

UHB152X

Clipper maintenance

Unit reference number: A/507/5623

Level: 3

Guided Learning (GL) hours: 20

Overview

This unit is about cleaning and maintaining clippers to ensure safe working practice. Learners will ensure that the clippers are ready for use and the blades are correctly set and lubricated to reduce friction on the skin, heat development and wear and tear. This will avoid a reduction in cutting performance.

Learners will use a range of products, tools and techniques to safely maintain the clippers.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, learners will:

LO1 Know the barbershop procedures for cleaning and maintaining clippers

LO2 Understand the safety considerations when carrying out clipper maintenance

LO3 Know the products, tools and equipment required for clipper maintenance

LO4 Be able to prepare for clipper maintenance

LO5 Be able to carry out clipper maintenance

Assessment requirements

Learners must produce a portfolio of evidence which includes:

1. Service portfolio
2. Summative practical assessment

1. Service portfolio

Learners must produce a service portfolio that includes assessed evidence covering all the theory assessment criteria in the unit. The service portfolio must also contain evidence relating to the practical assessment criteria.

At a minimum the practical evidence contained in the service portfolio must cover the following:

- Completed a service record showing what maintenance has been carried out on the clippers
 - Planned next maintenance
 - Electrical equipment testing (P.A.T testing)
- Completed a record of the oil and lubricants used
- Completed a record of cleaning products used
- Used products, tools and techniques suitable for cleaning and lubricating clippers
 - Small cleaning brush
 - Screwdriver
 - Cleaning product e.g. isopropyl, an alcohol based cleaning product
 - Oil/lubricants

Evidence from the one summative practical assessment must also be presented in the service portfolio.

The service portfolio is a pre-requisite requirement which must be completed prior to learners undertaking the one summative practical assessment.

2. Summative practical assessment

Learners should carry out a complete maintenance service which will be observed, and marked by centre assessors. Learners should achieve all assessment criteria in order to pass and achieve the unit.

The summative practical assessment must take place in a real or realistic working environment. At a minimum the summative practical assessment for this unit must cover:

- Maintenance service
 - One set of clippers to be maintained using professional techniques and performed within an appropriate time
 - Products, tools and equipment – appropriate cleaning and lubrication of products, brushes, screwdriver

Recorded professional discussion can also be used as an assessment method attached to the practical assessment and is particularly useful for gathering evidence for criteria related to evaluation and reflection. Professional discussions should be planned and recorded.

Unit content

LO1 Know the barbershop procedures for cleaning and maintaining clippers

Explain the importance of good personal presentation:

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment as required
- Have a positive image and attitude
- Ensure barbershop uniform requirements are adhered to. Each barbershop will have different requirements and expect learners to dress appropriately. As a general rule closed-in low heel shoes should be worn. Where tights/stocking/socks are worn, these should be clean and free from ladders or holes. Smart non-restrictive clothes for ease of movement with sleeves or jewellery that do not touch client whilst service is provided. Other examples may include a set uniform or tee shirt with or without barbershop logo
- Be presentable and exhibit good personal hygiene including clean clothes, clean teeth and fresh breath
- Ensure they avoid a strong smell of tobacco or heavy perfume or aftershave
- Ensure they maintain good posture throughout the service with weight evenly balanced

Explain the correct procedures for preparing the work area:

- A clean and hygienic working area will prevent cross-infection when maintaining clippers. The working area will be free from hazards or risks and in an area that gives learners the opportunity to work safely and uninterrupted
- Learners will have knowledge of health and safety
- Ensure all products tools and equipment are clean and fit for purpose and are in line with manufacturer's instructions. As an example the correct type and size of screwdriver is selected

Explain how to recognise hazards and risks when performing clipper maintenance:

- Within a barbershop, safety is of paramount importance and learners must know how to recognise potential harm or injury that may occur
- Hazard – anything that has the potential to cause harm, e.g. clipper flex left plugged in during the maintenance service
- Risk – a chance, high or low, that harm caused by the hazard will occur, e.g. electric shock resulting in injury to self or others
- Learners should work safely throughout the clipper maintenance service. Maintenance of electrical equipment is monitored. Learners should make visual checks on electrical items for safe use
- Learners should ensure safe handling of the clippers when exposing the blades for maintenance. Blades should only be exposed at the point of maintenance to avoid the risk of injury to self and others from the exposed blade
- Learners must dispose of waste appropriately to minimise risk of cross-infection and ensure it does not pose a risk to the environment or cause possible risks from contamination

LO2 Understand the safety considerations when carrying out clipper maintenance

Identify the safety considerations when maintaining clippers:

- Explain why it is important to unplug clippers prior to maintenance, e.g. if clippers are not unplugged prior to maintenance they could accidentally be switched on causing injury
- Explain why it is important to use only clipper oil recommended by the manufacturer. Clipper oil recommended by the manufacturer will be the most suitable for the clippers and will maximise the effective working of the clipper
- Explain the importance of working hygienically when working with clippers, e.g. debris from using clippers may contaminate other products/work areas. A safe method of working would be to use a towel or disposable paper towel to work on when cleaning the clippers prior to maintenance. The towel should then be laundered or disposed of appropriately
- Explain why clipper blades should not be left unguarded so as to avoid injury to self or others during the cleaning and maintenance service
- Explain the safe storage of clippers, i.e. clippers should be unplugged with the clipper guard in place, and the flex safely stored to avoid risk of trip hazard
- Explain the procedures for removing hair clippings debris. This should be done by placing the clippers that are to be cleaned and maintained on a towel or disposable paper towel. A clipper cleaning brush should be used to brush away hair clippings and debris from the blades and casing prior to the maintenance service. The towel should then be either laundered or disposed of appropriately
- Explain the reasons for using correct tools when carrying out clipper maintenance. The correct tools are important when carrying out clipper maintenance to avoid causing damage to the clippers or causing injury to self and others. An example of this would be using the correct type and size of screwdriver to remove the casing of the clippers when exposing the gears to clean and lubricate

LO3 Know the products, tools and equipment required for clipper maintenance

Describe the range of products, tools and equipment required for clipper maintenance:

- Products
 - Cleaning solution – must be the appropriate product used for clipper blade cleaning and clipper grade cleaning, e.g. types of cleaning solution should be alcohol based to ensure effective cleaning and minimal moisture clean and sterilise clippers in order to avoid hair and skin build-up in the clipper, and keep the clipper blades and motor running in optimal condition. A deep cleaning of the clipper should be performed according to manufacturer's instructions depending on hair build-up
 - Lubricating oils – these should be manufacturer recommended lubricating oils, e.g. do not use oils that are vegetable, fruit or nut based as these will turn sticky when exposed to air and will cause irreparable damage to clippers
- Tools
 - Cleaning brush – used to remove hair clippings and debris from clipper blades and casing. This should be the appropriate size to clean the clipper blades, casing and gears effectively
 - Screwdriver – used to remove the clipper casing to access the internal workings and gears of the clippers. This should be the correct size and type to remove the screw holding the clipper casing in place

LO4 Be able to prepare for clipper maintenance

Prepare and check the area, products, tools and equipment prior to the service:

- Preparation is an important feature of clipper maintenance as it provides the learner with knowledge of clipper safety and the importance of clipper blade alignment and well lubricated blades. It enables learners to work safely and methodically. Learners will ensure that the cleanliness and health and safety standards within the maintenance area are maintained
- Learners will prepare the working area
 - Learners will organise all products, tools and equipment in advance.
 - Ensure there is adequate room in the work area to allow safe use of all products, tools and equipment
 - Ensure there is adequate ventilation in the work area to reduce the risk to self and others of inhaling the cleaning product fumes/vapour
 - Ensure all work areas are free from hair clippings, both on the work top and floor
 - Ensure work area to be systematically cleaned after clipper maintenance is complete
- Learners will prepare products
 - Learners must ensure a range of products is available to carry out the clipper maintenance service. There must be sufficient products available, in good condition, clean and appropriate for clipper maintenance
- Learners will prepare tools and equipment
 - Learners must ensure tools are placed in logical order of use, on a clean towel or disposable paper towel to prevent cross-infection
 - Clippers will be ready for maintenance, switched off and unplugged to reduce the hazard or risk to self and others
- Learners must demonstrate
 - Understanding of how the clippers work
 - Understanding the importance of working safely with electrical equipment
 - How to maintain clippers, plug and attachments
 - How to store clippers and attachments when not in use
 - How to re-balance clippers that are out of alignment
- Preparation of learners
 - Learners will present themselves professionally displaying
 - Readiness for clipper maintenance
 - A good attitude
 - Personality/persona fitting for the barbershop
 - Good communication and listening skills
 - Good posture throughout the clipper maintenance
 - Appropriate personal protective equipment

LO5 Be able to carry out clipper maintenance

Select products, tools and equipment to carry out clipper maintenance:

Learners must demonstrate they have identified and used the most suitable items to complete clipper maintenance.

- Products – learners will choose the most appropriate products to carry out clipper maintenance. Products chosen will clean and lubricate the clipper blades
- Tools – in selection of tools, learners must use the most appropriate items to carry out the clipper maintenance
 - Learners will choose a brush to remove hair clippings from the clipper unit and blades
 - Learners will choose an appropriate size and style screwdriver to remove the clipper blade cover

Use safe and hygienic working methods throughout the service:

- Demonstrate they have clean products, tools and equipment for clipper maintenance
- Display safe usage of all products both in application and storage
- Ensure the use of products, tools and equipment does not cause harm or present a risk
- Use all electrical equipment safely
- Remain in control of the equipment
- Demonstrate safe storage of products as some products may lose their ability to work if they are left with the lid as product can evaporate or may present a risk or hazard, e.g. alcohol or solvent based cleaning solutions can cause irritation to the skin
- Display good processes of application of products, e.g. carefully applying lubricating oils avoids waste and is cost effective
- Carry out maintenance without causing danger or damage to self, others or work areas intentionally or by accident, e.g. leaving clipper blades unguarded or cleaning chemicals without lids secured, risking spillage
- Avoid inhaling products by self, client and others during the application
- Identify potential risks and hazards – clean up spillages immediately, ensure there are no trailing wires, keep the maintenance area well ventilated to avoid inhalation of cleaning products

Use products, tools and equipment to maintain clippers:

- Products – learners will demonstrate they can use the correct products appropriate to clipper maintenance. An example of this would be using clipper blade lubricant in line with the manufacturer's instructions
- Tools – learners must ensure all tools used are fit for purpose and tools are used correctly. Examples of using correct tools may be
 - Using a brush appropriate for removing clipper cuttings from the clipper unit and blade
 - Using the correct type and size screwdriver appropriate to remove the blade guard and clipper casing to access the gears

Use a combination of techniques to achieve clipper maintenance:

Learners will display an aptitude in controlling techniques and use products effectively to facilitate clipper maintenance. Learners will demonstrate skills to clean, lubricate and align clipper blades. Learners will

- Ensure clippers are switched off and unplugged at the beginning of maintenance
- Use the correct cleaning products to cleanse the clipper grades and dissolve grease and remove debris
- Ensure the taper level is in the close cut position

- Use a suitable brush to remove hair clippings from the clipper unit and blades
- Remove the clipper blade guard to expose the full blade area using screwdriver to unscrew the fixing, remove the upper plate on the clipper by taking out the two screws from the top
- Take off the top plate and bottom blade plate together and lay to the side on a towel or disposable paper towel
- Remove any debris and hair clippings from the plate area and ensure the area is clean and dry
- Apply oil to the blades to ensure smooth running of the blades
- Open up clipper case with the correct size and shaped screwdriver, remove any debris and apply clipper lubricating oil to the gears
- Close clipper case ensuring the screws are tight, but not so tight that they could cause damage to the casing
- Ensure the clipper blades are in alignment, with the end of the top teeth being approximately .65mm back from bottom blade. The left hand tooth of the blade should be covering or to the left of the first small tooth of bottom blade and the right hand tooth of the top blade must be touching the large tooth on the bottom of the blade
- Apply products in logical sequence and appropriate to clipper maintenance
- Use tools that are appropriate for clipper maintenance
- Use appropriate size and shape screwdriver
- Ensure clippers are re assembled at the end of the maintenance and check working order prior to storage of the clippers
- Ensure the flex is undamaged and the plug is sealed and in good working order
- Be time and cost effective
- Techniques – learners will use and adapt techniques appropriately to maintain clippers. Learners must
 - Demonstrate dexterity in management of products, tools and equipment selected for clipper maintenance
 - Apply the cleaning and lubricating clipper oil products in a logical sequence
 - Learners should clean the area after the maintenance service to reduce the risk of cross-infection and launder any towels used or dispose of disposable towels appropriately

Employability skills to be demonstrated throughout the practical assessment

Communication:

- Adapt and tailor approach for different clients, e.g. new and existing clients, male and female clients
- Allow sufficient time for the consultation and communicate clearly and concisely to explain the concept of the treatment/service, encouraging clients to ask questions and offer reassurance
- Use positive verbal communication, e.g. speaking manner and tone of voice, being supportive, respectful, sensitive to client, using open questioning to obtain information
- Use positive non-verbal communication, e.g. eye contact, body language, actively listening
- Promote goodwill and trust by using good communication

Customer service:

- Have an awareness of the principles of customer service, e.g. quality, keeping promises, managing customer expectations, customer satisfaction, speed of services and treatments, offering reassurance
- Show good practice in customer service, e.g. meeting and exceeding customer needs and expectations, demonstrating a willingness to please the customer, treating the customer as an individual
- Invest time in explaining the concept of the treatment/service clearly but concisely to the client, encouraging them to ask questions
- Deal quickly and effectively with any complaints or issues, e.g. know whom to refer to if needed
- Know the importance of customer service to a business, e.g. professional image, reputation, customer retention, customer satisfaction, customer relationships
- Know the impact of poor customer service, e.g. dissatisfied customers will seek out competitors, loss of reputation, loss of profit, frequent complaints
- Manage client expectations and identify requirements

Commercial and environmental awareness:

- Adopt eco-friendly and cost-efficient use of resources, minimising waste, e.g. all products measured correctly; efficient use and correct disposal of consumables and recycle where possible
- Be aware of others and protect their 'space' when using products, specifically aerosols, e.g. sprays used in nail treatments or hair services
- All used products will be disposed of in accordance with the salon rules and legislative guidelines
- Ensure all electrical equipment is turned off when not in use
- Identify opportunities to promote and sell additional products and treatments, e.g. during consultation or when providing aftercare advice
- Talk and actively listen, to gain knowledge of client preferences and routines so that the retail selling approach is personalised
- Be aware of competitors for commercial success e.g. local salon offers and promotions, new treatments/services
- Know the unique selling points of treatments/services to offer the most appropriate advice

- Know business goals and sales targets to encourage focus on the vision of the business and its long term goals, e.g. seasonal promotional offers
- Know how to advertise and display special offers, promotions, e.g. local newspaper stories, awards, photographs, thank you letters/cards
- Promote any loyalty schemes or special offers for repeat/new clients and the benefits of other products and services, e.g. buy one get one free, introductory offers
- Offer new/additional products and services to existing or new clients to promote self/salon experiences
- Ensure the cost reflects the time taken to provide the treatment/service, reflecting commercial times allocated, e.g. tailor cost to client characteristics

Assessment criteria

In order to pass this unit, learners must achieve all pass criteria. The pass criteria relate to the proficient demonstration of skills and knowledge.

Learning outcome The learner must:	Assessment criteria The learner can:
LO1 Know the barbershop procedures for cleaning and maintaining clippers	P1 Explain the importance of good personal presentation
	P2 Explain the correct procedures for preparing the work area
	P3 Explain how to recognise hazards and risks when performing clipper maintenance
LO2 Understand the safety considerations when carrying out clipper maintenance	P4 Identify the safety considerations when maintaining clippers
LO3 Know the products, tools and equipment required for clipper maintenance	P5 Describe the range of products, tools and equipment required for clipper maintenance
LO4 Be able to prepare for clipper maintenance	P6 Prepare and check the area, products, tools and equipment prior to the service
LO5 Be able to carry out clipper maintenance	P7 Select products, tools and equipment to carry out clipper maintenance
	P8 Use safe and hygienic working methods throughout the service
	P9 Use products, tools and equipment to maintain clippers
	P10 Use a combination of techniques to achieve clipper maintenance

Assessment guidance

Assessors must use the amplified assessment guidance in this section to judge whether practical assessment criteria have been achieved.

P6 Prepare and check the area, products, tools and equipment prior to the service

Learners must prepare and check the area, products, tools and equipment prior to the service. Learners must understand that preparation is an important feature of clipper maintenance. Learners will ensure that the cleanliness and health and safety standards within the maintenance area are maintained.

P7 Select products, tools and equipment to carry out clipper maintenance

Learners should be able to select products, tools and equipment to carry out clipper maintenance. The products should be appropriate to clean the blades and blade grades effectively and lubricating oil should be fit for purpose. The tools should be chosen in order to clean the blades and surrounding area effectively and the screwdriver should be suitable for removal of clipper guard and clipper housing. The equipment must be suitable to protect the learner's clothes and skin from the products used.

P8 Use safe and hygienic working methods throughout the service

Learners must demonstrate safe and hygienic working methods throughout the clipper maintenance by working methodically and in a logical order. Clippers and the blades should be handled with care and the work area kept clean throughout the maintenance.

P9 Use products, tools and equipment to maintain clippers

Learners should be able to select the products, tools and equipment to carry out clipper maintenance in order to achieve the desired outcome. The appropriate cleaning products should be used to clean the blades and blade grades effectively and lubricating oil should be fit for purpose. The tools should be chosen in order to clean the blades and surrounding area effectively and the screwdriver should be suitable for removal of clipper guard and clipper housing. The equipment must be suitable to protect the learner's clothes and skin from the products used.

P10 Use a combination of techniques to achieve clipper maintenance

Learners will display an aptitude in controlling techniques and use products effectively to facilitate clipper maintenance. Learners will demonstrate skills to clean, lubricate and align clipper blades.

Learners will adapt the clipper maintenance to suit the type of clippers being maintained.

Resources

The special resources required for this unit are access to a real or realistic working environment which supports the provision of clipper maintenance. Learners must also have access to health and safety standards, manufacturers' instructions, products and tools.

Delivery guidance

Teachers are encouraged to use innovative, practical and engaging delivery methods to enhance the learning experience. Learners may benefit from:

- Meaningful employer engagement so they relate what is being learned to the real world of work and understand commercial competency and use of products, tools and equipment
- Work experience within a commercial barbershop so they can practise to hone their skills in a real environment
- Using interactive information and technology, systems and hardware so they can learn about concepts and theories, research current trends, research product knowledge and produce visual aids

Links with other units

This unit is closely linked with the following units:

UCO28M Health and safety in the salon

Health and safety greatly underpins the present unit. Learners will be required to apply knowledge and understanding of health and safety for clipper maintenance services when providing the service in a real or realistic working environment.

UHB144M Men's styling services

Men's styling services work alongside the men's cutting and clipper maintenance units and allows the learner to maintain the tools used when carrying out these services.

UHB150M/UHB150X Men's cutting services

Men's cutting services works together with clipper maintenance as it allows the learner to maintain the tools and equipment.