 Removes tools
Task E-12 Chemically relaxes hair 41%	E-12.01 Applies chemical relaxers and neutralizing products	E-12.02 Processes hair with chemical relaxers and neutralizing products	E-12.03 Removes chemical relaxers and neutralizing products

F – Alters hair colour

21%

Task F-13 Colours hair 35%	F-13.01 Colours virgin hair	F-13.02 Colours regrowth	F-13.03 Colours hair using colour placement and techniques
Task F-14 Lightens hair 30%	F-14.01 Lightens virgin hair	F-14.02 Lightens regrowth	F-14.03 Lightens hair using customized placement and techniques
	F-14.04 Tones pre-lightened hair		
Task F-15 Performs colour correction 35%	F-15.01 Determines process	F-15.02 Removes unwanted colour	F-15.03 Completes colour correction

G – Performs specialized services

5%

Task G-16 Performs services for hair extensions, wigs and hairpieces 73%	G-16.01 Selects hair extensions, wigs and hairpieces	G-16.02 Customizes hair extensions, wigs and hairpieces	G-16.03 Maintains hair extensions, wigs and hairpieces
Task G-17 Performs basic services on the face and nape 27%	G-17.01 Performs depilatory facial and nape services	G-17.02 Colours facial hair	

H – Performs salon operations

6%

Task H-18
Performs front desk responsibilities
65%

H-18.01 Performs communication duties

H-18.02 Schedules appointments

H-18.03 Interacts with clients

H-18.04 Completes financial transactions

H-18.05 Maintains inventory

H-18.06 Prices retail products

H-18.07 Maintains retail displays

Task H-19
Establishes business fundamentals
35%

H-19.01 Develops business plan

H-19.02 Presents professionalism

H-19.03 Markets products and services