



## Hairdressing and Barbering - Infection Prevention and Control

### How do I clean and disinfect my scissors and electric hair razors?

- Remove excess hair and then spray with a disinfectant such as 70% isopropyl alcohol or a disinfectant that is Tuberculocidal and has a drug identification number.

### What can I use to disinfect my combs and brushes?

- Remove excess hair from combs and brushes. Combs should be cleaned with soap and water and dry before disinfection.
- Immerse combs and brushes in a low-level disinfectant for the appropriate contact time.
- Disinfectant solutions must be made fresh daily or according to the manufacturer's specification.

### I use a straight blade for shaving. What do I need to know?

- If the blade cannot be removed from the handle, the entire item must be cleaned and then **sterilized** between clients.
- If the blade can be removed, the handle and cradle of the razor, which holds the blade in place, must be cleaned and disinfected with an intermediate-level disinfectant such as 70% isopropyl alcohol, after each use. The handle and cradle must be dry before being fully immersed in the disinfectant for 10 minutes.
- Do not leave blades in the holders unless they are to be used immediately on a client. Discard disposable blades into an approved sharps container immediately after use.
- Styptic pencils cannot be used to stop clients from bleeding. Styptic powder or liquid is acceptable and must be applied with a disposable applicator.

### Can I re-use styling razors that come with a safe guard?

- Styling razors that come with permanent safe guards can be re-used between clients.
- Excess hair needs to be removed between clients and then sprayed with an intermediate-level disinfectant such as 70% isopropyl alcohol.
- When no longer used, discard the styling razor into a sharps container.

### How do I clean and disinfect my crochet hooks, tweezers or needles used for hair weaves?

- Crochet hooks used for cap highlights and tweezers or needles used for hair weaves must be cleaned with soap and water and then fully immersed in an intermediate-level disinfectant such as 70% isopropyl alcohol for a minimum of 10 minutes, after each use.
- If the needle scratches the client or operator, it must be discarded into an approved sharps container immediately.



**What should I do if someone is accidentally cut?**

- Before providing any first aid, clean your hands and wear disposable gloves. Then clean your hands again after the gloves are removed.
- If there is blood on any surface or item, clean and then disinfect with a high-level disinfectant. A bleach solution can be used. Mix 10 ml of bleach with 495 ml water or 2 teaspoons of bleach with 2 cups water. This solution must be made fresh daily and applied for 20 minutes.
- Recommend the client seek medical advice.
- Record what happened, including the date and site of injury, the exposed person's name, telephone number, address and the name of the person that provided the service. Keep accidental exposure records on-site for at least one year and on file for at least 5 year