



Cosmetologist

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Job Description:

Hairstylists and cosmetologists wash, cut, color, perm, and style customers' hair. Cosmetologists also apply makeup.

Wages:

Average median yearly pay is about \$24,000 a year in Utah.

Schedule: May work part or full time. May work evenings and weekends. May also be able to set their own schedule.

Education & Experience:

- ◆ Completed High School
- ◆ Complete a cosmetology or hair styling program
- ◆ Pass a licensing exam

High

School Courses:

- ◆ Cosmetology
- ◆ Safety and First Aide
- ◆ Accounting
- ◆ Entrepreneurship
- ◆ Introduction to Business



Gross Monthly Income:

\$2,000

Advancement: Hairstylists and cosmetologists start by doing simple haircuts. They work up to performing more complicated tasks, such as coloring hair or applying permanents.

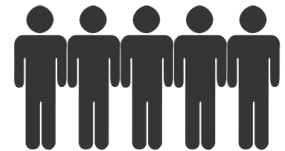
Advancement for hairstylists and cosmetologists is usually in the form of building a steady client base. A large group of loyal clients usually results in more money for workers. Hairstylists and cosmetologists may advance by becoming managers of large shops or by opening their own shops. A few may become instructors. This requires experience and teacher training. Others may become sales representatives for cosmetic firms, or work as examiners for state licensing boards.

Work Conditions:

- ◆ Have a high level of contact with customers and staff
- ◆ Sometimes deal with angry or unpleasant people.
- ◆ Are aware of moderate competitive pressures. They often rely on word-of-mouth and reputation to attract and keep clients.
- ◆ Usually are able to set all their tasks and goals for the day without consulting a supervisor. The needs of clients typically decide the necessary tasks.
- ◆ On their feet most of the day, can be physically exhausting.
- ◆ Either own their own business or work in an established shop

Travel: May work at different locations from week to week. May also work from home.

Job Outlook:



Very Large

Hours a Week:

35

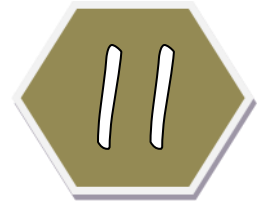
Leisure Time:

Medium

Knowledge:

- ◆ Customer & Personal Service
- ◆ English Language
- ◆ Chemistry
- ◆ Administration & management

Cosmetologist



Overview

Admit it: at some point you've had a bad hair day. Maybe your bangs were too long and just wouldn't hold their style. Or you used too much gel and now your hair is locked in place. Then there are days where your hair looks just fine, but it'd be nice to get pampered. Why not get a facial or a manicure? Pick up a new moisturizer? All these are reasons to see a hairstylist or cosmetologist. And while getting your hair styled or your nails done used to be for women only, more and more men are enjoying these services as well. We're ALL in danger of that bad hair day now!

Hairstylists greet customers when they enter the shop. They talk to customers about the style of haircut they want. They may look at pictures customers bring in or suggest new styles they learned at product shows. To begin, hairstylists drape a protective cloth around the customer's shoulders to catch the cut hair. They wash the customer's hair and may give scalp massages. In addition, they check the condition of the customer's hair and scalp. If they find a problem, stylists advise customers how to improve the health of their scalp. For contagious conditions, stylists advise customers to see a doctor. Next, stylists cut customers' hair. They use combs, scissors, and razors while cutting hair. They also use clips, curling irons, hairspray, and flat irons to style customers' hair. Sometimes stylists braid hair. They also may color or perm a customer's hair. When giving perms, hairstylists apply wave solution to hair and wind the hair on rollers. Depending on how customers want their hair colored, stylists apply the color solution to all their hair or just to select strands. Finally, hairstylists calculate the charges and accept payments from customers.

Cosmetologists provide all the services of hairstylists and more. For customers who want a makeover, cosmetologists begin by analyzing their hair and physical features. Based on their analysis, they recommend makeup and skin treatments. They may rub on facial treatments to clean and beautify the skin. Then cosmetologists use special tools to remove unwanted hair from the skin by applying small electrical currents. One use of the tool is to help shape eyebrows. Once the customer's skin is clean, cosmetologists apply makeup and explain each step of the process. Some cosmetologists clean and style wigs and hair pieces.

Hairstylists and cosmetologists must keep their work areas clean. After each customer, they sweep the floor around the chair. They also wash the combs and any other tools used on customers. In addition, they make appointments and keep records of the products their customers use. For example, they record what hair colors customers use. Some workers sell hair products or makeup supplies. Those who own or manage salons order supplies, pay bills, keep records, and hire employees.

Hairstylist and cosmetologist jobs vary depending on the size and type of salon they work in. Some salons may only do hairstyles. Larger salons may hire manicurists to do nails only and leave the rest to cosmetologists. See the occupation description "Manicurists" in CIS for more information.

Pathway:
***Skilled &
Technical Sciences***