Colouring techniques

Learning outcomes

Jisc

- Maintain effective and safe methods of working when colouring and lightening hair.
- Prepare for colouring and lightening.
- Colour and lighten hair.

Introduction

Colouring is arguably the most exciting and, often, the most difficult aspect of hairdressing. The increasing demands and expectations of clients have made colouring and, in particular, special colour effects, the 'must have' of hairdressing. Our clients are better informed, have a better understanding, are more aware of what's on offer and are often keen to have a go themselves. This has led to a change in salon colouring. The amount of business done by the home colouring market is huge and this has had a particular impact on salon-based work. It is now more technically demanding than ever before, but this new challenge is not a threat. It now enables all hairdressers to be more professional in their role, explore creativity and further develop their technical skills.



Full head colour

Tools required for this treatment





Step 1

Test elasticity and porosity of the hair. More porous hair will need less development time or the use of a different product. Poor elasticity is a contraindication to any treatment.

Check for any psoriasis or eczema, as well as any lumps, moles, cuts or abrasions. Ask if the client is aware of any such skin conditions. Applying chemical treatment could be very painful if any open wounds or skin conditions are present.







Any colouring treatment requires a skin test 48 hours prior to the service. Ask the client about any previous chemical treatments and carry out an incompatibility test if required.

Remember to record the results of the tests on your client's record card.

Tip:

If you are not sure about the results of any tests that you perform, ask a senior member of staff for a second opinion.

Step 3

Protect the client's clothing by placing a gown and towel over their shoulders.

Put on disposable gloves to protect yourself from contact dermatitis and protect your clothing with a plastic apron.

Step 4

Following the manufacturer's instructions, mix the colour in a well-ventilated area.

Tip:

Never mix colour or put it in a bowl before you need to use it. Permanent colours will oxidise in the air; this expands the colour pigments and they will not be able to enter the hair shaft through the narrow cuticle layers, thus rendering the colour useless.





Section the hair into four and apply the colour using a bowl and brush or straight from the bottle with a nozzle, depending on the product used.

Work up the head, applying colour to each mesh of hair.

Step 6

Remove any colour from the client's face or ears with stain remover. Check to make sure every part of the hair is coloured and ensure air can circulate around the hair by using the end of the tint brush to lift and separate the hair in the completed sections.

Carry out a development test to check the results. Remove some of the product using the end of a tail comb to check the colour development.





Rinse the client's hair, making sure you test the water temperature on your wrist first.

Massage to emulsify. Rinse the hair, making sure you check the temperature of the water with the client. Repeat rinsing as needed to completely remove the colour. Next, condition using the appropriate massage techniques.

Tip:

Always make sure that you remove all colouring products from the hair. This not only stops the colour from developing further but, more importantly, it ensures that the client will not get any irritation or discomfort from chemicals deposited on the skin.

Step 8

Blow dry the client's hair and complete the service.

Remember to provide aftercare advice for the client on the best way to maintain their new colour, such as product recommendations and the ideal time until their next treatment.

Virgin hair application: When applying a full head colour on virgin hair, it is important to apply the product to the mid-length hair first, then the ends and finally the roots.

Weave

Vinyl gloves

Tools required for this treatment





Spatula

Cap

Step 1

Test elasticity and porosity of the hair. More porous hair may, if using bleach, need less development time. Poor elasticity is a contraindication to any treatment.

Check for any psoriasis or eczema, as well as any lumps, moles, cuts or abrasions. Ask if the client is aware of any such skin conditions. Applying chemical treatment could be very painful if any open wounds or skin conditions are present.



Any colouring treatment requires a skin test 48 hours prior to the service. Ask the client about any previous chemical treatments and carry out an incompatibility test if required.

Remember to record the results of the tests on your client's record card.

Tip:

If you are not sure about the results of any tests that you perform, ask a senior member of staff for a second opinion.

Step 3

Protect the client's clothing by placing a gown and towel over their shoulders.

Put on disposable gloves to protect yourself from contact dermatitis and protect your clothing with a plastic apron.

Step 4

Following the manufacturer's instructions, mix the colour in a well-ventilated area.

Tip:

Use a trolley for your equipment and colour so you do not need to stretch or reach for your tools.



Divide the hair into four sections and, starting at the back, use a tail comb to weave out a mesh to be coloured.

Firmly pull and hold the woven hair at an angle and then carefully tuck the foil underneath, as close to the root as possible.

Step 6

Holding the foil at the top, use a tint brush to apply colour along the length of the woven hair and foil.

Tip:

Take extra care not to overlap the lip of the foil with the colour. You must also be careful to leave a clean gap at the sides and bottom of the foil, free of any colour.

Step 7

Carefully fold the foil in half, making sure a 1mm margin of foil underneath is still visible.

Fold the foil in half again, then neatly fold in the sides using the tail comb as a guide to crease and fold 5mm from the edges.



Continue to work through horizontal sections, weaving out meshes to be coloured.

Once all the foils are in place, ensure no bleeding has occurred and allow the hair to process for the manufacturer's recommended development time.

Tip:

A climazone (heater) may be required to help with the development time of the colour.

Step 9

Check back at regular intervals. Once the development has completed, rinse the client's hair while removing the foils.

Next, shampoo and condition using the appropriate massage techniques.

Tip:

Always make sure that you remove all colouring products from the hair. This not only stops the colour from developing further but, more importantly, it ensures that the client will not get any irritation or discomfort from chemicals deposited on the skin.

Step 10

Blow dry the client's hair and complete the service.

Remember to provide aftercare advice for the client on the best way to maintain their new colour, such as product recommendations and the ideal time until their next treatment.

Cap highlight techniques

Tools required for this treatment





Step 1

Test elasticity and porosity of the hair. More porous hair will need less development time. Poor elasticity is a contraindication to any treatment.

Check for any psoriasis or eczema, as well as any lumps, moles, cuts or abrasions. Ask if the client is aware of any such skin conditions. Applying chemical treatment could be very painful if any open wounds or skin conditions are present.



Any colouring treatment requires a skin test 48 hours prior to the service. Ask the client about any previous chemical treatments and carry out an incompatibility test if required.

Remember to record the results of the tests on your client's record card.

Tip:

If you are not sure about the results of any tests that you perform, ask a senior member of staff for a second opinion.

Step 3

Protect the client's clothing by placing a gown and towel over their shoulders.

Put on disposable gloves to protect yourself from contact dermatitis and protect your clothing with a plastic apron.

Step 4

Following the manufacturer's instructions, mix the colour in a well-ventilated area.

Tip:

Use a trolley for your equipment and colour so you do not need to stretch or reach for your tools.









Throughly comb and detangle the hair, check the quality of the cap and carefully fit the cap for the client. Check and adjust until the client is comfortable.

Use the highlighting hook to pull through the hair to be coloured.

Tip:

Pierce the hole at an angle so that you don't stab your client's head.

Step 6

Starting at the back of the head, carefully work your way up. Comb the hair to remove any loops at the root area.

Starting at the back of the head, use a tint brush to apply the product.

Tip:

Lift the hair from the cap to allow for an even development.

Step 7

Carry out a development test; remove a bit of colour with damp cotton wool to check that the colour has developed as expected.





Once the process is completed, take the client to the backwash basin. Rinse the colour from the cap, making sure to check the temperature of the water with the client.

Apply some anti-oxy conditioner before gently easing the cap from the client's head, checking with the client that there is no discomfort. Make sure all the colour is removed from the hair. Shampoo and condition, using appropriate massage techniques.

Tip:

Always make sure that you remove all colouring products from the hair. This not only stops the colour from developing further but, more importantly, it ensures that the client will not get any irritation or discomfort from chemicals deposited on the skin.

Step 9

Blow dry the client's hair and complete the service.

Remember to provide aftercare advice for the client on the best way to maintain their new colour, such as product recommendations and the ideal time until their next treatment.