

UHB176M

Style hair with electrical equipment

Unit reference number: K/615/0813

Level: 2

Guided Learning (GL) hours: 30

Overviews

This unit is about the skills and knowledge used to provide clients with electrically styled finishes. These techniques can enhance and add further dimension to a dried style. Electrical equipment used to change or prolong a blow-dried finished result, re-dress a blow-dry that has lost its style through exposure to humidity or physical changes or transform day-time into a night-time style and convert the finish for a special occasion or up do style.

Electrically styled finishes must be carried out on clients with different hair lengths, for different occasions. Learners will develop basic skills to work safely and hygienically throughout an electrical styling service.

Learners will understand how hair classifications, products tools and equipment will need to be considered in order to achieve a professional and commercial electrically styled finish. Learners must establish essential knowledge of possible restrictions and contra-indications as well as other considerations such as the desired look and client's lifestyle.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit, learners will:

LO1 Know the salon procedures to electrically style and finish hair

LO2 Understand the factors which influence an electrically styled finish

LO3 Know the products, tools and equipment required for electrical styling and finishing

LO4 Be able to prepare for electrical styling and finishing

LO5 Be able to provide electrical styling and finishing

Assessment requirements

Learners must complete **all** four assessment requirements related to this unit:

1. Service portfolio
2. Graded practical assessment
3. External examination
4. Graded synoptic assessment

1. Service portfolio

Learners must produce a service portfolio. The service portfolio must include evidence that the learners have:

- Performed 5 finished styles on a minimum of 3 different hair classifications
 - Straight hair
 - Wavy hair
 - Curly hair
 - Very curly hair
- Worked on all hair lengths
 - Long
 - Medium (above and below shoulder)
 - Short
- Used a minimum of 4 products
 - Gel
 - Wax
 - Spirit based setting spray
 - Heat protector spray
 - Hairsprays
 - Finishing sprays
- Used a minimum of 6 tools
 - Paddle brush or flat Denman
 - Vent brush/rake type brush
 - Full selection of combs
 - Sectioning clips or clamps
 - Pin curl clips
 - Grips and pins
 - Hair decoration
 - Velcro or bendy rollers
- Used a minimum of 4 pieces of electrical styling equipment
 - Heated rollers
 - Hot brush or air brush
 - Tongs (small, medium and large diameter)
 - Straighteners
 - Conical wands

- Considered all factors and influences
 - All hair classifications
 - All hair characteristics including growth patterns
 - Head, face and body shape
 - Client requirements and lifestyle
 - Temperature and humidity
 - Commercial timing
- Used electrical equipment to create a minimum of 4 effects
 - Straightening and smoothing
 - Volume and lift
 - Movement/waves
 - Day into night styling
 - Styling for a special occasion
 - Part or full up do
- Provided all aftercare advice and recommendations
 - How to maintain the look
 - Post service maintenance
 - Additional products and services

The service portfolio must be completed prior to learners undertaking the graded practical skills test. Whilst treatment portfolios will not be graded, they may be sampled by the VTCT External Quality Assurer (EQA).

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

2. Graded practical assessment

Learners must carry out a complete electrically styled finish which will be observed, marked and graded by centre assessors. The grade achieved in the graded practical assessment will be the grade awarded for the unit.

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

- Service – electrical styling and finishing of the hair – one new client using methods and techniques performed within a commercial time appropriate to client’s hair type to produce a salon professional finish
- Products, tools and equipment – appropriate products and tools from the range e.g. combs, brushes, sectioning clips/clamps, grips and pins, hair decoration, Velcro/bendy rollers – a minimum of 2 pieces of electrical equipment, when carrying out an electrical style and finish on dry hair

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

3. External examination

Whilst the theory content of LO1, LO2 and LO3 may be naturally assessed in the graded practical assessment, they will be tested by an external examination towards the end of the learning period.

External examinations will test knowledge and understanding from across the whole vocational area (mandatory units). Learners should use the unit content section of this unit to aid revision since exam questions will test knowledge from within the full breadth of this section.

External examinations will be set and marked by VTCT and will contribute to the overall qualification grade.

4. Graded synoptic assessment

In the last term or final third of their qualification, learners will be required to undertake a graded synoptic assessment. This will require learners to carry out a range of services from across the whole vocational area (mandatory units). Assessment coverage will vary year on year, although all services will be covered over time.

VTCT will set a brief for centres which will detail the services to be covered in the graded synoptic assessment. Grading descriptors for the synoptic assessment will also be provided by VTCT.

The graded synoptic assessment will be marked and graded by centre staff and externally verified by VTCT.

The graded synoptic assessment will contribute to the overall qualification grade.

Unit content

LO1 Know the salon procedures to electrically style and finish hair

Learners must know their responsibilities for health and safety when providing electrical styling services:

- Personal presentation is important for creating an overall good impression and promotes client satisfaction, repeat/new business and a positive reputation for the salon
- Display a positive image and attitude with good posture throughout the service
- Learners must ensure salon uniform requirements are adhered to, i.e. learners should strictly follow individual salon's agreed professional dress code (as appropriate). As a health and safety requirement, closed-in low-heel shoes should be worn. Clothing should be modest, clean, pressed and in good condition. Other examples may include a set uniform, colour choice or T-shirt with or without salon logo
- Present good personal hygiene including clean clothes, clean teeth and fresh breath
- Ensure they avoid a strong smell of tobacco, heavy perfume or aftershave

Learners must know how to effectively implement salon health and safety procedures when preparing the working area:

- It is the responsibility of all staff to maintain health and safety procedures whilst working in a salon. Learners must
 - Present a clean and hygienic working area
 - Clean and sterilise tools and equipment appropriately
 - Contribute to safe practices
 - Provide knowledge of all health and safety legislation

Learners must know how to recognise relevant hazards and risks for electrical styling and finishing services:

Within the salon, safety is of paramount importance and learners must know how to recognise potential harm or injury that may occur, these include

- Hazards – anything that has the potential to cause harm, e.g. a heated wand precariously balanced on the trolley with a training lead left plugged in and around the client's chair
- Risks – a chance, high or low that a hazard may cause harm, e.g. someone may trip over a trailing electrical lead or burn themselves on hot equipment
- Learners must work safely throughout the electrical styling and finishing service, ensuring that maintenance of electrical equipment is monitored. Learners must carry out visual checks on electrical styling equipment for safe use
- Learners will ensure client comfort and safety is maintained throughout the service
- Learners must dispose of waste appropriately to minimise risk of cross-infection and ensure there is no unnecessary risk to the environment

Learners must know the different types of working methods that promote environmental and sustainable working practices:

Successful environmental and sustainable working practices require the cooperation of all staff, these may include

- Reducing and managing waste by recycling, reusing, safely disposing and responsible use, e.g. measuring products where applicable and not using excessive amounts
- Reducing energy usage, e.g. energy efficient hairdryers, low energy lighting, utilising solar panels
- Reducing water usage, e.g. turn tap off whilst applying shampoo or conditioner
- Preventing pollution, e.g. ensure clippings are disposed of correctly and will not cause a blockage in drains

- Using reusable items, e.g. easy-dry towels
- Using recycled, eco-friendly furniture
- Using low-chemical paint
- Using organic and allergy-free hair products
- Using environmentally-friendly product packaging
- Choosing responsibly sourced domestic products, e.g. Fairtrade tea and coffee

Learners must understand the importance of accurate record keeping:

Record and maintenance cards or electronic files are an effective resource within a salon and need to provide accurate information regarding a client services, the history of a client, the products used and any tests carried out with dates. Learners must understand the importance of record keeping, ensuring future services can be tracked. This includes maintenance of electrical equipment, record cards and files and verifying equipment testing, faults and general repairs for specific items. Learners must ensure

- The client record cards are maintained and show current information
- Electrical records are updated if equipment becomes faulty during the service
- Latest equipment testing date records are checked

LO2 Understand the factors which influence an electrically styled finish

Learners must understand the hair classifications and characteristics and how these will influence electrical styling services:

Hair classifications table			
	1a Fine/thin	1b Medium	1c Coarse
Type 1: Straight hair	Straight	Straight with volume	Straight difficult hair
	2a Fine/thin	2b Medium	2c Coarse
Type 2: Wavy hair	'S' pattern	Frizzy 'S' pattern	Very frizzy 'S' pattern
	3a Fine/thin	3b Medium	3c Coarse
Type 3: Curly hair	Soft curl	Loose curl	Tight curl
	4a Fine/thin	4b Medium	4c Coarse
Type 4: Very curly hair	Tight coiled curl pattern	'Z' pattern and spring curl	Tight 'Z' pattern

Different hair classifications and characteristics will influence products, tools and equipment used in the electrical styling and finishing service, e.g. a client with a hair classification of 3a – soft curl has natural movement in the hair which will influence product and equipment used in the electrical styling; depending on length of hair and desired result

Learners must understand how hair classifications and characteristics influence electrical styling and finishing:

Analysis of both the hair classification and characteristics during a client consultation will influence the electrical options for the styling and finishing service

- Density – this is defined as the number of hairs on the scalp and will affect the choice of tools and products used and the time of the service, e.g. avoid products that increase volume of the hair on thicker, dense coarse hair. Heated equipment is to be selected on a client by client basis when styling and finishing, e.g. long, fine, straight hair will require a firm product and small diameter tongs to prolong a small curl for an up do finished style
- Texture – this is defined as the feel of each hair and whether the hair is fine, medium or coarse to touch. Texture may affect the porosity of the hair. In heated styling using excessive heavy products may leave the hair dull or overloaded
- Porosity – this relates to the condition of the cuticle. Porosity levels are affected by both chemical and physical damage. Learners must control heat direction and ensure the correct use of tools to minimise any further heat damage or tangling of the hair. Cuticles which are raised and feel rough are known as porous and will absorb products more easily and unevenly when styling. Suitable heat protection products will be required if hair is porous
- Elasticity – this is defined as the internal strength of the hair and is sometimes referred to as “tensile strength”. Poor elasticity can be caused by excessive or prolonged use of heat or chemicals and heated equipment such as straighteners or tongs should be avoided. When elasticity is poor the hair becomes stretchy and can break; specialist treatments should be recommended and the use of heated electrical equipment or chemicals on the hair should be stopped to prevent further damage until elasticity improves

- Hygroscopic – the ability of hair to absorb moisture into the cortex. In its natural state hair is known as alpha keratin however the properties of hair are changed when it has been shampooed or become wet as weaker hydrogen bonds are broken down. This allows the hair to be stretched using heat and brushes when blow-drying. Once hair is stretched and dried into a new shape it becomes known as beta keratin. When drying hair it is important that the hair is thoroughly dried to stretch the hair temporarily into its new form. The hair must be allowed to cool to allow the hydrogen bonds to form properly in the hair. Hair that is finger dried will remain in its natural state. Using electrical styling equipment will change the hair into a beta keratin state. The process allows the hair to be stretched and changed into a different shape using humidity from any product applied or natural moisture that is within the hair, working with the heated appliance
- Growth patterns – this relates to the direction the hair grows from the scalp and may influence the desired finish. Selection of appropriate tools and products may help overcome a difficult growth pattern, e.g. a client with a ‘widow’s peak’ may achieve a fringe temporarily with correct products, tools and use of heated equipment
- Head and face shape and size – this relates to the overall shape of and size of a client’s head and includes any specific features. When blow-drying, it is important to ensure that the client has a style they can manage and which suits their overall appearance. As an example, a client with a long face may not require height on the crown, or a client with a round face may be best suited with minimal volume at the sides
- Lifestyle – this is about the client’s every day activities and working patterns, e.g. a client who has a demanding job meeting and greeting new customers all day at work, and requires naturally long curly hair to be straightened each day, may find the procedure to be damaging to the hair, which will require a high level of maintenance. Using a wand or airbrush to style and finish with a light holding spray product would prove easier for the client to maintain
- Hair length – this will affect the general condition of the hair. If the hair is long, the ends will have been shampooed many times and the condition may be affected by physical or chemical processes. Product usage is important when electrically styling and finishing as well as selecting the right electrical equipment to ensure an even result is achieved. Long hair may be weighed down by the use of some products
- Services prior to electrical styling and finishing – other services offered prior to electrical styling may influence the finishing, e.g. a client who is new, and only requests an electrical styling service for a special occasion, will require the correct shampoo, conditioning and drying technique to appropriately prepare the hair according to hair type and classification and the desired end result
- Temperature and humidity of the salon, client and general external weather conditions – these will be influencing factors when carrying out an electrical styling finish. A client with type 1a – very fine straight hair classification may require additional hold products to retain the style when weather conditions are damp or humid. Temperature control of the electrical equipment is important and should be altered as appropriate. Temperature within the salon must be controlled with either additional heating, ventilation or assisted fanning devices

Learners must understand factors that can prevent or restrict the electrical styling and finishing:

There is a range of factors which might contribute to preventing or restricting an electrical styling and finishing service, e.g. a client with an allergy to perfumes or oils may not be suited to some products

- Non-contagious – may prevent or restrict services due to severity of condition
 - Sebaceous cyst – lump on top or under scalp
 - Seborrhoea – excessively oily hair and scalp
 - Psoriasis – dry silvery scales of skin
 - Contact dermatitis – dry, red, sore, itchy skin, may possibly be weeping

- Scalp sensitivity – an inflamed, sore and red scalp may prevent direct heat being placed on scalp, therefore affecting the styling of the hair
- Dry hair – fragile, coarse hair which may be caused by overuse of heat or chemicals or environmental factors may also cause split ends
- Recent scar/tissue injury may be tender when using certain electrical items, e.g. heated rollers
- Hair loss (alopecia), possible after hair extension removal, medication, stress or trauma – use tools and equipment carefully to adapt style to cover hair loss

Learners must know contra-indications to electrical styling and finishing:

A contra-indication to the hair and scalp can prevent or alter the service, products or techniques used in the style with electrical equipment service. The learner must identify any contra-indication through consultation and discussion with the client prior to the service

- Contagious – can be passed person to person may prevent service which will include
 - Bacterial – impetigo, folliculitis, furuncles
 - Viral – warts, herpes
 - Fungal – tinea capitis/ringworm
 - Animal parasites – pediculosis capitis/head lice, scabies
- Hair defects
 - Trichorrhexis nodosa – rough swollen broken shaft

Learners must understand the value of questioning for electrical styling and finishing:

An important factor in the styling of hair with electrical equipment is to understand the client's requirements and to ensure a happy and satisfied client who will rebook for future services and recommend and promote salon staff and services to other potential clients. Learners must know

- How to use questioning to communicate with the client in a way that meets the client's individual needs
- The importance of understanding the client's requirements regarding the heated styling service. This may include the use of visual aids, e.g. album of pictures, style book or photos to agree outcome
- The importance of the client feeling valued if references are made regarding personal comfort during the application and heat settings of the equipment
- The additional service options which may include offering refreshments (if available) or magazines to add value and general ambience to personalise the service
- Reasons why a client may rebook for future services or promote stylist/salon

LO3 Know the products, tools and equipment required for electrical styling and finishing

Learners must know the products, tools and equipment required for electrical styling and finishing:

- Products
 - Gel – produces a firm hold and ideal for creating short textured or spiky finishes, apply to dry hair
 - Wax – small amounts are applied to dry hair to create a textured look and give a small degree of hold. Some waxes require softening in the hands first to make them malleable before application. Not suitable for very fine hair
 - Setting spritz/spray – a spirit based setting spray, apply very sparingly to hair prior to using heated rollers or other electrical equipment, will provide additional hold, may contain chemicals that protect hair from the heat of the electrical equipment and secondly provides limited humidity to allow the electrical equipment to fix the hair into beta keratin and maintain the finish – too much product will cause the hair to become wet
 - Hairspray (aerosol) – varying degrees of strength (soft to firm hold); bonds finished style in place. Apply sparingly to dry hair at a distance of 20cm, being aware of client and others inhaling the product
 - Heat protector – adds a protective layer to the hair cuticle when applying heat; used before applying heated electrical equipment to prevent loss of natural moisture and oil from the hair structure. Apply sparingly; over-use may make the hair wet and create too much moisture for the use of heated electrical equipment. Check surroundings after use and before client moves – any product on floor may be slippery and cause a hazard
 - Finishing spray/mist/gloss (aerosol) – adds a protective layer and gloss to dry hair; may be used after or instead of hairspray for a natural soft finish. Apply very sparingly; over-use may weigh down hair. Check surroundings after use and before client moves – any product on floor may be slippery and cause a hazard
- Tools and Equipment
 - Flat brushes – various sizes, e.g. paddle or Denman produce tangle free smoother, straighter brushed through result, ideal for brushing through heated roller or Velcro set – will decrease amount of curl if overused
 - Vent brush/rake brush – ideal for brushing through a short tonged style or heated roller or Velcro set, produces a softer, free-flowing and more natural look to the hair
 - Combs – wide tooth combs detangle hair before electrical styling and can be used as a multi-purpose comb for sectioning or managing the hair throughout the finishing service
 - Dressing comb – creates a finished look; used to backcomb and style hair
 - Tail comb – may be used to section hair
 - Sectioning clips/clamps – used to section and manage the hair during the electrical styling service
 - Pin curl clips – used in tonging or when dry setting to secure curls
 - Grips and pins – used to secure hair when creating part or full up do styles with electrical styling equipment
 - Hair decoration – used to enhance styling for occasions, decoration can be based grips, combs or clips, the use of any other hair decoration that is suited to the desired style and occasion
 - Velcro rollers – when used in dry hair with suitable product can give body, curl, movement, volume, bounce, doesn't last long; take appropriately sized sections to maximised dry set results

- Bendy rollers – when used on medium to long hair can create spiral effects and curls, doesn't last as long as the wet set method
- Electrical styling equipment
 - Heated rollers – provide soft curls and volume when used on suitable length hair and different sized rollers used on sections must be smoothly wound round the roller to avoid “fish hooks” and buckled ends
 - Hot brush/air brush – used to strengthen and re-dress curls from a set that has dropped or been over exposed to humidity or physical elements, e.g. windy weather or over brushing
 - Tongs (small, medium and large diameter) – create small, medium and large diameter curls on dry hair. Light application of suitable products will add hold and longevity to the style
 - Straighteners – straightens the hair – a heat protector should be used to protect the hair from damage and drying out natural moisture and oils within the hair structure. Can be used to create beach waves if curling technique is applied. A comb must be used to protect client scalp when tonging close to the scalp
 - Conical wands – use appropriate sections and placement to create desired effect. Setting spritz/spray can be used sparingly to provide additional hold. Learners must take care to protect hands/fingers from burns

LO4 Be able to prepare for electrical styling and finishing

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

- Preparation is an important feature of the electrical styling and finishing service, not least because it enables learners to work safely and methodically. Learners will ensure that the cleanliness and health and safety standards within the salon are maintained to enhance the client's overall satisfaction with the service

Prepare self and the work area prior to an electrical styling and finishing service:

Preparation by the learner is essential to demonstrate a readiness and professionalism which will set client expectations and promote high standards of service

- Preparation of learners – learners must present themselves professionally displaying
 - Clean hygienic appearance
 - Appropriate hair and make-up (as applicable)
 - Readiness for the service
 - A good attitude
 - Personality/persona fitting for the salon
 - Good communication and listening skills
 - Good posture maintenance throughout electrical styling and finishing service
- Prepare the working area – learners will ensure
 - All products, tools and equipment are organised in advance making provision for a diverse range of client needs
 - There is adequate room around the work area to allow safe use of all equipment
 - All work areas are free from hair, including basin, chair, trolley, work station/dressing unit and floor
 - Chairs are moved to eliminate and wipe away any dropped products, chair feet are checked for cleanliness and seats and back of chair wiped clean or fresh cover applied
 - Trolleys are systematically cleaned between services, removing unwanted items and replacing with fresh, cleaned/sterilised items
 - Towels, capes and client outer gowns are clean and freshly laundered for service and removed after use
- Prepare products
 - Learners must ensure the listed range of products are available. Products should be displayed either at dressing/work area, on a separate trolley/display stand or by a visual chart/marketing information. Learners must ensure that the client has a full range of available product choice. Sufficient products must be available which are in good condition, clean and appropriate for all possible electrical styling and finishing services
- Prepare tools and equipment
 - Learners must ensure clean and sterilised tools are placed in logical order, ready for use, on a clean towel or disposable paper towels, in order to prevent cross-infection
 - Hairdryer will be visually checked and ready to use
 - Other attachments such as a nozzle or diffuser should be available, clean and in good order, e.g. no cracks or signs of wear, to prevent hazard or risk

Prepare the client for services:

Learners will ensure that previous hair services have been carried out correctly and meet the satisfaction of the client. Learners must check there are no excess products in the hair to inhibit the electrical styling and finishing service, the hair is dry and protective garments remain dry and intact

- To prepare the client, learners must
 - Remove obstructive jewellery or items that would inhibit the electrical styling service
 - Adjust styling chair height to avoid excessive bending by learners and maximise client comfort
 - Position a foot stand where necessary (or available) for additional client comfort
 - Ensure the client maintains the correct posture to avoid hazard or risk
 - Confirm that the client is comfortable at the start of the service

Explain and agree service outcome with the client:

- Conduct a visual and manual check of the hair and scalp and check for visible contra-indications
- Complete tests and record results
- Identify hair classification
- Identify any influencing factors and discuss these with client
- Agree choice of products with the client
- Agree choice of tools and equipment with the client
- Agree service outcome with the client

Demonstrate effectiveness in the salon when carrying out the service:

- Learners must demonstrate how effective they have been in electrically styling and finishing the hair including
 - Overall personal performance in the salon
 - Identifying their own strengths and weaknesses shown before, during and after the service
 - Identifying client requirements
 - Identifying influencing factors
 - Sectioning and controlling the hair throughout the service
 - Combining use of different electrical equipment and techniques to add to the end results of the service
 - Checking client satisfaction
- Demonstrate a mixture of talent, knowledge and skills. Examples may include
 - Conversing with the client throughout the service
 - Ensuring client comfort throughout the service
 - Discussing further services or products to enhance the finished result
 - Overall performance in client care

LO5 Be able to provide electrical styling and finishing

Select products, tools and equipment to style and finish:

Learners must demonstrate they have identified and used the most suitable items to achieve the style

- Application of products and use of tools and equipment will be dependent on
 - Hair classification
 - Hair characteristics/growth pattern
 - Length
 - Condition
 - Density
 - Texture
 - Porosity
 - Influencing factors
- Products – learners must choose the most appropriate products to suit the style. Products chosen must aid the techniques used when styling and finishing with electrical equipment and learners must demonstrate correct choice to enhance the finish
- Tools – in selection of tools, learners must use the most appropriate items to finish the desired style and be able to manipulate the hair whilst using the combs and electrical appliances
 - Learners will choose sectioning clips or clamps to divide hair, where appropriate depending upon length and style, into manageable areas for handling to ensure hair is thoroughly styled and finished at the end of the service
 - Tools must not damage or become stuck in the hair
- Equipment – learners must use electrical equipment to create a finished style
 - Demonstrate that they can provide an electrical application that does not cause discomfort to the client or damage to the hair or scalp
 - Show correct choices when working with heated or Velcro rollers
 - Use an electrical styling appliance to style and finish the hair

Use safe and hygienic working methods throughout the service:

- Demonstrate they have clean products, clean and sterilised tools and visually checked equipment for the service
- Use all products safely, both in application and storage
- Ensure the use of products does not cause harm or present a risk
- Use electrical equipment safely with due care to self and others
- Remain in control and take responsibility for the equipment
- Demonstrate safe storage of electrical equipment as lack of care can lead to damaged equipment or may present a risk or hazard, e.g. electrical equipment that is stored when still hot with a knotted lead may cause melted leads and damage to the wiring or to tools or other equipment stored next to the hot piece of equipment
- Display good processes of application of products, e.g. carefully applying spray to avoid damaging the client's skin, ears or eyes
- Carry out a service without causing danger or damage to self, client or work areas intentionally or by accident, e.g. avoid placing hot straighteners next to plastic bottles
- Avoid inhaling products, i.e. self, client and others, especially when using finishing products, e.g. aerosol hairspray
- Identify potential risks and hazards – clean up spillages immediately, ensure there are no trailing leads, keep tongs, straighteners and wands or hairdryers from contact with scalp, hands or fingers to prevent possible burns

Use products, tools and equipment to produce the desired style and finish:

- Products
 - Learners will demonstrate they can use the correct products appropriate to the client's needs. An example of this would be using a heat protector and hairspray on fine hair to provide protection, maximise hold and help maintain the style
 - Learners must use products that complement the style
 - Learners will apply products evenly and not overload the hair with products
 - Learners must section hair and work systematically especially when the hair is thick or long
- Tools – learners must ensure all tools used are fit for purpose and tools are used correctly, e.g. using a wide tooth comb to detangle long hair from points to roots
- Equipment – learners must use electrical equipment correctly, e.g. the airbrush or tongs should not be used to smooth out buckled ends from a heated roller set

Use a combination of techniques to achieve the desired outcome considering influencing factors:

Learners will display a variety of controlling techniques, using products effectively to aid the finish result, demonstrating skills to manipulate and control of the hair with chosen electrical styling equipment. Learners will style and finish the hair with the appropriate electrical equipment using techniques without disrupting that part of the hair which has already been styled

- Techniques used in electrical styling will be dependent on the required finished style. Learners must
 - Ensure hair is dry at the start of service
 - Use the correct products for hair classification/type
 - Apply products in logical sequence and appropriate to the service
 - Use tools that are appropriate for the desired finish
 - Use correct size of tongs, wands or heated rollers for hair length to create finish
 - Use the electrical appliance to achieve the desired effect, e.g. wand for beach waves
 - Work in a timely and cost effective manner
- Techniques – learners will use and adapt techniques appropriately to create a finish taking into consideration all influencing factors
 - Ensure the hair is not pulled beyond its tensile strength
 - Demonstrate dexterity when managing selected tools and equipment throughout the heated styling and finishing service
 - Style and finish hair in logically sequenced sections
 - Demonstrate appropriate management of equipment i.e. control of both heat and applied timing
 - Control the risk associated with heated equipment at all times, restricting use to within the confines of the client's hair and the work area. The heat should not damage the cuticles

Provide in-service checks with the client:

- Learners will use appropriate communication and questioning techniques to check on client comfort, heat settings and general wellbeing throughout the service
- Learners must check with the client to confirm agreed service
- Learners must demonstrate that the checks made enhance and disguise influencing factors, that creative ability and attention to detail are applied, e.g. Velcro rollers of different sizes are used to create curl or add volume

Provide advice and recommendations to the client:

- Learners will ensure they have promoted the benefits of the service and provided home care techniques where required for the client to maintain their style. For example, the client would be advised not to take a hot bath immediately after the service as atmospheric moisture will cause hair to 'drop' and the finished style will be affected. Where possible, home techniques for prolonging the finished style could be demonstrated to the client, e.g. simple pinning of long hair to maintain curls or waves

Conduct post-service maintenance of work area ready to meet the next client:

Maintenance of the work area will maintain health and safety procedures within the salon.

Learners must ensure they demonstrate they can carry out post-service maintenance

- Identify potential risks and hazards – clean up spillages immediately, ensure there are no trailing leads, remain aware of blow-dryer temperature preventing possible scalp or hair damage or burns
- Check and update service equipment files and records
- Maintain cleanliness of work station/dressing area by cleaning area and replacing all consumable items
- Maintain cleanliness of products and tools by wiping, sterilising or replacing as appropriate

Maintain accurate client records:

Learners must maintain accurate records by keeping client service and equipment files up to date. A full history of the service must be recorded for future reference to include any products used or tests taken. Where appropriate, maintenance of electrical equipment record card/files will verify equipment testing, faults and general repairs for specific items

- Complete the record card/electronic file with history of service
- Ensure all products are recorded
- Ensure amendments/adaptations to service are recorded
- Ensure notes for future recommendations are recorded

Skin cancer awareness

Please note this information will not be assessed for the achievement of this unit.

Public awareness of skin cancer has never been higher, and yet skin cancer remains the fastest growing cancer in the UK, especially amongst young people. The chances of a positive outcome can be dramatically increased with early identification and diagnosis.

Professionals in hair, beauty, sports massage and health and wellbeing industries work closely with clients and in many cases have sight of areas of skin which may not be easily visible to the client. An informed awareness of the signs, symptoms and changes of appearance to be aware of when checking for early signs of cancer is a crucial tool for the conscientious practitioner in order to provide the most thorough service and in some cases, possibly lifesaving information signposting.

Signs to look for when checking moles include utilising the ABCDE guide:

A - Asymmetry – the two halves of the area/mole may differ in their shape and not match.

B - Border – the edges of the mole area may be irregular or blurred and sometimes show notches or look 'ragged'.

C - Colour – this may be uneven and patchy. Different shades of black, brown and pink may be seen.

D - Diameter – most but not all melanomas are at least 6mm in diameter. If any mole gets bigger or changes see your doctor.

E - Elevation/evolving – elevation means the mole is raised above the surface and has an uneven surface. Looks different from the rest or changing in size, shape or colour. Anyone can get a suspicious mole or patch of skin checked out for free by the NHS by visiting their doctor, who may then refer to a dermatologist (an expert in diagnosing skin cancer).

If you require any additional NHS information please refer to <https://www.nhs.uk/be-clear-on-cancer/symptoms/skin-cancer>

If your learners are interested in learning more about skin cancer awareness alongside this qualification, VTCT runs the following qualification: VTCT Level 2 Award in Skin Cancer Awareness for Non-Healthcare Professionals.

This qualification has been specifically designed for those working in the sports massage, health and wellbeing, beauty, hairdressing and barbering sectors. It will enable learners to identify any changes to their client's skin and to highlight those changes to the client using appropriate language and communication skills. It will enable the learner to raise awareness of skin cancer and signpost their clients to public information about skin cancer.

This qualification will enable hair, beauty and wellbeing professionals to gain the appropriate knowledge and communication skills required to provide non-diagnostic, professional advice and information to clients in a discrete, empathetic and confidential manner.

For more information please refer to the Record of Assessment book:

<https://qualifications.vtct.org.uk/finder/qualfinder/1Record%20of%20Assessment%20Book/AG20529.pdf>

Assessment criteria

Assessment criteria will be applied to the graded practical assessment. In order to pass this unit, learners must at a minimum achieve all Pass criteria. The Pass criteria relate to the proficient demonstration of skills and knowledge. All criteria within a given grade must be achieved to be awarded that grade.

Learning outcome The learner must:	Pass The learner can:	Merit To achieve a merit grade, in addition to achievement of the pass criteria, the learner can:	Distinction To achieve a distinction grade, in addition to achievement of the pass and merit criteria, the learner can:
LO4 Be able to prepare for electrical styling and finishing	P1 Prepare and check the area, products, tools and equipment prior to the service	M1 Adjust communication techniques to meet individual client needs	D1 Explain the choice of products, tools, equipment and techniques used during the service D2 Create a finished style which reflects the use of commercially skilled techniques
	P2 Prepare self and the work area prior to an electrical styling and finishing service	M2 Promote products and additional services	
	P3 Prepare the client for services	M3 Use a variety of techniques to meet individual client needs for electrical styling services	
	P4 Explain and agree service outcome with the client		
	P5 Demonstrate effectiveness in the salon when carrying out the service		
LO5 Be able to provide electrical styling and finishing	P6 Select products, tools and equipment to style and finish		
	P7 Use safe and hygienic working methods throughout the service		
	P8 Use products, tools and equipment to produce the desired style and finish		
	P9 Use a combination of techniques to achieve the desired outcome considering influencing factors		
	P10 Provide in-service checks with the client		
	P11 Provide advice and recommendations to the client		
	P12 Conduct post-service maintenance of work area ready to meet the next client		
	P13 Maintain accurate client records		

Assessment guidance

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

P1 Prepare and check the area, products, tools and equipment prior to the service

Learners must demonstrate they have set up the work area ready for the client by selecting appropriate products, tools and equipment to provide an electrical style and finish. The work trolley is located on the lead hand side of learners, i.e. if learners are left handed the trolley would be on left. The equipment is visually checked along with product availability. All areas must be wiped down, switches turned off and electrical equipment left safely to cool down then stored away. Fresh protective clothing must be acquired; the product display area and all tools must be wiped clean/sterilised as applicable.

P2 Prepare self and the work area prior to an electrical styling and finishing service

Learners must show that they have taken time to prepare themselves and be ready with a clean, fresh and hygienic personal appearance. Hair and make-up (as appropriate) must give a suitable professional impression.

Learners must demonstrate readiness to greet clients with a positive and welcoming attitude. Learners must be present themselves showing commercial readiness and professionalism in line with client expectations and promoting high standards of service.

P3 Prepare the client for services

Learners must demonstrate that they have prepared the client for services in a work station/area that is clean and tidy. Learners must select clean protective garments, towels and capes, ensuring that the client is comfortable and the chair height is correct.

P4 Explain and agree service outcome with the client

With the client, demonstrate that they have agreed the service outcome and explained the service procedure. Learners must conduct a visual and manual check of the hair and scalp to check for contra-indications. Learners must check hair growth patterns and identify any influencing factors and discuss these with the client.

Learners must agree with the client the choice of equipment and products to create the finished service using questioning and visual aids, as appropriate.

P5 Demonstrate effectiveness in the salon when carrying out the service

Learners must demonstrate they have effectively carried out an electrical styling and finishing service. Learners must show efficient use of their time and behave in a professional manner throughout the service.

Learners must be able to consider client expectations and how any influencing factors may impact on the result of the service. Learners must be able to combine equipment and techniques effectively to enhance the end result and show acceptable levels of dexterity, skill and knowledge at this level, i.e. in a professional and commercially viable manner.

Learners must talk to clients to put them at ease and ensure client comfort, aftercare advice and client satisfaction throughout the service.

Learners must be able to identify and reflect on any areas of weakness and in what ways they aim to improve personal performance, set targets and develop themselves as junior stylists. Learners must identify other colleagues to find out additional specialist information.

Learners must show overall consideration of the team and be helpful and responsive to other work colleagues' needs.

P6 Select products, tools and equipment to style and finish

Learners must select products, tools and equipment appropriate to the client's needs to facilitate the electrical styling and finishing service. Learners are required to identify the most appropriate items taking into consideration any adaptations that may be necessary due to hair classification and characteristics. As an example, products displayed at the work area could include a range of styling equipment from retailed salon goods that the client may wish to look at as a precursor for possible future sales opportunities. Chosen tools will be fit for purpose and offer the client the opportunity to question their use and suitability. For example, a client may have recently had a restyle and require information about using electrical equipment at home to help recreate the style and finish.

P7 Use safe and hygienic working methods throughout the service

Learners must demonstrate that they can recognise hazards and risks when using electrical styling and finishing equipment. Learners must ensure that the working area is safe and consider others who may be working in close proximity. Electrical equipment must not interfere with the client or others within the salon. Learners must ensure that there are no trip hazards, and wires from equipment are secured safely. When equipment is not in use it must be placed safely without possible risk of burning or damage to self/client/others or surrounding work areas. Manufacturer's instructions must be followed at all times for safe handling and use.

Products are used without harm to self, client or others.

When spraying aerosols learners must ensure they are at a distance of 20cm and where necessary protection is offered to the client's face and eyes. As an example, learners must ensure they have identified any spillages/leakages and taken the correct course of action to deal with any spills or leaks promptly. Where tools or client protection garments are dropped on the floor, they should be replaced with clean and fresh items.

Where heat protecting spray or mist finishing spray is used, learners must demonstrate that the floor is safe to walk on and free from product. Learners must wipe the floor prior to the client moving from the chair.

P8 Use products, tools and equipment to produce the desired style and finish

Learners must use all products, tools and equipment safely and ensure their choices are suitable to produce the desired service outcome. All products must complement the finished style.

For example, a client with fine, uniform layered short hair wishes to add volume with curls for a night out. Product – usage may include a spirit based spritz applied before tonging each section and hairspray to finish.

Equipment – small diameter tongs applied to small sections could be used when carrying out electrical styling and finishing, to produce a more natural end result the hair could be dressed out with a wide tooth comb or vent brush.

P9 Use a combination of techniques to achieve the desired outcome considering influencing factors

Learners must produce a finish that combines techniques appropriate to client's growth pattern and lifestyle. Learners must demonstrate they have selected the correct product and combs to be used before, during and after the electrical styling and finishing service. For example, the client has a growth pattern defining a widow's peak in the hair; learners must ensure hair is straightened or tonged to disguise the movement and prolong the style. As another example, the client has a double crown and has a short graduated bob hairstyle; the use of Velcro rollers on the crown prolongs the finish. The learner, when reaching the crown area will section the hair and put in Velcro rollers with spritz or hairspray before allowing time to set.

Learners must section the hair and ensure the correct diameter of tongs or size of straighteners are used to achieve the desired result, finishing spray should be applied.

Learners must demonstrate they can use and combine different techniques in producing a style. Hair must be thoroughly dry when finished and meet the client's requirements. Learners must verbally confirm client satisfaction.

P10 Provide in-service checks with the client

Learners must demonstrate throughout the service they have checked on client comfort. Learners must demonstrate that they have adapted and tailored the use of heat and checked that tools used are not causing discomfort to the client.

P11 Provide advice and recommendations to the client

Learners must demonstrate that they have provided the client with aftercare advice. Advice must include methods of styling and finishing hair at home, how to personalise style at home using products, advice on maintaining the style and recommendations for future services.

P12 Conduct post-service maintenance of work area ready to meet the next client

Learners must maintain the work area and follow health and safety procedures within the salon. Learners must ensure that they demonstrate they can carry out post-service maintenance by identifying potential risks and hazards, cleaning up spillages immediately, ensuring there are no trailing wires from electrical equipment and remain aware and in control of the equipment temperature preventing possible scalp or hair damage or burns. Learners must check and update service equipment files and records and maintain cleanliness of their work station/dressing area by cleaning the area and replacing all consumable items. Maintenance must also include the cleanliness of products and tools by wiping, sterilising or replacing as appropriate.

P13 Maintain accurate client records

Learners must show that they have at a minimum recorded the full service, personal details and any tests where applicable for a new client. For existing clients a check on current history and updated information should be recorded. All client records must include the current service and products used.

Where there are opportunities, learners must add accumulated loyalty points or similar (if appropriate). For example, some social media sites offer free blow-dry, or similar incentives, to one lucky winner monthly/quarterly if clients 'like and share' the home page of the salon. Other salons offer a free service when a number of points are collected; points are usually awarded for every £5 or £10 spent within the salon.

For electrical styling and finishing, learners must record any specific characteristics of the hair or adaptations to the style. An example of this may be where a regular client had a fall resulting in a bang to the head which has left an area feeling tender. The service has been adapted by heated equipment directed away from the scalp and careful handling of the hair with no additional tension or heat around the area throughout the service.

M1 Adjust communication techniques to meet individual client needs

Learners must listen to the client's expectations and present other options, especially if the client's hair is physically not suitable for desired electrical styling and finishing and this presents a damaging or unrealistic outcome.

Learners must respond positively to the client by displaying excellent communication skills, when presenting possible alternative solutions to the service. Learners must demonstrate throughout the treatment that all communication with the client is ethical, respectful, unobtrusive and inoffensive.

Learners would need to demonstrate they have conversed fully with the client before commencing the electrical styling service not only to determine the exact requirements; but for the client to understand the learner's requirements. As an example, the client requests tight curls on their long straight 1a hair classification hair. To achieve this the learner may suggest the use of additional finishing products; pinning the hair in place once styled; or an alternative style that would involve client consent. The learner will need to explain the procedure they would use in order to achieve this style.

M2 Promote products and additional services

Learners will effectively judge the overall characteristics of the hair with the client, providing detailed information about salon services and suitable salon products that will enhance the client's hair condition or style. Learners will adapt their recommendations specifically for the client's individual needs.

For example in order to promote electrical equipment learners may use a similar piece of equipment in styling the client's hair to demonstrate how to use electrical equipment correctly with a heat protector to protect the hair and change the finished look of the style. In tonging, learners might temporarily pin the hair in place to show how a shorter style might look, or create more curls to show how a perming service might offer a different look and enhance the style. Samples of the protecting or finishing products for a client to try at home may be offered.

Learners will provide and record written information for the client and salon records of any recommendations. Further salon services may include colouring, lightening, perming, restyling/cutting, or conditioning services.

M3 Use a variety of techniques to meet individual client needs for electrical styling services

Learners must demonstrate techniques and skills showing that they can section the hair with a comb, whilst manipulating the electrical equipment and applying heat correctly to the hair, without causing damage to the cuticle. Learners must demonstrate that they have worked in a methodical order and are in control of tools and equipment throughout the electrical styling and finishing service.

For example, learners could demonstrate that sections of hair can be styled systematically, without undue tension or pulling in an acceptable commercial time.

Learners may show good handling of the hair in producing soft curls using a curling wand by demonstrating skills winding hair from roots to points. Learners might also produce soft curl finishes using pin curl clips effectively; these should be placed in a logical and systematic sequence that does not hinder the learner's progress whilst completing other sections of the hair.

Learners must produce a salon professional standard of electrical styling and finishing which replicates the client's desired requirements.

D1 Explain the choice of products, tools, equipment and techniques used during the service

Learners must explain their reasons for choosing products, tools, equipment and techniques based on the characteristics, classification, porosity, density, texture and hygroscopic features of the hair.

Examples:

Equipment – a learner who includes using application of different equipment where different amounts of volume and curl are required, e.g. volume to the crown and sides using Velcro rollers and tongs of different sizes according to length of hair and curl required around the base line and through the longer areas.

Products – recognising hair texture, e.g. fine hair requiring more hold and suitable product choices such as a spritz and finishing firm-hold spray or for coarse porous hair a wax or moulding paste to create curl definition.

Identifying where there is poor hair condition and choosing a specialist treatment to assist repair and provide extra protection before further heated services can be carried out.

D2 Create a finished style which reflects the use of commercially skilled techniques

The completed electrical styling of the hair reflects a professionally finished salon result showing a design that encompasses the characteristics of the client. Examples of the finished styling may include a combination of straightening, smoothing, volume and lift, movement or waves, a day style transformed for evening wear or a style for a special occasion with hair decoration or a part or full up do with hair decoration.

Cuticles are smooth and even, hair naturally flows without kinks, showing balance and attention to detail. Where curls/waves are produced on long hair, these will be uniform and even, with points of hair having the same attention and finish as the lengths of the hair. The natural fall of the hair and possible shorter front sections or fringes, have had attention to produce a blended finish to complement the curls/waves.

For shorter hair, a curl finish should be consistent to the shape of the head. Each part of the hair will have been styled and finished using a variety of different equipment to produce different effects within the style, e.g. tighter curls at the nape and softer curls on the crown and front area to produce volume and a uniform finish.

The electrically styled finish is creative and styling demonstrates that design and technique have been used competently to maximise the appeal and longevity of the finished style.

Resources

The special resources required for this unit are: access to a real or realistic working environment which supports the provision of electrical styling and finishing services. Learners must be provided with all products, tools and equipment from the range statement. Learners must also have access to health and safety standards, manufacturers' instructions, electrical equipment, e.g. tongs of different diameters, tools and full range of products.

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 the use of products, tools and equipment
- Work experience within a commercial hair salon so they can practise 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:

UCO34M Health, safety and hygiene

Health and safety greatly underpins the present unit. Learners will be required to apply knowledge and understanding of health and safety for all areas and when providing a service in a real or realistic working environment. When handling electrical equipment, care must be taken to prevent unnecessary risk or hazard.

UHB169M Advise and consult with clients

Client consultation is integral to all hairdressing services and underpins the choice of tools, products, equipment and techniques required for electrical styling and finishing hair. Effective consultation supports the correct identification of hair classification and characteristics that affect the electrical styling and finishing service. In addition any contraindications which may prevent or affect the service taking place. Client consultation should not be established as something that only takes place at the beginning of any service, but should be on-going and used to re-confirm agreed plans and reassure the client during the service.

UHB175M Shampoo, condition and treat the hair and scalp

Hair requires shampooing and appropriate choice of conditioner or treatment prior to blow-drying and electrical styling and finishing of the hair. Learners must be able to identify the correct shampoo, conditioner or treatment for the hair and identify the hair type and condition, then use the correct products to ensure that the electrical styling and finishing results are not impaired by incorrect products or poor application, methods or rinsing. Learners must also ensure the hair is completely dry throughout before applying electrically heated equipment.

UHB172M Cut ladies hair

Cutting either by trimming and reshaping or completely restyling hair will very often precede an electrical finishing service. Hair that has been trimmed reshaped or cut into a new style once dried will require further consideration if an electrical service is to be added. Equipment and product choice must enhance and protect the hair in order to achieve and maintain the desired effect. If the cutting service has been completed by another stylist, clear communication is essential to get the best completed look and ensure full client satisfaction.

UHB171M Colour and lighten hair

Colouring and lightening hair can very often impact on how electrical finishing is carried out. Hair that has been creatively coloured will require consideration to maximise and create the desired effect from the end result. Coloured hair will require analysis to ensure that colour treatment has not caused damage or made the hair fragile and a protective product should always be used.

UHB170M Blow-dry and style hair

Blow-dry and style can be used to complete any other service that does not require a set or a natural dried effect. This service complements all other wet services providing clients with a finished dried result.

UHB174M Set and dress hair

Setting and dressing can be used to complete any other services that do not require a blow-dried or a natural dried effect. This service complements all other wet services providing clients with a longer lasting alternative finished dried result.

Graded synoptic assessment

At the end of the qualification of which this unit forms part, there will be a graded synoptic assessment which will assess the learner's ability to identify and use effectively in an integrated way an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories, and knowledge from a number of units from within the qualification. It is therefore necessary and important that units are delivered and assessed together and synoptically to prepare learners suitably for their final graded assessment.

Version	Details of amendments	Date
v5	Skin cancer awareness page added	14/06/17