

The background image shows a woman with long, dark, wavy hair in profile, facing left. A hand is visible near her hair, suggesting a hairdresser is styling it. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the woman's hair.

Hair Classification

Learning outcomes

- Identify the requirements of the client.
- Examine the hair, skin and scalp.
- Advise your client and agree services and products.

Introduction

The consultation service is one of the most important services the salon provides, as it lays the foundation for all other services which take place within the salon. It should be an ongoing discussion between you and the client, talking through your processes and getting confirmation on understanding in response.

During the consultation, as well as the usual porosity and elasticity tests, hair classification should also be determined, as the results will impact the styling needs, care and products that the hair will require.

Hair Classification

Tools required for this treatment



Long flat brush



Wide toothed comb



Protective gown

Step 1

● Briefly go through the hair classification process with the client.

●● Comb the client's hair through to remove any tangles.

●●● Part the hair and pick up a small section.

Tip:

You can pin the other sides to keep it out of your way.

●●●● Looking at the roots and scalp, focus on an area the size of a square inch and determine how much of the scalp you can see.

- If you don't see much scalp, it's a thick density.
- If you see some scalp, it's a medium density.
- If you see lots of scalp, it's a thin density.

●●●●● Confirm this determination with your client and record your observations.



Step 2

●
Comb the client's hair through to remove any tangles.

● ●
Separate the hair and select a single strand.

Tip:

Hair can have different textures across the head, so you may need to choose a few strands to analyse from different places on the head.

● ● ●
Examine the single strand to determine the thickness of the strand and whether it's:

- Very fine
- Fine
- Medium
- Coarse

● ● ● ●
Confirm this determination with your client and record your observations.



Step 3

- Comb the client's hair through to remove any tangles.

- Look at the hair from different angles and use the chart below to determine the hair's natural curl pattern.



Type 1 Straight hair	1a Fine Straight	1b Medium Straight with volume	1c Coarse Straight difficult hair
Type 2 Wavy hair	2a Fine 's' pattern	2b Medium Frizzy 's' pattern	2c Coarse Very frizzy 's' pattern
Type 3 Curly hair	3a Fine Soft curl	3b Medium Loose curl	3c Coarse Tight curl
Type 4 Very curly hair	4a Fine Tightly coiled curl pattern	4b Medium 'z' pattern and spring curl	4c Coarse Tight 'z' pattern

- Confirm this determination with your client and record your observations.