

## Attaching a hair piece

### Learning outcomes

- Maintain effective and safe methods of working when attaching hair.
- Plan and prepare to attach hair.
- Attach and blend pieces of hair.
- Remove pieces of hair.

### Introduction

Attaching a hair piece is a great way to add volume and length to your client's hair. It can create a quick image change and achieve enhanced results.



### Tools required



Apron



Gloves



Gown



Towel



Shoulder cape



Brushes



Combs



Scissors



Razors



Professional hair bands



Curved needle and thread



Clips



Heat iron connector



Heat resistant separator disc

# Attaching a hair piece

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## The different methods used to attach hair pieces are:

### Clip on

Clips that are attached to the hair to be added are secured to the client's own hair for a one-off look. The life expectancy of this style is 24 hours.

#### Pros

- Easy to attach
- Require no long-term commitment

#### Cons

- Limited styles
- Clips could be seen through hair

### Plaited

The added hair is entwined with the client's hair and plaited together to secure it in place. The life expectancy of this style is up to six weeks.

#### Pros

- Increases the density of fine hair
- Range of looks available

#### Cons

- May cause traction alopecia
- Not very adaptable

### Sew in

The hair attachment is sewn into cornrow plaits and stitched in place using a needle and thread. The life expectancy of this style is up to six weeks.

#### Pros

Easy to remove  
Access to scalp

#### Cons

May cause discomfort  
Hair movement can be reduced

### Self-adhesive

The hair attachment is bonded to the roots of the hair using strips of adhesive. The life expectancy of this style is four to six weeks.

#### Pros

- Hair wefts are reusable
- Easy to remove

#### Cons

- Can't use oil-based products on the hair
- Might slip out if not maintained properly

### Pre-bonded

The weft of hair is bonded to the root of the client's hair. The life expectancy of this style is four to six weeks.

#### Pros

- Quick to apply
- Easy to remove

#### Cons

- Can't use oil-based products on the hair
- Bonds could loosen if not maintained properly

Remember, before you can provide an attachment service, you'll need to book a pre-consultation with your client to do the necessary elasticity, pull and skin tests to ensure hair attachments are suitable for your client. During this, make sure you determine the exact amount of hair you will need to order, so you can minimise any wastage which might occur.

# Attaching sew-in extensions

## Tools required for this treatment



Gown



Towel



Shoulder cape



Professional hair bands



Curved needle and thread



Clips



Combs

## Step 1

●  
Comb the hair to remove any tangles.

● ●  
Following the natural curve of the head, section the hair to form a U-shape parting just below the occipital bone.

### Tip:

When sectioning, think about the client's desired look. Adding your hair attachments in close sections will create a thicker look. Remember not to attach hair directly onto the occipital bone, as this will look lumpy.

### Tip:

The occipital bone is at the lower back of the head (the base) which has a prominent area (it usually sticks out a little in most people).

## Step 2

●  
Take a small section of hair from one side and plait it into a cornrow going towards the middle of the head.

### Tip:

You can add some of the extension hair into these plaits to help give them strength.

● ●  
Do the same on the other side so the two plaits overlap in the middle.

### Tip:

Don't braid the hair too tightly, as this can cause headaches or discomfort.

## Step 3

●  
Measure and cut the hair piece to the required length and make sure it's free from tangles.

### Tip:

Make sure you do not add the hair directly onto the hairline.

● ●  
Using the curved needle and thread, blanket stitch the wefts to the cornrows.

## Step 4

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- Repeat steps 1 - 3, working up the head until the desired look has been reached.

**Tip:**

Make sure you keep checking the comfort of your client. If the braids or wefts are attached too tightly, it could cause problems for your client later on.

## Step 5

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- Use finishing techniques to complete the service.

**Tip:**

You may need to cut the extensions or remove bulk from the hair, depending on the client's desired look. Do this by using texturising techniques, such as point chipping. Avoid using any heated styling methods, as this would damage and distort the hair piece's synthetic fibres.

## Step 6

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- Explain how you've created the finished look and provide aftercare to your client. Give the client a time frame for when the attachment will need to be removed or replaced and remind them that they will need to book another appointment for its removal.

**Tip:**

Advise your client to sleep with a silk scarf or hair net around their head to prevent tangles. If the hair does become tangled, they'll need to disentangle their attachments by working from the points to the roots using a wide toothed comb or specialist brush.

# Attaching self-adhesive extensions

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## Tools required for this treatment



Gown



Towel



Shoulder cape



Clips



Combs

## Step 1

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●  
Comb the hair to remove any tangles.

●●  
Following the natural curve of the head, section the hair to form a U-shape parting just below the occipital bone.

## Step 2

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●  
Ensure two hair pieces of the same size are free from tangles.

●●  
Remove the backing from one of the self-adhesive wefts.

●●●  
Using the tail comb, take a thin section of hair that's 1cm shorter than the width of the self-adhesive extension you're going to apply.

●●●●

Place the self-adhesive weft under and in the middle of the section of hair. Gently press to secure.

### Tip:

Place 1/2cm from the roots to prevent pulling or discomfort.

●●●●●

Remove the backing from the self-adhesive strip of the next weft you have prepared and place it directly over the tape of the previous piece. Gently press and smooth to secure attachments in place.

### Tip:

If your client shows signs that they are unsure that the desired result will be achieved, you should give them suitable reassurance. You should explain what you are doing and how this will achieve the expected result.

## Step 3

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●  
Repeat steps 1 - 2, working up the head until the desired look has been reached.

### Tip:

Work in a methodical way to make the best use of your time.

## Step 4

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Use finishing techniques to complete the service.

### Tip:

You may need to cut the extensions or remove bulk from the hair, depending on the client's desired look. Do this by using techniques such as point chipping, freehand cutting or trimming. When blending, you will need to consider the colour and length of the hair. Discuss with your client the length that they require and inform them that you may need to cut the natural or added hair in order to blend it effectively.

## Step 5

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Explain how you've created the finished look and provide aftercare to your client. Give the client a time frame for when the attachment will need to be removed or replaced and remind them that they will need to book another appointment for its removal.

### Tip:

Remember that clients with longer-lasting extensions should have a lifestyle that supports the time and effort required for home maintenance. Those with an active sports life might find that the results do not last and the style is quickly lost; for example, swimming in chlorine or salt water may result in the added hair becoming matted and tangled.