

Four things you should do now...



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Habia has one of the widest ranges of hairdressing and barbering training materials available. We also offer FREE postage and packaging on all standard delivery orders within the UK!

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Guidance and advice

Visit Habia's website for the latest guidance and advice on careers in hairdressing and barbering www.habia.org

Careers Service/Connexions

The Careers Service in England is called Connexions and provides advice on education and training opportunities in their region. They provide people with guidance and information on career options open to them, helping them to choose the right career. Connexions contains leaflets from particular employers and training organisations, they also hold information about job vacancies.

For more information, visit the website at

www.connexions.gov.uk/young.htm

Training providers

Local training providers can provide careers advice and information regarding suitable training courses available.

learn direct

learn direct provides impartial advice on careers, learning programmes and courses nationwide. learn direct can be contacted on free phone 0800 100 900 or

www.learn direct.co.uk

For more information specific to Apprenticeships visit

www.apprenticeships.org.uk

The Careers in Hairdressing and Barbering leaflet is also available in three other versions for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.



Habia would like to thank Wella for their support in the production of this careers leaflet.

Wella, Leaders in Professional Education Worldwide

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standards • information • solutions

Habia is the government appointed sector skills body for hair, beauty, nails, spa therapy, barbering and African type hair and creates the standards that form the basis of all qualifications including NVQs, SVQs, Apprenticeships, Diplomas and Foundation degrees, as well as industry codes of practice.

A central point of contact for information, Habia provides guidance on careers, business development, legislation, salon safety and equal opportunities and is responsible to government on industry issues such as training and skills.

Habia raises the profile of its industries through the press and media and is the first port of call for news organisations and broadcasters on news items and background information.

Habia also delivers solutions direct to:

salons – to help them understand complex legislation such as health & safety and employment law, improve client retention and raise business performance

employees – to gain the skills that employers need to stay up to date with client demand and the latest techniques, equipment and products, as well as where to go to access learning and suitable qualifications

trainers – to deliver qualifications with training support manuals and to create successful teaching programmes including induction and initial assessment

learners – by offering books and teaching guides directly related to their studies and by providing advice on career paths and qualifications.



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Careers in
Hairdressing
and Barbering
England



Hairdressing & Barbering Qualifications

A Career in Hairdressing or Barbering

What makes a good hairdresser or barber?

To become a hairdresser or barber you need to be a very special person. You will need to have a unique combination of skills and will also require a great deal of training. To be a competent hairdresser or barber you will have to possess an almost unrivalled level of ability in a vast array of skills.

You will have to be an excellent communicator. Not only with your friends and the people you know well, but with people from every age group, social background, ethnic background, occupation and gender.

- You should have a degree of artistic skill and flair
- You will have to learn basic rules of chemistry, physics, anatomy, biology, physiology and mathematics
- You will need a high degree of physical stamina
- You should be highly dexterous
- Your personality should be vibrant, sparkling, strong and interesting
- You should be diplomatic, sympathetic and have the ability to listen and communicate
- You will have to be prepared to undertake a long initial training and then to go on learning for the rest of your working life.

To find all of these qualities in a single individual is very difficult and that is why good hairdressers and barbers are unique.

Unique skills should be rewarded. The pay while training may be low, but it is often enhanced with tips and gratuities from clients. Once you qualify as a junior stylist or junior barber your pay will increase and further income can be made in the form of commission by selling retail products to clients. Stylists and barbers in top salons and those who progress to supervisory or management positions will earn even more.

In addition, as a qualified hairdresser or barber with further training and experience, there are further opportunities to diversify into other hairdressing or barbering related occupations. Some are in teaching and training, which attract high salaries and benefits.

Job satisfaction is a payment that can never be quantified. You will be working in a fast-moving, ever-changing fashion industry. Hairdressers and barbers love their work and gain enormous pleasure working with the public to enhance their well-being. Successful people in the industry can take their pick from many top jobs – preparing models, working on magazine and photo shoots, in theatre and film, or even tending to the rich and famous. The UK hairdressing industry is regarded as the best in the world, meaning there is ample opportunity to travel internationally.

Hairdressing and barbering as an industry will be here forever; it has an amazing product. But, most importantly in today's society with job losses and failing industries, the product that hairdressers and barbers produce and the skills they have will never go away.

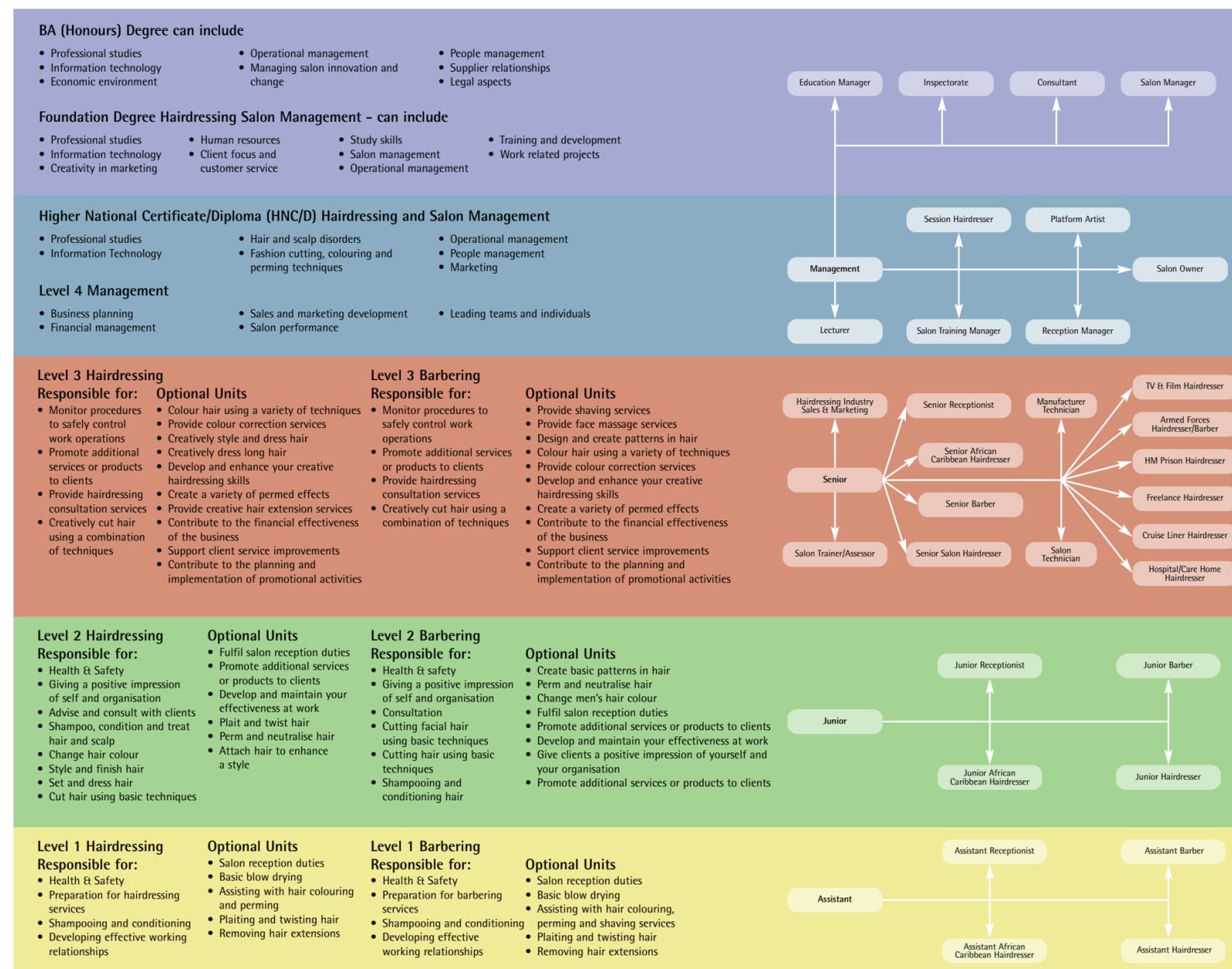
What does a Hairdresser or Barber do?

A hairdresser or barber's role is to provide treatments and services to enhance the appearance of a client's hair. A barber may also offer traditional men's barbering services such as shaving or cutting facial hair. They will offer services such as cutting and shaping the client's hair but can also offer specialist services such as colouring, African Caribbean hairdressing, patterns in hair, wedding hair, or even Avant Garde styles for fashion shows or theatre. Those with high level qualifications often work in management roles and become salon owners.

The Hairdressing and Barbering industry – Facts

There are over 36,000 salons in the UK employing over 200,000 staff, with a turnover in excess of £4.2 billion.

Career ladder – hairdressing and barbering



What next?

Qualifications

Thorough training is essential for today's competitive market and National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) are qualifications about work, based upon standards developed by industry and commerce. They are about raising the standard of people's competence. That means training more people to high level so they can produce good quality products and services.

NVQs are placed in a framework of four levels starting with an introduction at Level 1, through the basic and essential skills required at Level 2, to the technical and supervisory skills at Level 3 and the manager at Level 4. On completion of these NVQ levels, hairdressers and barbers can move on to a Higher National Certificate or Diploma (HNC/HND) qualification or a foundation degree and higher degree level.

Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a high quality learning programme aimed at people from the age of 16 upwards' appear as normal text.

This means you can earn a wage whilst learning the skills and gaining the experience employers want you to have to do a good job. You also get a qualification at the end of your training that is valued by employers. Most apprentices go straight into jobs, often with the business where they did their training.

Apprenticeships are also known as:

- Apprenticeship/Advanced Apprenticeship (England)

Apprenticeships are not qualifications in their own right. Instead they are a framework made up of many elements.

- A work based qualification that is designed to ensure the apprentice is job ready, such as an NVQ at either Level 2 or 3
- A qualification in English and Maths

The skills for English and Maths are also called:

- Key Skills or Functional Skills (England)

There are 2 levels of Apprenticeships:

- Level 2
- Level 3