PRINCIPLES OF HAIRCUTTING

- Reference points
- Area of the head
- Lines and angles
- Elevation
- Cutting line
- Guidelines
- Overdirection

REFERENCE POINTS

APEX

AREAS OF THE HEAD

Fringe (bangs area)

LINES AND ANGLES

Lines are relatives to the head

Vertical (straight out of the head)

Diagonal

Horizontal

ELEVATION

- The angle or degree at which a subsection of hair is held or elevated from the head
- Below 90 degrees builds weight
- >= 90 degrees removes weight or layers the hair
### Cutting Line
- The angle where the fingers are held when cutting, and the actual line that is being cut.
- It is also called the finger angle, finger position, cutting position, cutting angle, and shears angle.

### Guidelines: Stationary or Traveling
- Section of hair that determines length the hair will be cut
- Located at either the perimeter or the interior of the cut
- Usually the first section cut

### Overdirection
- Overdirection occurs when hair is combed away from its natural falling position.

### Client Consultation
- Face shape: front view, 3 zones
- Profile: side view
- Elements
- Principle of hair design
- Hair and scalp analysis
- 10-client consultation method

### Tools
- Shears
- Razors
- Texturizing (thinning) shears
- Clippers and edgers
- Combs

### Posture and Body Position
- Ergonomic - position the client: control the chair
- Center your weight
- Work, stay in front of the section

### Posture, Body Position and Safety
- Ergonomic - position the client: control the chair
- Center your weight
- Work, stay in front of the section
- Palm the shears and razor while combing/parting
- DO NOT cut past the second knuckle (shears)
- CAUTION: take extra care cutting around the ears and bang
- Always use razor guard
- CURLY hair: shrinks more when it dries
  - cut ½ in = cut 2 inches
Basic haircuts

- **Blunt**: one-length
- **Graduated** layered: 45°
- **Uniform layered**: 90°, all length are the same
- **Long layered**: 180°, shorter length at the top, increasingly length toward the perimeter

Cutting Techniques

- **Slide cutting**
- **Shears-over-comb**
- **Clipper-over-comb**
- **Texturizing**
  - Notching
  - Free hand notching
  - Slithering
  - Slicing
  - Carving
- **Palm to palm ergonomic**
- **Cutting over fingers**
  - uniform or increasing layered
- **Cutting under or below fingers** the layers are close to each other heavily graduated

GENERAL HAIRCUTTING TIPS

- Take consistent and clean partings.
- Extra caution with crown, neckline, bang and around ears.
- Use consistent tension.
- Pay attention to head position.
- Maintain even moisture.
- Always work with the guideline.
- Always cross-check each section
- Stand in front to check side length.
- Use mirror to identify and correct unevenness.
- Remember curly hair shrinkage; it will shrink anywhere from ½ to 2 inches.
- Maintain correct body and hand posture.

SANITATION AND DISINFECTION

- Wash hands with soap and water.
- Drape client properly.
- Maintain shears, razor properly.
- Sanitize combs, brushes, shears, clips, and other implements after each haircut.
- Replace blade in razor prior to each client.
- Discard blades in puncture-proof container
- Sanitize workstation after each haircutting service.
- Sweep up cut hair and dispose of properly before proceeding with hairstyling service.

SUMMARY

- A good haircut serves as the foundation for numerous other services.
- Understand the anatomy of the head, elevations, angles, and degrees.
- The five characteristics of hair (density, texture, wave pattern, hairlines, and growth pattern) play an important role in your ability to create a quality haircut.
- Practice proper sanitation and disinfection procedures.