

## **Family Haircuts & How To Give Them ...1950s Style!**

Excerpted from  
The Practice and Science  
of Standard Barbering  
for State Barber Examinations  
1955

HomeschoolFreebieOfTheDay Note:

What a fun find! In the midst of this humongous 522 page 1950s era barber college textbook (which mainly focused on how to pass a state barber exam), we ran across THIS wonderful chapter detailing men's haircut styles, with detailed, step-by-step instructions on how to give the perfect haircut! So, we excerpted the whole section and put it in this stand-alone ebook on hair cutting technique, 1950s style! If you like the men in your family to look clean-cut and snappy, check it out! A great guide for frugal moms who want to cut their family's hair!

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## MEN'S HAIRCUTTING

The art of haircutting involves a distinctive cut and arrangement of the hair to suit the individual requirements of the customer. Each customer presents a new problem which the shop owner cannot afford to neglect by careless or indifferent workmanship. Mistakes should be prevented rather than covered up or changed. Expert workmanship in haircutting can best be acquired by competent instruction and by patient practice on living models.

### Fundamentals in Haircutting

It is essential that the barber acquire an easy, graceful position when cutting the hair. Avoid stooping, bending the knees, or twisting the body into awkward positions. In haircutting, work to the right of you, as this will give you a better view of your work. Learning correct habits in haircutting will relieve fatigue and make your work more efficient.

### Implements

The principal implements used in haircutting are: clippers, shears and combs.

### Important Steps For A Complete Haircut

The important steps in giving a complete haircut are:

1. Preparation.
2. Clipper technique.
3. Shears and comb technique.
4. Arching technique.
5. Finger and shears technique.
6. Front outline.
7. Shaving outlined areas.
8. Final checkup.
9. Combing the hair.

### Exercise No. 1

#### How To Prepare A Customer For A Haircut

Before starting a haircut, the following preparation is required:

1. Have on hand all necessary linens, sterilized implements and supplies.
2. Seat customer comfortably in barber chair, facing mirror.
3. Remove headrest from barber chair.
4. Wash and dry hands.
5. Grasp neck-pieces of chair cloth and bring it over the front of customer, as in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1—Placing Chair Cloth Over in Front of Customer

6. Use tissue neck-strip or towel protector under neck-pieces of chair cloth.

- a) If a tissue neck-strip is used, bring it completely around the customer's neck with the ends overlapping in the back, as in Fig. 2.



Fig. 2—Adjusting Tissue Neck-Strip Around Neck of Customer

Over the tissue neck-strip, place the neck-pieces of the chair cloth and fasten it securely in the back. Extending portion of the tissue neck-strip is folded neatly over the neck-pieces of the chair cloth, as in Fig. 3.



Fig. 3—The extended portion of the Neck-Strip is folded over Neck-pieces of Chair Cloth

- b) If a towel is used, spread it straight across back of customer, the upper edge being tucked in at the neckline. Bring both ends of the towel around the customer's neck, allowing one end to overlap the other under the chin. Over the towel, place the neck-pieces of the chair cloth and fasten it securely in the back.
7. Sprinkle talcum powder on a tissue and apply it over the back of the customer's neck.

## Exercise No. 2

### Clipper Technique

For the beginner, it is best to learn how to use the hand clipper before trying the electric clipper. Since the hand clipper is slow cutting, it is easier to control in removing the proper amount of hair from the head.

To learn the proper handling of the clipper the student should practice the following exercises diligently.

#### 1. How to Hold Clipper and Comb.

The position of the right hand is as follows:

- a) Pick up the clipper with the right hand.
- b) Place thumb along still handle attached to lower blade and hold movable handle in the first joint of the fingers, placing the index finger in front of the projecting guide and the rest of the fingers in back of it.



Fig. 1—Holding the Hand Clipper



Fig. 2—Using the Index Finger as a Guide

The position of the left hand is as follows:

- a) Place the index finger of the left hand on the set

screw and use it as a guide to steady the clipper. See Fig. 2.

- b) Hold comb between thumb and index finger, ready to use the comb whenever necessary.

## 2. How to Use Clipper and Comb.

- a) Use clipper blade which gives longer cut before using clipper blade which gives shorter cut.
- b) For a gradual even taper, tilt the blade as you clip so that the clipper rides on the heel of the bottom blade. See Fig. 3 for correct and incorrect tapering.
- c) In order to cut the hair with ease, use the full span of the movable handle with the aid of the fingers. Do not move the clipper up into the hair too fast as it will have a tendency to jam the clipper blades and pull the hair.
- d) After tapering one strip of hair, comb hair down smooth and start tapering the unclipped hair to the right.\*

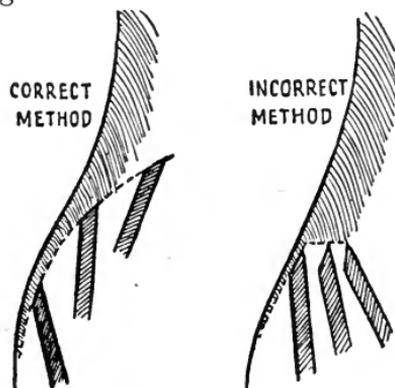


Fig. 3—Correct and Incorrect Methods of Tapering the Hair

Haircut styles that require clipper tapering all around the head should begin at the left temple and continue around the head, finishing at the right temple. Haircut styles that require clipper tapering at the back of the neck only should begin at the left side of the neck, finishing at the right side of the neck.\*

\*Some barbers prefer to work from right side to left side, in which case the routine of clipping the hair is reversed.

### Exercise No. 3

#### Shears and Comb Technique

Shears and comb technique is used to cut the ends of the hair and even up the clipper taper. It is usually employed after the clipper work is completed.

To learn shears and comb technique the student should practice the following exercises:

1. **How to Hold Shears and Comb.** See Fig. 1.

The position of the right hand is as follows.

- a) Pick up shears firmly and insert thumb into thumb grip, place third finger into finger grip and leave little finger on finger brace of shears.

The position of the left hand is as follows:

- a) Hold comb with tips of the first two fingers at the end of teeth and place thumb at the back of the comb.
- b) To comb hair downward turn comb towards customer's head, as in turning a key. See Fig. 2.

The position of both the right hand and left hand is as follows:

- a) Hold shears and comb slightly to the right front of you.
- b) Hold comb parallel with the still blade of the shears, as in Fig. 1.

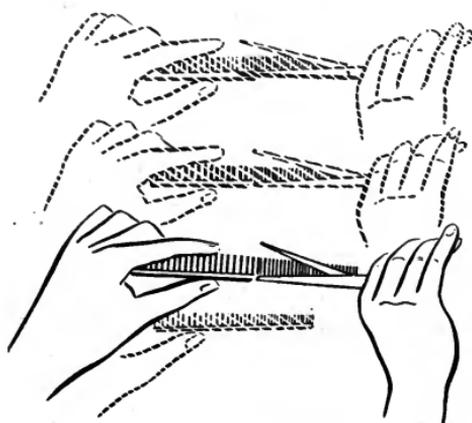


Fig. 1

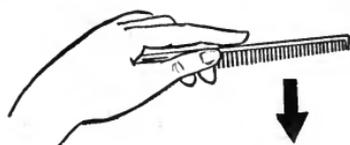


Fig. 2—The turning of the comb downward is accomplished by turning the comb towards the head by using the thumb and first two fingers of the left hand.

## 2. How to Use Shears and Comb. See Fig. 1.

- a) Keep one blade still while moving the other blade with the thumb.
- b) While manipulating the shears move both shears and comb upward slowly at the same time.
- c) Turn teeth of comb downward when combing the hair downward.
- d) Finish one vertical strip at a time before proceeding with the next strip to the left. Working from right to left gives a better view of the work.



Fig. 3—Shears and comb work over the ear, using the fine teeth of the comb. Start at right side of head, work around the head and finish at left temple.



Fig. 4—Shears and comb work behind the ear. Note the angle in which the shears and comb are held so that they will not interfere with the ear. The fine teeth of the comb are used.

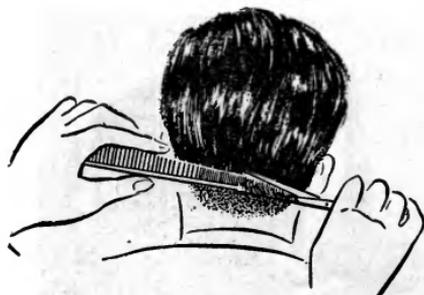


Fig. 5—Using shears and comb to even up the clipper taper at the nape of the neck. The fine teeth of the comb are used in this operation.



Fig. 6—Shears and comb work at the crown, using the coarse teeth of the comb.

## Exercise No. 4

### Arching Technique

Arching technique means marking the outer border of the haircut in front and over the ears and side of the neck. This outlining is accomplished with the points of the shears and is usually performed while doing the shears and comb work as described in Exercise No. 3.

To learn arching technique the student should practice the following exercise diligently.

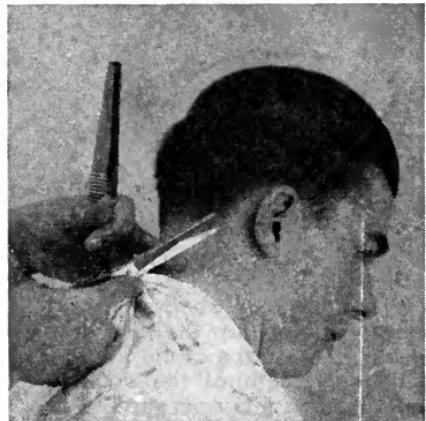
#### 1. How to Hold Shears with Right Hand.

- a) Pick up shears and insert thumb into thumb grip, place third finger into finger grip and leave the little finger on brace of shears.
- b) Place point of shear blade against scalp. The



Fig. 1—Outlining the hair in front of and over the ear.

Fig. 2—Outlining the hair on side of neck and back of ear.



fingers holding the shears are on the bottom and the thumb on top. See Fig. 1.

- c) Use the most convenient finger-tip of left hand to steady point of shears.

## 2. How to Use Shears.

The proper way to use shears is as follows:

- a) Always make outline around ear as close to the edge as possible.
- b) Start in front of ear and make a continuous outline around the ear and down the side of neck, as in Fig. 1.
- c) Reverse the direction of arching back to the starting point. See Fig. 2.
- d) Continue arching around ear until a definite outline is formed.
- e) Mark outline for length of sideburns.

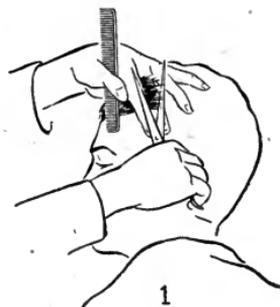
### Exercise No. 5

#### Finger and Shears Technique

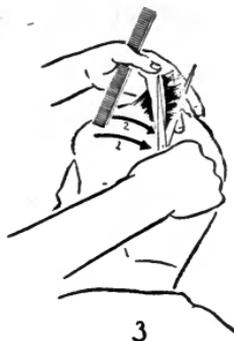
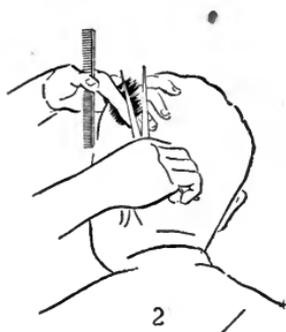
In order to finish the haircut properly, any noticeable unevenness remaining after shears and comb work should be removed by means of finger and shears technique. If the top hair needs shortening it may be accomplished during the finger and shears operation.

To perform finger technique on left side of head, stand on left front side of customer.

1. Hold shears and comb as follows:
  - a) Hold shears by inserting third finger into finger grip and place little finger on brace.
  - b) Grasp comb with left hand.
2. Start just above the left temple, palm shears in right hand, transfer comb from left hand to fingers of right hand and comb a strand of hair two or three inches from you towards the back of the head.
3. Raise the comb sufficiently to permit first and second fingers of the left hand to grasp the hair underneath the comb. The fingers holding the hair should bend to conform with the shape of the head.
4. Place comb between thumb and index finger of left hand.
5. Cut the hair the proper length to blend well with the shorter hair on side of head. See Fig. 1.
6. Hold on to the cut hair, palm the shears, transfer comb from left to right hand and comb through the hair contained in the fingers of the left hand.



7. Release the fingers, sliding the comb and picking up underneath hair beyond the cut just made, and cut the hair.
8. Comb the hair at that point again and repeat the same cutting movements until the back of the head is reached.
9. Start again at the front of the head going a little higher, continue to comb and cut until the back of the head is reached again.
10. Continue to comb and cut, going a little higher each time until the top of the head is reached. See Figs. 2 and 3.



To perform finger technique on right side of head stand in back of the customer.

1. The finger technique for the right side of the head is done in the same manner as on the left side, with the exception that the barber stands in back of the customer and the hair is combed towards the barber. See Figs. 4 and 5.



## Exercise No. 6

### Front Outline

The front outline is shaped soon after completing the finger and shears technique.

The length to which the front outline is cut depends principally on the choice of haircut, whether short, medium or long, and the way the hair is to be parted.

To learn to make the front outline the student should follow these suggestions.

1. Comb all hair to right side bringing the hair straight down over the right temple, as in Fig. 1.

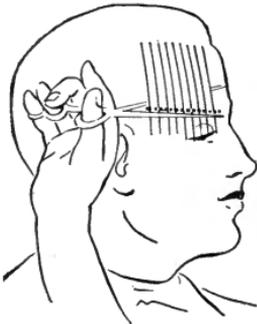


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

2. Hold shears, as in Fig. 1, and cut straight across to the proper length. If necessary, use comb to hold hair in place and cut hair, as in Fig. 2.

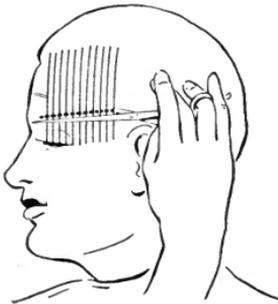


Fig. 3

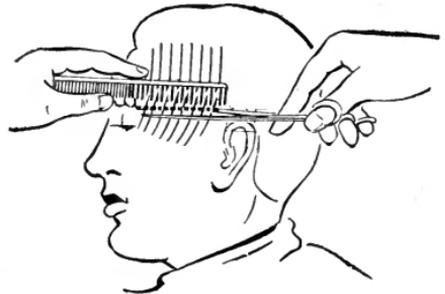


Fig. 4

3. Comb all hair to left side, bringing the hair straight down over left temple, as in Fig. 3.
4. Hold shears, as in Fig. 3 and cut hair straight across to the proper length. If necessary, use comb to hold hair in place and cut hair, as shown in Fig. 4.



Fig. 5

When the work is properly done the front appearance of the hair as it is combed forward should form to a "V".

### Exercise No. 7

#### Preparation For A Neck Shave

The neck shave contributes to the appearance of the finished haircut. Shaving the outlined areas of the sideburns, around the ears and the sides of the neck below the ears gives the customer a clean cut appearance. If the haircut requires a round or square outline at the nape of the neck, the free hand stroke should be used at the back of the neck.

To prepare for a neck shave follow these steps:

1. Remove all cut hair around the head and neck with clean towel or tissues.
2. Loosen the chair cloth and neck-band carefully, so that no cut hair will go down the neck.
3. Empty the cut hair at the base of the chair in the following manner:  
Pick up the chair cloth at the lower edge and bring it up to the upper edge. Remove chair cloth carefully so that no cut hair will fall on the customer. Drop upper edge of chair cloth, giving a slight shake to dislodge all cut hair.
4. Replace chair cloth as before. It should be left a few inches away from the neck so that it does not come in contact with the customer's skin.
5. Spread a face towel straight across the shoulders, then tuck it in the neck-band.

#### Applying Lather For Neck Shave

1. Prepare lather same as for the beard.
2. Lather both sides of the head and the back of the neck as follows:  
Give a light coat of lather at the hairline around and over the ears, to the temples and down the sides of the neck. If round neck shave is to be given, apply lather to the back of the neck up to the hairline.
3. Rub the lather in lightly with the ball part of the finger-tips.

## Exercise No. 8

### Shaving Outlined Areas

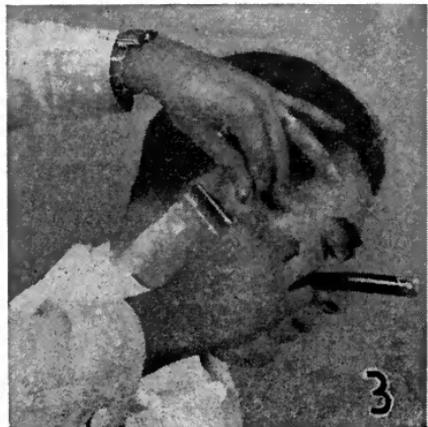
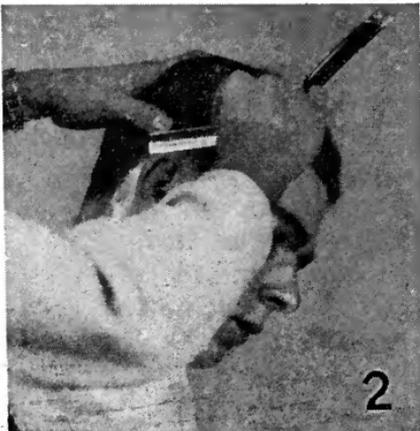
This exercise is a follow-up of Exercise No. 4, on Arching Technique. The purpose of this exercise is to shave over outlined areas of the ears, neck and sideburns.

Before starting this exercise, prepare and apply lather over outlined areas, as explained in Exercise No. 7. Strop razor, then proceed as follows:

#### 1. Shaving Right Side.

The proper way to shave outlined area is as follows:

- a) Hold razor as in free hand stroke.
- b) Place thumb of left hand on the scalp above the point of razor, and stretch scalp under razor.
- c) Shave sideburn to the proper length.
- d) Shave around ear at hairline and down side of neck, using a free hand stroke with the point of razor. See Figs. 1, 2 and 3.



## 2. Shaving Left Side.

The proper way to shave outlined area is as follows:

- a) Hold razor as in reverse back hand stroke.
- b) Place thumb of left hand on scalp above point of razor and stretch scalp under razor.
- c) Shave sideburn to the proper length.
- d) Shave around ear at hairline using a free hand stroke.
- e) Shave neck below ear, using the reverse back hand stroke with point of razor. See Fig. 4. Hold ear away with fingers of left hand.



Shaving Left Side of Neck using  
Reverse Back Hand Stroke



Medium Haircut  
with Round Neck Shave

3. Depending on the customer's preference, shave the neck outline to form a round or square back.

After the neck shave has been completed, remove the excess soap with a warm damp towel. Dry the neck thoroughly. Replace the towel across the customer's shoulder and tuck it in neatly in the neck band.

**Exercise No. 9****Final Checkup and Combing of the Hair**

A checkup of the haircut and combing of the hair are the steps to complete a haircut. Here is a suggested routine to follow:

1. Replace the face towel across the customer's shoulders and tuck it neatly in neck-band.
2. Retouch parts of the haircut wherever necessary with shears and comb.
3. Trim hair in ears, in nose, and on eyebrows. (Ask the customer before trimming the eyebrows.)
4. Massage the scalp for a few seconds. This is the time to suggest a shampoo, hair tonic or any other hair and scalp service.
5. If the customer's answer is negative, then ask him if he wants his hair combed dry or damp.
6. Comb the hair into its customary style or ask the customer's wishes.



Combing the Hair

*If a hair brush is allowed in your state, be sure that it is properly cleaned and sterilized before using it on the customer.*

**Final Checkup**

1. Go over the finished haircut to correct any uneven parts.
2. Allow customer to see back view of haircut with the aid of a mirror.
3. Make corrections as requested by the customer.
4. Remove all traces of loose hairs around the neck, forehead or nose with a clean towel wrapped around the right hand, or with tissues.
5. Remove chair cloth.
6. Adjust barber chair to level position.
7. Release customer from barber chair.
8. Make out check and thank customer when giving it to him.

## REMINDERS

### Sanitary Measures

After releasing the customer, take care of the following sanitary measures:

1. Discard used towel and neck-strip,
2. Shake hair cloth at the base of chair, fold and place it on arm of chair.
3. Clean and sterilize used barber implements.
4. Place barber implements into dry (cabinet) sterilizer.
5. Sweep hair from floor and place it into a closed container.
6. Have needed supplies in readiness for next customer.

### Ten Reasons Why A Customer May Find Fault With A Haircut

1. Improper hairstyle.
2. Poor workmanship.
3. Cutting off too much or too little hair.
4. Irregular hairlines.
5. Unsanitary practices such as unsterilized implements, unclean towels or chair cloths.
6. Allowing cut hairs to fall down customer's neck.
7. Pulling the hair with dull shears or clippers.
8. Offensive body odor, bad breath or tobacco odor.
9. Blowing loose hair off the customer's neck.
10. Scratching the customer's scalp in combing the hair.

## BASIC STEPS OF A STANDARD HAIRCUT

### Preparation.

1. Arrange necessary implements and supplies.
2. Wash and dry hands.
3. Adjust chair cloth over customer.
4. Adjust neck-strip or towel around neck and fasten neck-pieces of chair cloth around it.
5. Comb hair just enough to keep it in place.
6. Ask customer how hair is to be cut and styled.

### Procedure.

#### A. Clipper Work.

1. Taper hair evenly with hand clipper, working from left side to right side of head. (Some barbers prefer to work from the right side to the left side of the head.)

#### B. Shears and Comb Work.

1. Even up hair taper at right side of head.
2. Trim sideburns, if necessary.
3. Outline right arch, if necessary.
4. Blend in edge of hair with rest, working from right side to left side of the head.
5. Outline left arch, if necessary.

#### C. Finger and Shears Work.

1. Shorten or reduce any pronounced unevenness in the hair, on left top side of head.
2. Shorten or reduce any pronounced unevenness in the hair, on right top side of head.
3. Trim front outline, if necessary.
4. Comb hair and note where further trimming is needed.
5. Drum out loose hair with finger-tips of both hands.
6. Comb hair casually.
7. Brush off loose hair from forehead, ears and neck with towel or tissue.
8. Loosen chair cloth, remove neck-strip and finish dusting off any loose hair.

**D. Neck Shave.**

1. Place towel around neck.
2. Apply lather over outlined areas of sideburns, around ears and sides of neck.
3. Shave outlined areas. Shave right side of head first and then the left side.
4. Wipe off remaining lather with warm damp towel and dry thoroughly.
5. Place towel around neck to protect clothing.
6. Retouch haircut wherever necessary, with shears and comb.
7. Trim extra hairs from ears, nose and eyebrows, if necessary.
8. Give a few scalp manipulations and suggest a suitable hair tonic or scalp treatment.
9. If no hair tonic is to be used, ask customer if he wishes the hair to remain dry or dampened with water.
10. Comb hair neatly.

**E. Final Steps.**

1. Wipe off loose hair with towel or tissue.
2. Remove towel and chair cloth from customer.
3. Make out price check for customer.
4. Thank customer as he is handed the price check.

## THE ART OF BASIC HAIRCUTTING

To be successful the barber must perfect his skill in hair-cutting. Each haircut should represent a work of art. Try to give the type of haircut that will emphasize the proper contour lines of the head.

From experience the barber has found out that most hair-cuts fall into the following patterns:

1. The short cut.
2. The medium cut.
3. Trims (medium or long).
4. Pompadours (short, medium or long).

Each haircut requires the personal touch of the barber. Always keep in mind the customer's needs and wishes and what type of haircut is most becoming to his personality.

Before giving a haircut make sure to ask the customer which type of haircut he desires. If the customer asks for the barber's advice then recommend the type of haircut which best improves his appearance.

### THE SHORT CUT

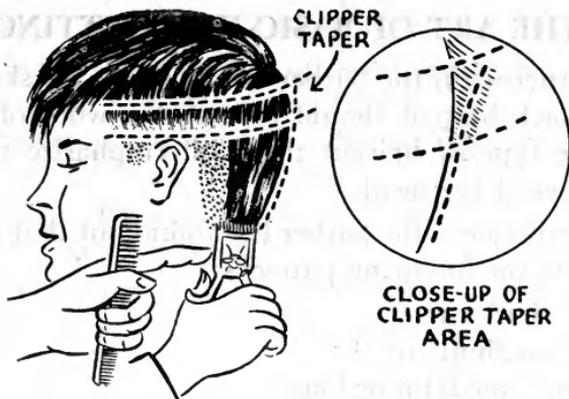
The short cut or full crown haircut is popular in summer time for both young and old.

When giving this cut the barber should keep in mind the following important points.

1. Be guided by the customer's wishes as to any variations in the short cut. The shape of the head should be considered also.
2. Begin clipper work at the left temple, continue around the head, finishing at the right temple\* Go up as high as the hat band, tilting the clipper teeth outward at the point where the gradual taper begins.
3. Begin shear and comb work at right temple, continue around the head, finishing at the left temple.

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\*Some barbers prefer to do clipper work from right temple to left temple, in which case the routine is reversed.



Clipper Taper for Short Cut

4. Use shears and fine teeth of comb for removing traces of the clipper line.
5. Always turn the teeth of the comb out when tapering the hair.
6. Use shears and coarse teeth of comb when removing longer part of hair.
7. Finger work is performed to the top of the head only if necessary.



Short Cut with  
Pompadour Effect



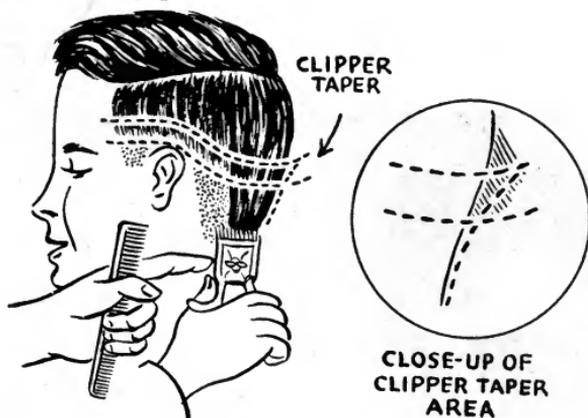
Short Cut with Hair  
following the natural shape of  
the head

## THE MEDIUM CUT

The medium cut is similar to the short cut except for the following differences:

1. The hair is left longer than in the short cut.
2. The clipper is used all around the head, but not so high.

When giving a medium cut, the barber should keep in mind the following points:



Clipper Taper for Medium Cut

1. Be guided by the customer's wishes as to any variations in the medium cut.
2. Clip the hair about as high as half way up to the crown.
3. Always tilt the clipper teeth outward at the point where the gradual taper begins.
4. Use shears and the coarse teeth of comb for removing longer hair above clipper line.



Showing One Side of Head Properly Tapered with Clippers

5. Always turn the teeth of the comb out when tapering the hair.
6. Use shears and the fine teeth of comb for removing traces of clipper line.



Using Hand Clippers to Clean Neck of Protruding Hairs

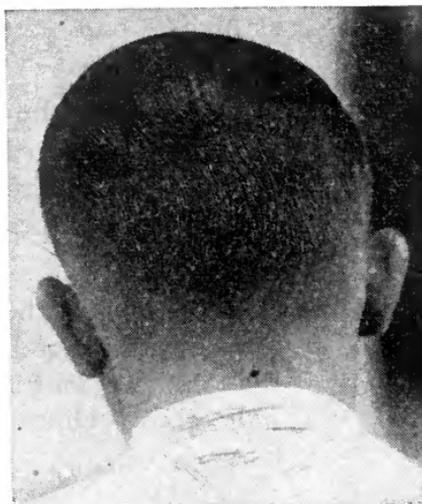


#### MEDIUM CUT

Left—Front View

Lower Left—Side View

Lower Right—Back View



## TRIMS

### Medium Trim

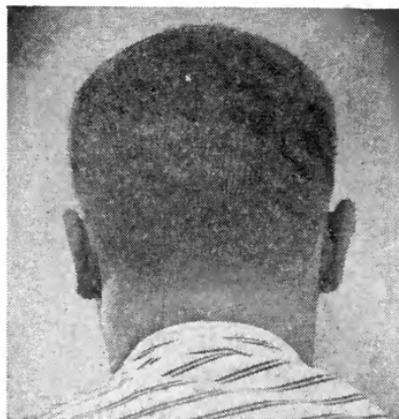
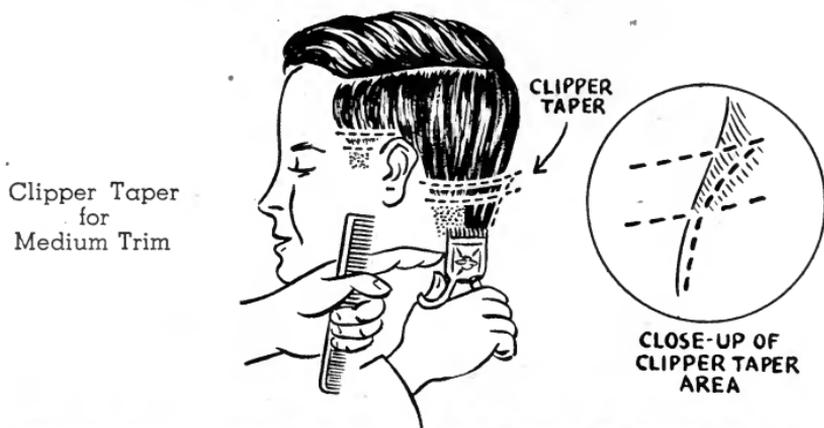
The medium trim, usually worn by business men, is different from the medium cut, not only in length of the hair, but also in outline.

In the medium trim the No. 1 clipper may be used at the temples in front of the ears. The No. 00 or No. 000 clipper is recommended for the lower part of the neck.

The shears and comb work is started at the right sideburn and the trimming is continued towards the left sideburn.

Caution should be taken not to trim the hair too short.

The finger work is used to reduce the bulk of the top hair and to blend in with the rest of the hair.



Medium Trim—Back View



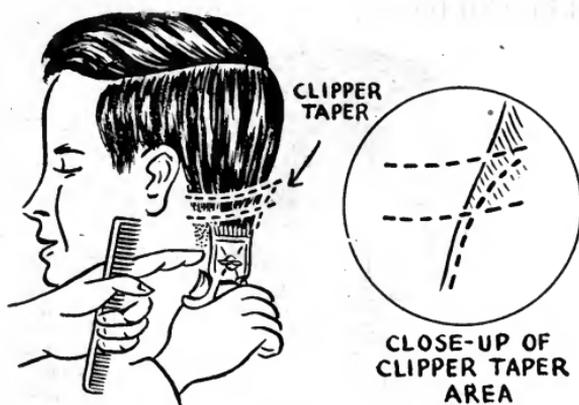
Medium Trim—Side View

## Long Trim

The long trim is similar to the medium trim with the exception that the hair is left a trifle longer.

In the long trim, clipper work is done at the back of the neck with the taper evident near the lower tip of the ears. With the point of the shears, outline the right sideburn to the desired length and mark off the hairline in front of and around the ears. Trim right sideburn with shears and comb, continue around the head and finish at the left sideburn.

In doing finger work, be careful to cut off the proper amount of hair. (For different lengths of sideburns, see page 144.)



Clipper Taper for Long Trim



Evening the Clipper Taper  
at the Nape of the Neck



Long Trim—Front View



Long Trim—Side View

### Electric Clipper

Experience with the hand clipper makes it easier to use the electric clipper. Because of its rapid cutting action, the electric clipper must be handled skillfully, as follows:



Tapering the Hair  
at the Nape of the Neck  
with the Electric Clipper



Tapering the Hair  
Held through the Teeth  
of the Comb  
with the Electric Clipper

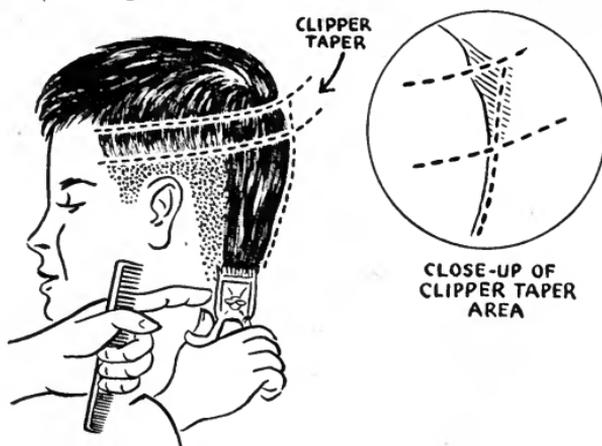
1. Select the proper size of clipper blade.
2. Feed the clipper slowly into the hair held with the teeth of the comb.
3. In making the taper, gradually tilt the clipper.

## THE POMPADOUR

### Short Pompadour

For the short pompadour, use the clipper high all around the head, as in the short cut, leaving the top of the head unclipped.

Before using the shears, comb the hair straight back to the crown. Stand to the front, left side of the customer when cutting the hair on top of the head, and start cutting at the forehead, shortening the hair gradually until you reach the crown. Trim and taper the sides and back of the head to blend with the top of the head.



Clipper Taper for Short Pompadour



Cutting the Hair in a Brush Top Effect



Short Pompadour  
(Brush Top)



Short Pompadour  
(Brush Top) Back View



Short Pompadour  
(Round Top)

## MEDIUM POMPADOUR

The medium pompadour follows the same pattern as the medium trim with the exception that the hair on top of the head is left somewhat longer.

The clipper technique used is similar to the medium cut. (See page 135.)

In doing the finger work, part the hair in the center, then follow the technique as explained in Lesson 5, page 122-123.

Care must be taken that too much hair is not removed.



Medium Pompadour

Mark off outline and shave sideburns, around ears and back of neck. Retouch any uneven spots with shears and comb. Finally, the hair is combed straight back.

## LONG POMPADOUR

The long pompadour follows the same pattern as the long trim (see pages 138-139) with the exception that the hair is left a little longer on top of the head.

The finger technique is the same as the medium pompadour, but the hair is left a little longer.

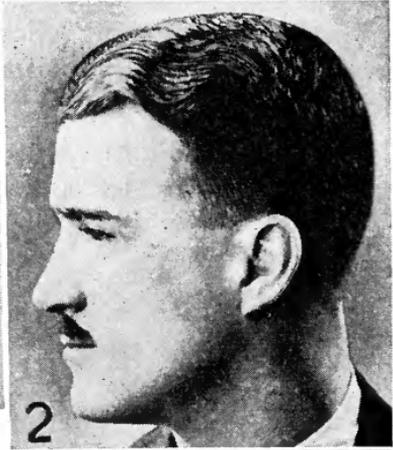


Long Pompadour  
with Medium Sideburns,  
Dressed with Wide Wave

Long Pompadour  
with Long Sideburns  
Dressed Close to the Head



## SIDEburnS



Sideburns should be made according to the desire of the customer, style of the haircut, and the customer's features.

Fig. 1—None.

Fig. 2—Short.

Fig. 3—Pointed (Slant).

Fig. 4—Medium.

Fig. 5—Long.



## SPECIAL PROBLEMS

### HAIR THINNING

Hair thinning is required to reduce the bulk of the hair wherever necessary. Any of the following implements and methods can be used for this purpose.

1. **Thinning (serrated) shears.** The hair strand is combed, and the spread hair held between the index and middle fingers, as in Fig. 1. Then the hair is cut about one inch from the scalp. If another cut is necessary it should be made about one inch from the first cut. To shorten the hair the regular shears is used.

**Plan of cutting the hair.** The barber stands in back of the customer, combs away the front hair which does not require thinning, as in Fig. 2. The hair is then thinned on both sides of the head, strand by strand as required, and the loose cut hair is combed out. The top part is usually done last.

**Caution:** Do not cut the hair too close to the scalp nor thin out too much hair.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

2. **Thinning (serrated) shears and comb.** Instead of the index and middle fingers, the comb may be used in holding the hair, as in Fig. 3. The thinning is done in the usual manner.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

3. **Regular shears.** Hold a small strand of hair between the thumb and index finger, insert the strand in the shears, as in Fig. 4. Slide the shears up and down the strand, closing them slightly each time the shears is moved towards the scalp. Slither enough to allow the hair to lie close to the scalp wherever needed.

### SHEAR POINT TAPERING



Shear point tapering is a useful technique for thinning out difficult heads of hair occasioned by hollows, wrinkles and creases in the scalp and by whorls of hair on the scalp. Dark and ragged hair patches on the scalp can be minimized by this special technique.

The shear point taper is performed with the cutting points of the shears.

Only a few hairs are cut at a time and then combed out. Continue cutting around the objectionable spot until it becomes less noticeable and blends in with the surrounding outline of the haircut.

## BEARDS

There are still a few professional men who insist on wearing beards, made popular during the sixteenth century by the great painter Van Dyke. However, such styles as shown on this page are seldom seen nowadays.



The Van Dyke

Beard with Shaven Chin Area

The cutting of the full beard is done with the shears over the comb, usually starting near the ear and working toward the chin. The length and shape depend upon the customer's wishes.

For the goatee beard, it is customary to first shave the sides of the face and then trim the beard to the desired shape and length. The mustache is trimmed and dressed last in accordance with the customer's wishes.



The Goatee Beard

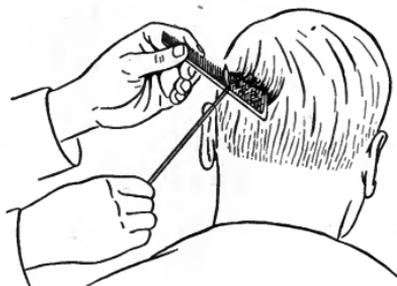
## SINGEING

Before commencing to singe, it is necessary to brush and comb the hair thoroughly in order to remove the short hairs which inevitably remain after haircutting.

Singeing by means of the wax taper is done in the following manner. The hair is first combed into position, approxi-



Singeing with the Teeth of the Comb Pointing Downward



Singeing with the Teeth of the Comb Pointing Upward

mately as usually worn. Then commence the singeing by placing the comb in the hair at a point just below the crown. The comb is moved slowly down the hair in the direction from the crown toward the nape of the neck. As the comb moves through the hair, the lighted taper is passed along the ends of the hair which protrude through the teeth of the comb, thus singeing off the extreme points. After the back and sides have been treated in this manner, the edges of the short hair in the nape of the neck and sides are singed, using the comb in an upward direction.

**VALUE OF SINGEING**—Present day authorities claim that singeing is not beneficial to the hair, and classify it as a quack treatment; however, it does provide temporary relief for split hair ends, and some customers desire a finishing touch to their hair that cannot be acquired otherwise. Since there are some customers who desire singeing, and there is an added financial return for the work, it is advisable to learn the technique of singeing thoroughly.

## POPULAR HAIR STYLES FOR MEN

*The skilled barber should be able to advise his customers as to which type of haircut is best fitted to their age, personality, shape of head and facial features. Study the following hair styles for suggestions as to how to bring out the best qualities in each customer.*



Medium Pompadour with Off-Center Part  
The Hair Dressed Close to the Head



Medium Pompadour  
with Side Part



Medium Pompadour  
with Center Part



Medium Pompadour, Pointed Sideburns



Medium Pompadour, Pointed Sideburns



Medium Pompadour  
with Side Part



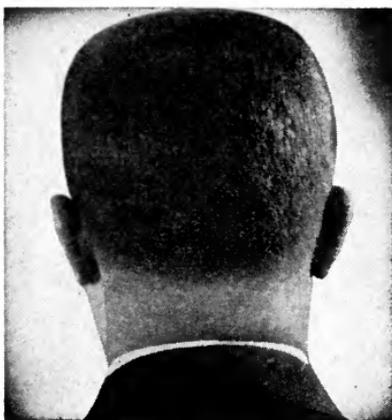
Medium Pompadour  
Hair Dressed Close to the Head



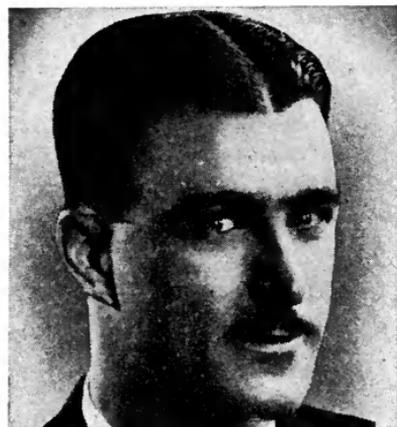
Medium Pompadour



Medium Haircut with Side Part



Short Haircut with Brush Top Effect



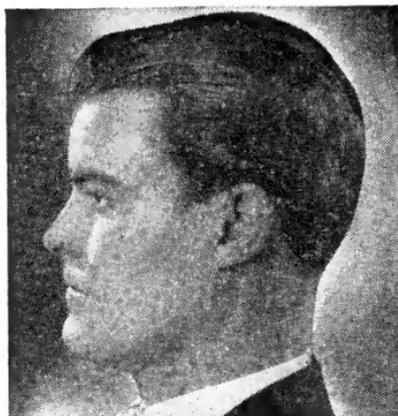
Medium Haircut with Center Part



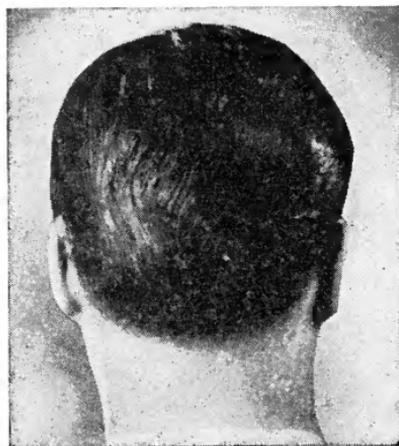
Medium Pompadour



Medium Haircut with Center Part  
Hair Dressed Close to the Head



Long Pompadour with Part and Pointed Sideburns



Back View of Long Pompadour

Three-Quarter Back View  
of Medium Haircut



Medium Haircut  
with Round Neck Shave

Medium Haircut  
with Round Neck Shave

## POPULAR HAIR STYLES FOR BOYS

*Just as with men's haircuts, it is good business to give flattering haircuts to boys. The barber who caters to boys is likely to win over their fathers as regular customers. For suggestive guidance, study the following individualized types of haircuts for boys.*



Medium Pompadour  
Front View

As a general rule, boys' and children's hair should be cut shorter than the men's hair, depending on the age and desire of the customer.



Medium Pompadour  
Side View



Medium Trim  
Center Part



Medium Trim  
Side Part

POPULAR  
HAIR  
STYLES  
FOR  
BOYS



Brush Top Haircut  
Cut Close All Around  
the Head



Medium Haircut  
with Side Part



Medium Haircut  
with Side Part



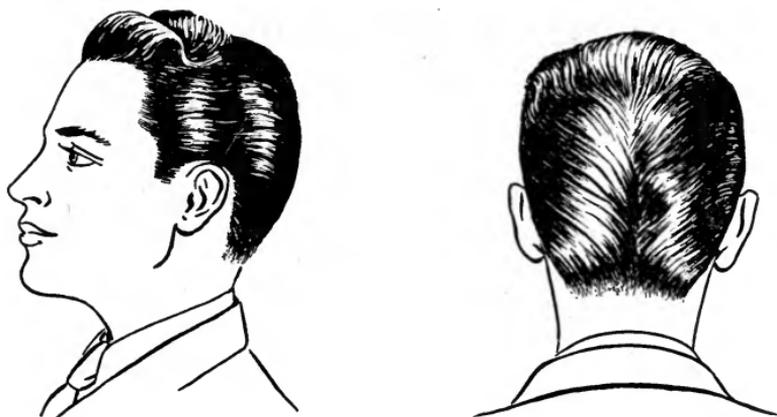
Medium Haircut  
with Side Part



Medium Haircut  
with Natural Curls



Short Haircut  
Combed Forward



Popular Hair Style During 1950-1951

**PASTE HERE — LATEST HAIR STYLES**

## PRINCIPLES OF MEN'S HAIR STYLING

To render the best service to his customers, the barber should know the principal styles of haircuts and be able to select the one best suited for a particular customer. The barber who knows the fundamentals of artistic hair styling can emphasize the best features of his customers and make them look more attractive for their age, weight and height.

In determining the best way to cut and style the customer's hair, the barber should take into account his preferences, as well as his:

1. Facial contour and features.
2. Head contour.
3. Hairline.

Other factors which influence the choice of haircut are the amount and length of hair on the head, partial baldness and the presence of such characteristics as a high or low forehead, high cheekbones, prominent chin, heavy jowls, small or large ears, and a thin or thick neck.

Although there are numerous variations in facial characteristics, the barber deals most frequently with three basic facial types:

1. Face with regular features.
2. The short, round face.
3. The long, thin face.

### Face with Regular Features



Most customers have regular features, that is, their face is neither fat nor thin, neither long nor short. With the customer's consent, the hair may be cut shorter or left longer. In either event, the hair should be evenly graduated all the way, while the neck is feather edged. The sideburns are left short.

### The Short, Round Face



For this facial type, the hair is cut shorter all around and also graduated all the way. The sideburns are kept high.

Should the customer have a full face with hollow temples, allow the hair to grow fuller at the sides and keep the sideburns at medium length.

### The Long, Thin Face

Recessed temples are typical of this facial type. In cutting the hair, keep it both long and full at the sides. The rest of the hair is cut medium length. In the back, the hair is kept long, being feather-cut and graduated from the neck up. Long sideburns are recommended.

