

Prepare for an Apprenticeship in Hairdressing and Beauty

If you are interested in Hair or Beauty via the apprenticeship route you may want to find out more about what you can do to strengthen your application. The following will help with this.

Where can I look for an Apprenticeship?

One of the first things to do is to register with the Government apprenticeship website. This will alert you to hairdressing and beauty apprenticeships happening near you. Register [here](#).

Other national apprenticeship websites to register with include:

[Notgoingtouni](#)

[Getmyfirstjob](#)

[Ratemyapprenticeship](#)

[Career Finder](#)

[Indeed](#)

You can also register with local Colleges and Training Providers in Bristol who cover Hairdressing and Beauty Apprenticeships.

[City of Bristol College](#)

[Reflections Training Academy](#)

[Springpod Bristol](#)

[Weston College](#)

Who offers Hairdressing and Beauty Apprenticeships?

It is also worth approaching any Salons that you would like to work for and asking if they are likely to take on apprentices when you are due to leave school.

You can also try national salons like

[Toni and Guy](#)

[Saks](#)

[KLEEK](#)

What should you check for?

What's the Level of apprenticeship?

Level 2 Intermediate, Level 3 Advanced, Level 4/5 Higher or Level 6 Degree

What are the entry requirements?

Will you need GCSE passes? How many? Or A-Levels or BTECs? Are there any grades and subjects needed?

What qualifications will you gain with the apprenticeship? For example, Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy Level 2

Where is the employer's location?

How will you get there - by walking, bus, train? Will you need to move and find accommodation?

What training provider or college is linked to the apprenticeship?
Where are they based and how will you get there?

What will they be looking for?

Hair and Beauty employers will look for:

- Attention to detail, what have you done that will show this?
- Active listening skills, repeating instructions to show you have heard and understood.
- Practical skills, able to work well with your hands, are you good at art, cooking, decorating, tinkering with machinery or sewing that will show your skills.
- Good customer services skills, - the ability to make your client feel at ease and know that they are important to you.
- Willingness to learn and train as this will never end with new products and techniques and fashions always changing.
- Cleanliness – salons need to be very clean and tidy at all times and employers will want staff who understands why this is important and will contribute to it.

How can I demonstrate I have the skills? How can I stand out from the crowd?

You will need an excellent CV to sell you and your skills and strengths.

For an example of a school leavers' CV see [here](#).

Look at industry websites to find out what they are discussing, for example
[National Hair and Beauty Federation](#)
[Hair and Beauty Industry Authority](#)
[British Association of Beauty Therapy and Cosmetology](#)
[Beauty Guild](#)

How can I prepare for interviews?

It will be important to turn up for your interview looking your best in terms of your hair/make-up. The interviewer will know that you are not trained yet but they will expect you to have taken care of your appearance.

Be prepared to talk about your creativity and flair. Have you got photographs that will demonstrate this, artwork you have produced, face painting you have done or anything else that you have created?

Do you read any blogs relating to hair/beauty or follow stylists on social media or find out about techniques on YouTube? Do mention this.

For general advice on interviews please see
[National Careers Service](#)
[Apprenticeships.gov](#)
[UCAS](#)

Be friendly and polite and remember to smile.

See Apprentice Hairdressers and Beauty Consultants on YouTube and find out what they think and advise.

Where can a career in Hair or Beauty take me?

Most Hairdressers/Barbers and Beauty Therapists work in Salons, perhaps in a hotel or run a mobile service. Many are self-employed. You could work in a variety of settings, including film, live music, TV, theatre and photo shoots. This can be a highly rewarding sector, especially if you enjoy interacting with people and being creative.

Anything else I should know?

Be well prepared, start your search early, and keep a list of where you have applied to. Practice interviews. Be confident in yourself.

Have a backup plan.

© FutureSmart Careers Ltd 2025