



Image courtesy of Aveda

GH16 *cutting* *techniques*

Clients visit the salon for cutting more than any other service. A good haircut is the basis of every great hairstyle, and can completely change the client's image. As a professional stylist you can inspire your client with your eye for design, taking your cutting to the extreme, or toning it down to suit the individual's needs and lifestyle.

In this unit you will use a range of cutting tools and techniques to create styles of precision, disconnected cuts for fashion and classical women's styles. You will work on a range of different hair lengths and types and will develop your design skills, enabling you to construct a variety of desirable effects.



Unit GH16 (City & Guilds Unit 038)

Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

Mandatory

Image courtesy of L'Oréal Professionnel

Image courtesy of Goldwell

This unit has three outcomes. As they are linked, you can be observed by your assessor for all three at the same time.

- Outcome 1**
Maintain effective and safe methods of working when cutting
- Outcome 2**
Creatively restyle women's hair
- Outcome 3**
Provide aftercare advice



Evidence requirements

You must practically demonstrate in your everyday work that you have met the standard for creatively cutting **women's** hair using a combination of techniques. The standards cover things that you must do (performance criteria), things that you must cover (range) and things that you must know.

What you must do

Your assessor will observe you on at least **six** occasions. Each observation must be of a different creative **restyle** cut, one of which must include a precision cut. You must carry out correctly all the things listed under 'What you must do' on the sign-off sheets that follow.

Simulation is not allowed for any performance evidence within this unit. It is likely most evidence of your performance will be gathered from the observations made by your assessor but you may be required to produce other evidence to support your performance if your assessor has not been present.

What you must cover

You will see key words in bold on the 'What you must do' list. For each of these, there is a range of things that you must cover. You must show that you have:

Used the following tools and equipment:

- scissors
- clippers
- razors
- (Note that clipper attachments are not allowed.)

Taken into account the following factors:

- head, face and body shape
- hair growth patterns
- hair density
- hair length
- hair texture
- hair elasticity
- client requirements
- client's lifestyle



The actual execution of the cut is as important as following current trends.

Angelo Seminara



Cut the following hair:

wet

dry

curly

straight

Used seven of the following cutting techniques and effects:

graduating

layering

tapering

club cutting

scissors over comb

clipper over comb

thinning

freehand

texturising

disconnecting

Used creative finishing techniques for both of the following:

styling

product application

Given the following advice:

suitable products and their use

how to maintain the look

the time interval between cuts

What you must know

You will be assessed on your knowledge of the following:

Salon and legal requirements

How to work safely, effectively and hygienically when cutting hair

Communication

Hair

Products

Cutting techniques and looks

Problem solving

Aftercare advice for clients

This will be completed through written and oral questioning by your assessor. For details of what you must know, see pages 74–77.



Cutting techniques

Useful words

Some terms that you will come across in this unit are explained below.

Asymmetric An uneven balance; for example, a side parting, with a larger volume of hair on one side of the head.

Classic look A style of timeless appeal, such as a bob haircut.

Current look A commercial style that is currently fashionable. It might be a style that a celebrity has, so clients may request.

Disconnected cut When one or more sections of the haircut do not connect, link or blend with adjacent sections.

Freehand Cutting hair without holding it in place, so there is no tension. An example is when cutting a fringe.

Graduating Cutting the hair to blend layers from a longer to a shorter length, or from a shorter to a longer length. Creative styles may include a combination of both.

Precision cut A cut that uses strong, accurate, clearly defined lines, such as a geometric cut.

Sharps A term used by the Health and Safety Executive to describe sharp objects such as scissors and razor blades that may have by-laws covering their disposal.

Tapering Cutting a fine line into the head shape, for example, when blending layers from the fringe to a longer length at the front of the haircut.

Texturising Removing small or large amounts of hair bulk to add definition, shape and movement to the style. Scissors or a razor can be used for this.

Thinning Reducing hair bulk without reducing the overall hair length. This can be achieved with scissors or a razor.



Observation sign-off sheet

Unit GHI6 Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

What you must do

66 Level 3 NVQ/SVQ Hairdressing

Within your work you must show your assessor that you can do the following. You will be observed a number of times (as a guide, at least **six** times). Each observation must be of a different creative restyle cut, **one** of which must be a precision cut.

Each time you achieve **all** the points listed within a single client service, your assessor will tick the circle and enter the date.

Outcome 1

Maintain effective and safe methods of working when cutting

- a Ensure your client's clothing is effectively protected throughout the service
- b Ensure your client's skin is kept free of excess hair cuttings throughout the service
- c Position your client to meet the needs of the service without causing them discomfort
- d Ensure your own posture and position whilst working minimise fatigue and the risk of injury
- e Keep your work area clean and tidy throughout the service
- f Remove waste immediately at the end of the cutting service
- g Use working methods that
 - minimise the risk of damage to **tools and equipment**
 - minimise the risk of cross-infection
 - make effective use of your working time
 - ensure the use of clean resources
 - minimise the risk of harm or injury to yourself and others

Continues on next page

Hints and tips

Texturising a basic style can result in a dramatic effect and personalise the look to suit the client.



The combination of texture and solid fringe makes this strong look work with the model's features.

- h Ensure your personal standards of health and hygiene minimise the risk of cross-infection, infestation and offence to your clients and colleagues
- i Use tools that are safe and fit for purpose
- j Identify accurately **factors** that may influence the service prior to cutting
- k Ensure that used sharps are disposed of to meet legal and salon requirements *
- l Complete the cutting service within a commercially viable time



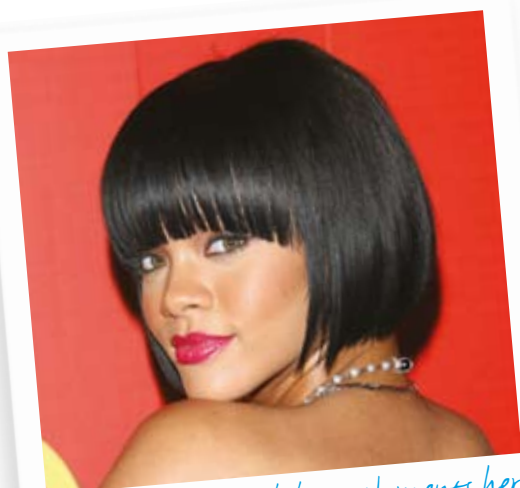
Cutting techniques

Observation	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Achieved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Date								
Candidate signature								
Assessor signature								
IV signature (if sampled)								

- * Covered by observation Date _____
- Covered by oral questioning Date _____

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Image courtesy of BFH/XLNY, Camera Press London



Rihanna's classic bob complements her face, although with her strong features she can carry off many looks.

Hints and tips

To achieve lift and volume on short and medium length styles you need to reduce some of the hair lengths from each section, using the shorter hair to support the longer hair.



Observation sign-off sheet

Unit GHI6 Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

What you must do (continued)

“

There are many different ways of cutting. You have to know how people used to cut hair, how people will cut hair in the future, and how to combine the two.

Angelo Seminara

”

Outcome 2

Creatively restyle women's hair

- a Explore the variety of looks with your client using relevant visual aids
- b Recommend a look that is suitable for your client
- c Base your recommendations on an accurate evaluation of your client's hair and its potential to achieve the look
- d Suitably prepare your client's **hair** prior to cutting
- e Confirm with your client the **look** agreed at consultation before commencing the cut
- f Establish and follow suitable cutting guideline(s) to achieve the required look
- g Personalise your **cutting techniques and effects** to take account of **factors** that will influence the desired **look**
- h Combine and adapt your **cutting techniques and effects** in an innovative way to achieve the desired **look**
- i Change your own position and that of your client to help you ensure the accuracy of the cut

Continues on next page



This asymmetric cut has been personalised to suit facial features.

- j Establish accurate distribution of weight, balance and shape by cross-checking the cut
- k Create outline shapes that are accurate, defined and achieve the look required by your client
- l Remove any unwanted hair outside the desired outline shape *
- m Consult with your client during the cutting service to confirm the desired look
- n Take suitable remedial action to resolve any problems arising during the cutting service **
- o Make a final visual check to ensure the finished cut is accurate
- p Use **creative finishing techniques** that complement the cut
- q Ensure the finished restyled look complements your client's features and enhances their personal image and that of the salon
- r Confirm your client's satisfaction with the finished **look**



Hints and tips

*Remember:
clipper
attachments
cannot be used in
Level 3 work.
You're free to get
creating!*

Observation	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Achieved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Date								
Candidate signature								
Assessor signature								
IV signature (if sampled)								

- * Covered by observation Date _____
- Covered by oral questioning Date _____
- ** Covered by observation Date _____
- Covered by oral questioning Date _____

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Observation sign-off sheet

Unit GHI6 Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

What you must do (continued)

Outcome 3

Provide aftercare advice

- a Give **advice** and recommendations accurately and constructively
- b Give your client suitable **advice** on the maintenance of their look

Observation	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Achieved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Date								
Candidate signature								
Assessor signature								
IV signature (if sampled)								

“

The haircut is the basis of all good hairdressing.
Maurice Lister

”



The club cutting technique is used to remove hair length.

Observation sign-off sheet

Unit GHI6 Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

What you must cover



Before ticking the circles below, you must make sure that you have achieved 'What you must cover' in **all the outcomes in which it occurs.**

Tools and equipment Tick the tools and equipment for each observation. **All** must be used. Note that clipper attachments are not allowed.

	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Scissors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clippers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Razors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Factors Tick the factors for each observation. **All** factors must be covered.

	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Head, face and body shape	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hair growth patterns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hair density	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hair length	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hair texture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hair elasticity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Client requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Client's lifestyle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Hair Tick the hair types cut for each observation. **All** hair types must be worked on.

	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Wet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Straight	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Comment form

Unit GHI6



This form can be used to record oral questioning, or for assessor/candidate comments, if required. **Note which observation was a precision cut.**

Comments	Date
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Image courtesy of Denman Brush



“

Don't cut too short on the neck if the occipital bone is pronounced, but if the back of the head is flat, you'll need to build a shape.

Maria O'Keefe

”



Knowledge sign-off sheet

Unit GHI6 Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

What you must know

You will be assessed on your knowledge and understanding of all the following points. This will be completed by your assessor, either by asking you questions within a conversation, or with a written test (evidence type E3). This could be an online GOLA test. Your assessor will let you know how s/he intends to assess you.

Some areas appear in more than one unit (shaded in darker blue). These are covered in a cross-unit knowledge test. You only need to be tested on these once.

Once you have been assessed on each point, fill in the date and reference any written evidence that you've put in your portfolio.

You need to understand:	Evidence type
Salon and legal requirements	
1 Your salon's requirements for client preparation	E3
2 Your salon's expected service times for cutting hair to shape	E3
3 Your salon's and legal requirements for disposal of sharps and waste materials	E3
4 Your responsibilities under the current Electricity at Work Regulations	E3
5 Your salon's image and expected standards of service	E3
How to work safely, effectively and hygienically when cutting hair	
6 The range of protective clothing and materials that should be available for clients	E3
7 Why it is important to protect clients from hair cuttings	E3
8 How the position of your client and yourself can affect the desired outcome and reduce fatigue and the risk of injury	E3
9 The safety considerations which must be taken into account when cutting hair	E3

Continues on next page

You need to understand:	Evidence type
10 Why it is important to avoid cross-infection and infestation	E3
11 Why it is important to keep your work area clean and tidy	E3
12 Methods of cleaning, disinfecting and/or sterilisation used in salons	E3
13 Methods of working safely and hygienically and which minimise the risk of cross-infection and cross-infestation	E3
14 The correct use and maintenance of cutting tools	E3
15 Why it is important to position your cutting tools for ease of use	E3
16 The importance of personal hygiene	E3
Communication	
17 The importance of consulting with clients throughout the cutting process	E3
18 How to clearly present information, advice and recommendations and to assist your client to come to an informed decision	E3
Hair	
19 The factors that must be taken into consideration prior to and during cutting (eg hair density, hair growth patterns, etc.)	E3
20 The factors which should be considered when cutting wet and dry hair	E3
21 The average rate of hair growth	E3

Continues on next page



Cutting techniques

Hints and tips

Razors should be used on wet hair to avoid discomfort to the client, and can be used above or below the section to remove length and/or bulk.



Knowledge sign-off sheet

Unit GHI6 Creatively cut hair using a combination of techniques

What you must know (continued)

You need to understand:	Evidence type
22 The potential risk of ingrowing hair resulting from the continual close cutting of curly hair	E3
Products	
23 Why hair products should be removed from the hair prior to cutting	E3
24 The types of products available for finishing women's hair	E3
Cutting techniques and looks	
25 The range of women's classic and current fashion hair shapes and how to create them	E3
26 Sources of creative information and inspiration (eg historical, cultural and fashion)	E3
27 How the factors in the range can affect the way the hair is cut	E3
28 How and why to use all the cutting techniques in the range on women's hair	E3

Continues on next page



Katy Perry uses great colour to keep her long bob looking fresh and current.

You need to understand:	Evidence type
29 Which tools can be used on either wet or dry hair or both	E3
30 The reasons for establishing and following guidelines	E3
31 How to create and follow guidelines	E3
32 How to personalise and adapt cutting techniques	E3
33 The effects that can be created by combining and adapting different cutting techniques	E3
34 The importance of crosschecking the cut	E3
35 How to crosscheck and balance the cut	E3
36 The importance of considering weight distribution and working with the natural growth patterns of the hair	E3
37 The importance of applying the correct degree of tension to the hair when cutting	E3
38 The importance of keeping the hair damp throughout the wet cutting process	E3
Problem solving	
39 The types of problems that can commonly arise when cutting women's hair and ways in which they can be remedied, if possible	E3
Aftercare advice	
40 The recommended time interval between cuts	E3
41 How to use tools and equipment to maintain the look	E3
42 Products for home use that will benefit the client	E3
Tick if E3 was a GOLA test	<input type="radio"/> Date
Tick if E3 was a written test	<input type="radio"/> Date
Tick if cross-unit knowledge test was a GOLA test	<input type="radio"/> Date
Tick cross-unit knowledge	<input type="radio"/> Date





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