

# NYS DEPARTMENT OF STATE - DIVISION OF LICENSING SERVICES

## BARBER PRACTICAL EXAMINATION PROCEDURAL OVERVIEW

This is only a summary of the examination procedures. For more specific examination expectations, please refer to the online *Task List for Barber Practical Examination Procedures*.

The following is a description of the examination procedures you will be asked to perform.

You will be given instructions and an announcement of the time allotment for each section of this examination. Do not start any of the procedures until instructed to do so. Talking amongst candidates is not allowed. Your test will be invalidated if your examiner observes any communication, verbal or otherwise, during the examination.

You will be performing these procedures on a mannequin; it is the examinee's responsibility to provide a mannequin that meets the examination requirements. The mannequin must have a full head of hair (any texture is permissible) with a minimum hair length of two inches and no facial hair to perform the required procedures. For examination purposes, your mannequin may be considered the same client.

Please be reminded that simulated procedures should be handled as if they were the actual procedure.

***PLEASE NOTE: Proper sanitation and disinfection procedures must be demonstrated during every aspect of this examination in accordance with New York State barbering statute and regulations and NYS COVID-19 guidelines.***

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### **PART I - PREPARATION OF WORK AREA & CLIENT (MANNEQUIN) PREPARATION (10 minutes)**

Immediately upon assignment to your work area, please begin to:

- Step 1** Remove surface disinfectant solution and related supplies from your kit and sanitize your assigned work surface following required procedures. ***Be sure to attach a plastic bag for disposables (trash) to your workstation at this time.***
- Step 2** Set up general supplies that will be used throughout your examination as well as items needed for the haircutting techniques procedure. ***Be sure to also set out your container for blood contamination at this time.***
- Step 3** Sanitize your hands and secure your mannequin to workstation with a counter-top clamp; drape your mannequin and wait for further instructions.

[After the examiner has checked your workstation, you will begin each examination procedure only when directed to do so. If deemed necessary, the exam may be administered in a different order than presented below.]

### **PART II - HAIRCUTTING TECHNIQUES (30 minutes)**

You will now demonstrate haircutting techniques. You will perform your demonstration on wet or dry hair. You will first taper the nape area of the head using a #1 or lower blade size. Remove the transitioning (weight) line using the clipper over comb technique (a single comb attachment may be used). You will then taper the side burns up to the temple using the clipper over comb technique. The Top, Back, and Sides of the head will be given a uniform haircut removing at least ½ inch of hair using finger and shear technique (if hair is coarse, a pick and shears may be used). Next, utilize your shears to perform the arching technique around ears and down neckline. Then re-drape and simulate shaving arched area using the changeable blade straight razor; an actual razor blade will not be used. Finish by using the towel wrap procedure and talcum powder to remove loose hair from the face and neck. Upon completion, step back to indicate that you have finished. Your examiner will approach you to examine your haircut. At least ½ inch of hair must be cut off for this demonstration.

- Step 1** Set up all supplies and implements necessary to complete this procedure if not already done. When instructed:
- Step 2** Comb out hair to ready for procedure (wetting it down or leaving it dry).
- Step 3** Taper the nape area using a #1 blade(s) or lower; use clipper over comb technique to taper area between nape and occipital and remove the transitioning (weight) line.
- Step 4** Cut sideburns up to the temple using clipper over comb technique, removing at least ½ inch of hair.
- Step 5** Perform a uniform cut on top of head, removing at least ½ inch of hair, using a traveling guideline from crown to forehead using finger and shears technique (in the case of coarse hair, you may opt to use a pick and shears with the freehand method but must use both clipper and shears if this method is chosen); blend top into sides and back using **shear over comb technique**.
- Step 6** Use the shear arching technique (may use shear and comb) to clearly define the natural line around the ears.
- Step 7** Remove hair clippings from cape and re-drape client (mannequin).
- Step 8** Apply shaving cream to temple area, around ears, and down the neck. Simulate shaving arched area beginning at temple and proceed to arch around ears (toward sideburn) and continue down neck using the changeable blade straight razor; an actual razor blade will not be used.
- Step 9** Remove hair clippings from client's (mannequin's) face and neck areas using towel wrap procedure and talcum powder.

### **PART III - SHAVING – FACIAL HAIR (15 minutes)**

You will simulate a standard shave using a changeable blade straight razor (a razor blade will not be used). After preparing the face, you will simulate this procedure on all fourteen shaving areas of the face (for a diagram of the shaving areas, visit: [https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/barber/shaving\\_stroke.html](https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/barber/shaving_stroke.html)).

- Step 1** Set up all supplies and implements necessary to complete this procedure if not already done. When instructed:
- Step 2** Prepare (recline) your client (mannequin) to receive procedure; apply a wet/moistened steam towel to client's (mannequin's) face for approximately 10-15 seconds. (Note: The use of lather/cream prior to the simulated steam is allowable but optional and not required; the towel will be wet/moistened using water from a spray bottle.)
- Step 3** Lubricate your client's (mannequin's) face and neck with shaving lather/cream.
- Step 4** Perform a simulated shave demonstrating free-hand stroke, back-hand stroke, and reverse free-hand stroke on appropriate shaving areas of face using your changeable blade straight razor (note: an actual razor blade will not be used).
- Step 5** Remove remaining lather from client's (mannequin's) face and neck with a wet/moistened steam towel.

#### **PART IV - FACIAL MASSAGE (10 minutes)**

You will first apply wet/moistened steam towels to the face and neck. After applying towels, you will then apply massage cream to your mannequin's face and neck to demonstrate massage manipulations. After completing a 3-5 minute massage, you will then remove the massage cream from your mannequin's face using cleansing cream and a towel. Finish by using towel wrap procedure and talcum powder to blot face dry.

- Step 1** Set up all supplies and implements necessary to complete this procedure if not already done. When instructed:
- Step 2** Simulate a steam to your client's (mannequin's) face using one or two towels.
- Step 3** Apply dabs of massage cream directly to the face and spread evenly over client's (mannequin's) face and neck.
- Step 4** Perform a 3-5 minute massage to the face and neck of your client (mannequin) demonstrating two or more massage movements.
- Step 5** Simulate a steam to your client's (mannequin's) face a second time using one or two towels.
- Step 6** Apply dabs of cleansing cream directly to the face and spread evenly over client's (mannequin's) face and neck.
- Step 7** Remove all creams/lotions from your client's (mannequin's) face and neck using a towel (warm towel simulation); replace with a towel to close pores (cool towel simulation).
- Step 8** Dry client's (mannequin's) face with a clean towel using towel wrap procedure and talcum powder.

#### **PART V - CLEAN UP OF WORK AREA (5 minutes)**

When instructed, pack up your supplies and clean up your work area. Then, wait for an examiner to dismiss you. Take all items with you (nothing should be left behind).

- Step 1** Properly store used implements for transport.
- Step 2** Clean workstation (work surface). Sweep floor area if necessary (using your own mini broom and dustpan).
- Step 3** Pack up all supplies and implements. Unless otherwise instructed, you must take your disposables bag with you.
- Step 4** Quietly exit exam upon dismissal. Do not remove your face covering (mask) until you have left the building.

**FOR MORE DETAILED EXAM INFORMATION, PLEASE REFER TO THE ONLINE  
TASK LIST FOR BARBER PRACTICAL EXAMINATION PROCEDURES.**