

Lecture 4: Scissors and Clippers: Scissor-over-Comb, Clipper-over-Comb and Texture

Anderson Academy | LIFE 101 B · Adult Haircuts | Extracurricular: Life Skills

4.1

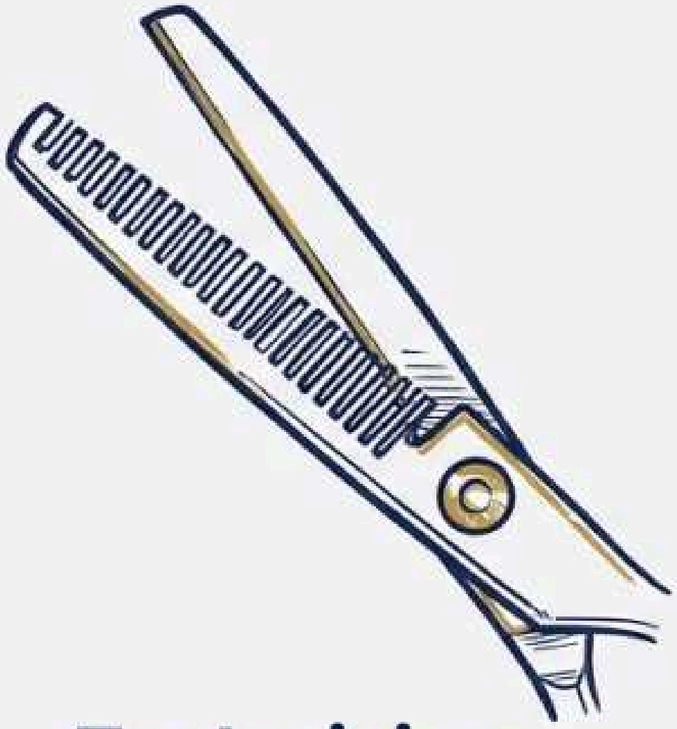
4.1



Scissors vs. Clippers?

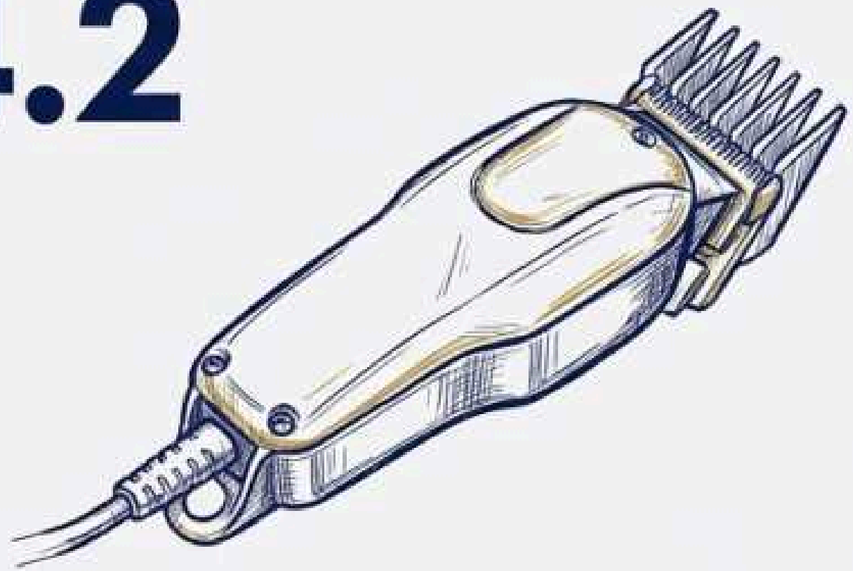


Scissor/Clipper-over-Comb?



Texturizing, thinning, and point cutting?

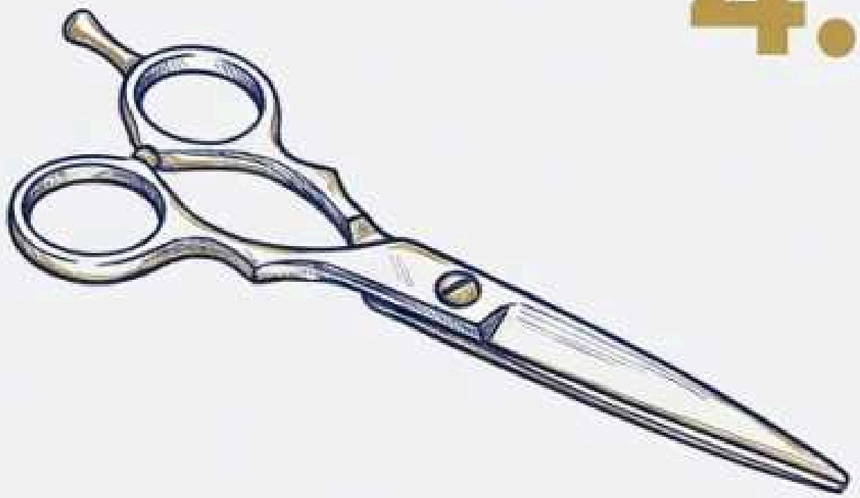
4.2



Clippers + Guards

- Quick, even length
- Follows curved surface
- Reaches about an inch

4.2



Scissors (Shears)

- Any length, any shape
- Softer, natural finish
- Follows hair direction

Combined

Used together for shaped haircuts.

4.3

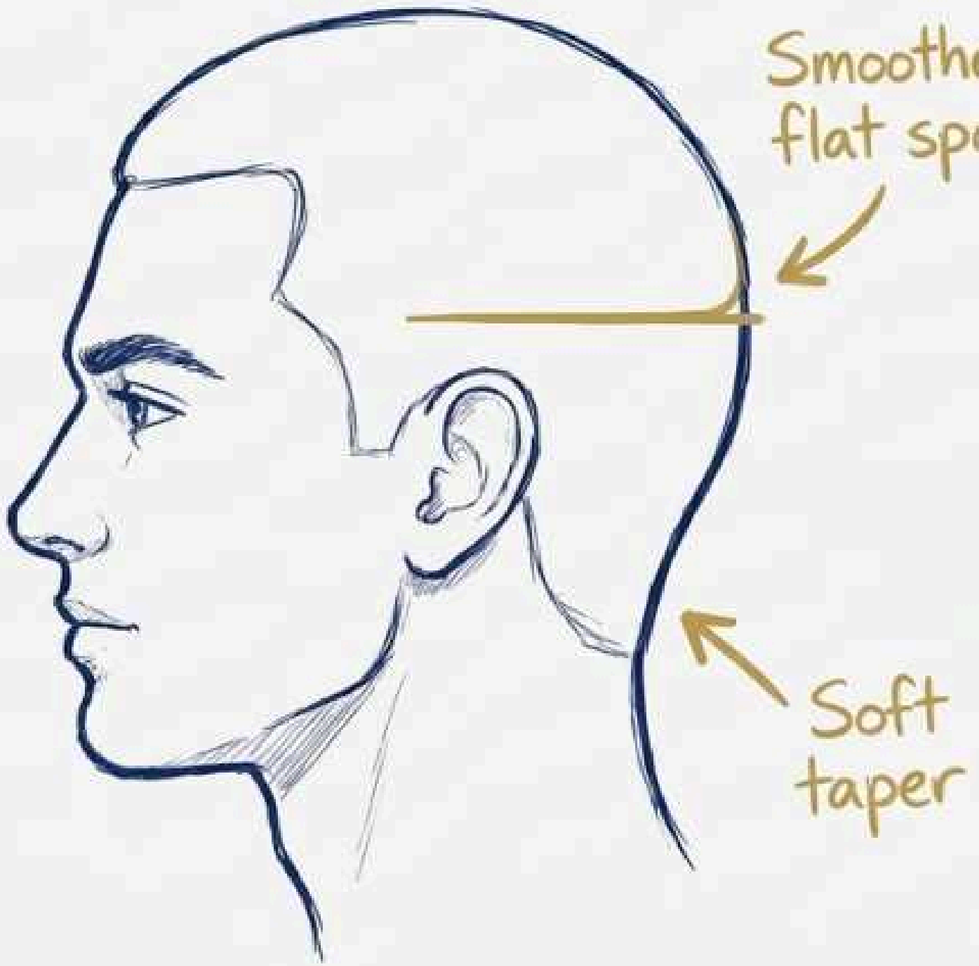
4.3



- Classic barber school technique
- Comb lifts hair / Angled away from head
- Shears move parallel to comb
- Creates a graduated side (longer toward top)

4.4

4.4



- Soft, natural taper
- Ideal for longer sides
- Avoids short guard stubble
- Shapes the head (hides flat spots)

Request: “Scissors only.”

4.5

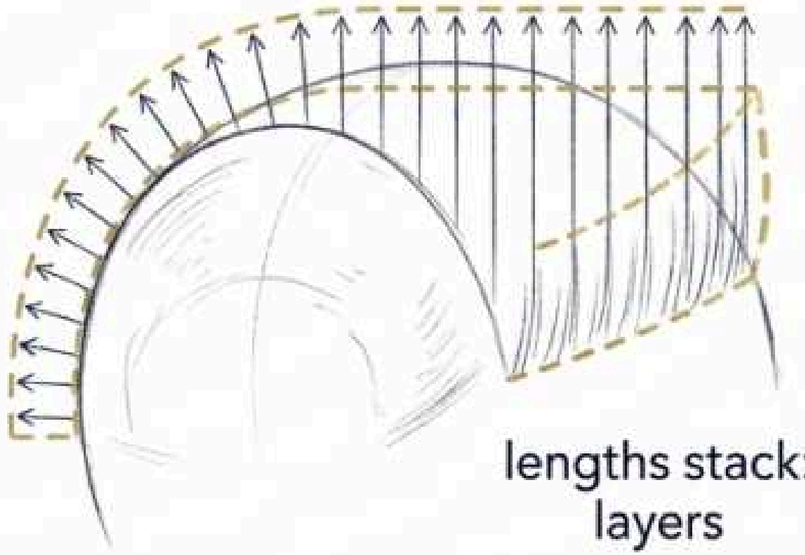
4.5



- Same concept, faster tool
- Bare clipper blade across angled comb
- Blends fade tops into scissor-cut length
- Rounds off the parietal ridge (avoids boxy shape)

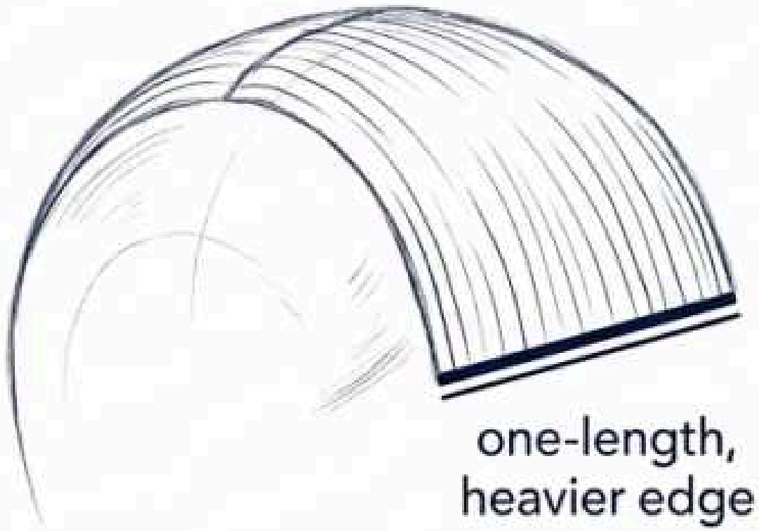
4.6

Held straight out (90°)



lengths stack:
layers

Combed down (0°)



one-length,
heavier edge

- **Fingers-and-Shear**: Main technique for the top.
- **Elevation**: Angle hair is held from the head.
- **Layers**: Hair lifted out / Lengths stack neatly.
- **Graduation**: Shorter bottom to longer top.
- **One-Length**: Combed flat / Heavy edge.

4.7

4.7

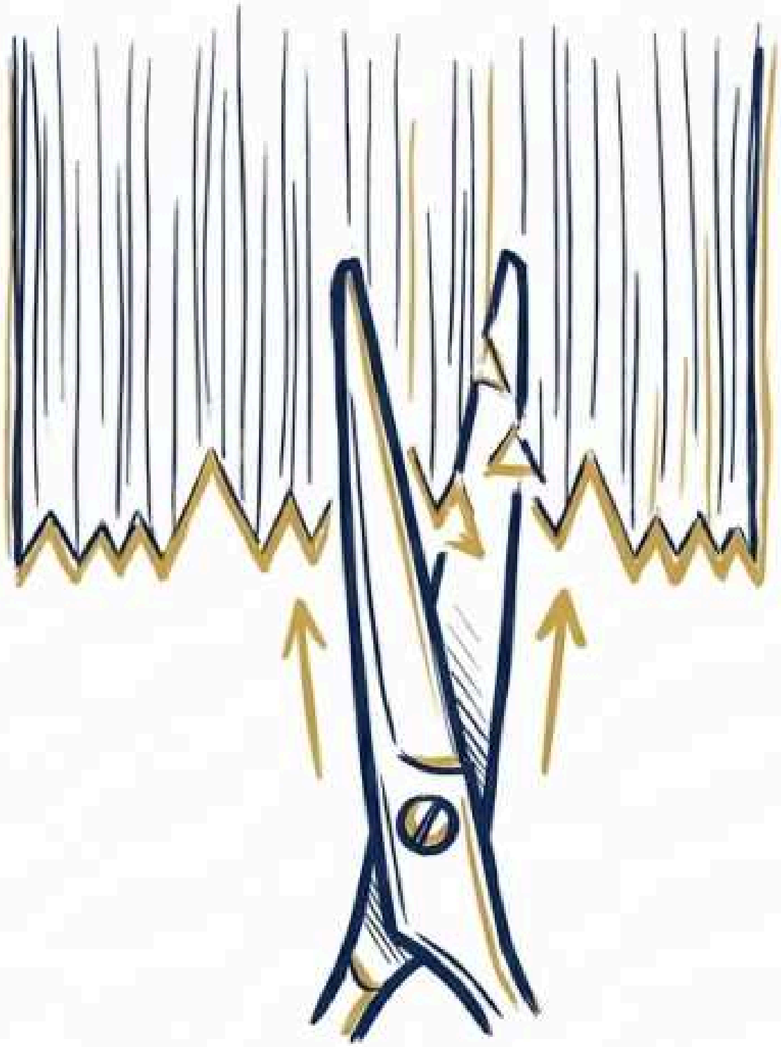




- Adjusts how ends look and sit
- Controls bulk and weight
- Cuts some hairs shorter than others
- Result: Piecey texture, not a solid block

4.8

4.8

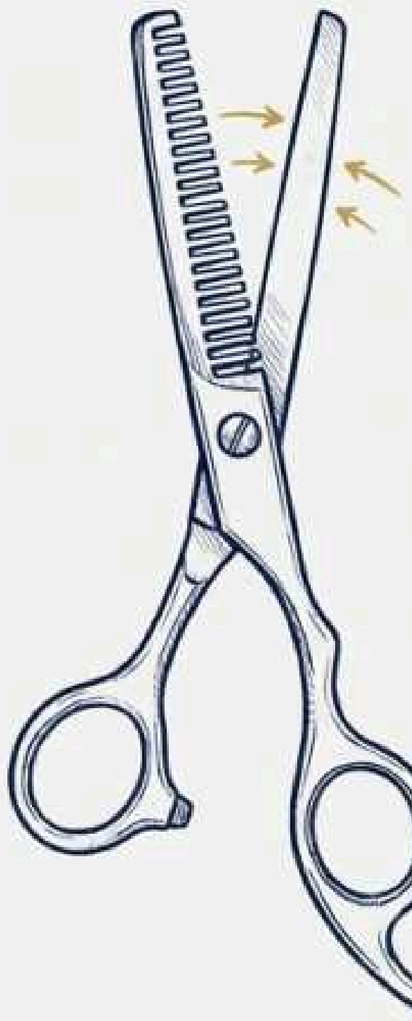


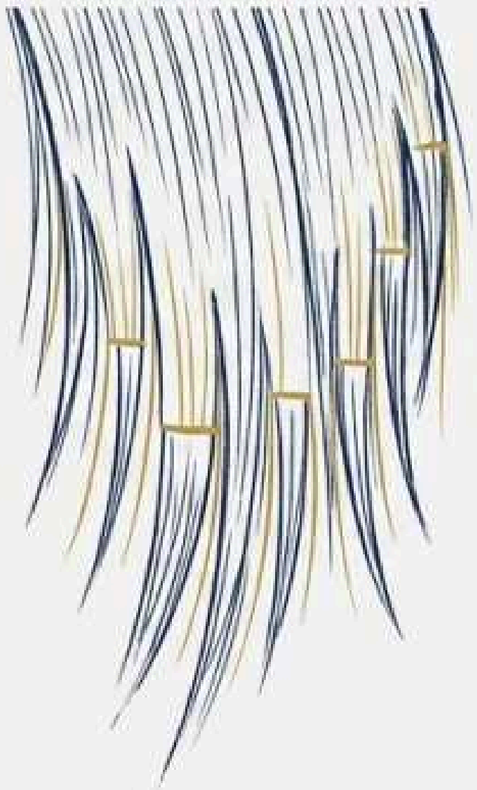
- Shear tips point into hair ends
- Snips small notches (not a straight line)
- Creates a soft, broken-up edge
- Lightens heavy fringes/tops

Request: “Softer, broken-up edge.”

4.9

4.9





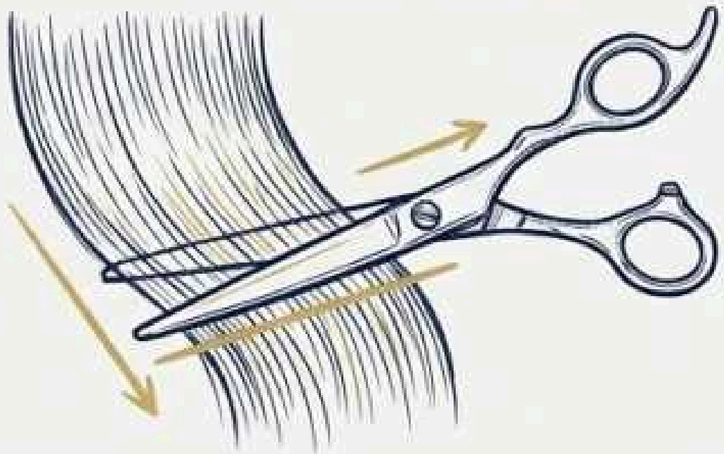
- Teeth on one or both blades
- Each cut takes only some hair
- Through the length = Removes bulk
- Near the ends = Softens lines

Warning: Over-thinning makes fine hair look sparse.

4.10

4.10

Slide Cutting



Partly open shears **glide along** hair section.

Razor Cutting



Straight razor **thins/tapers** ends.

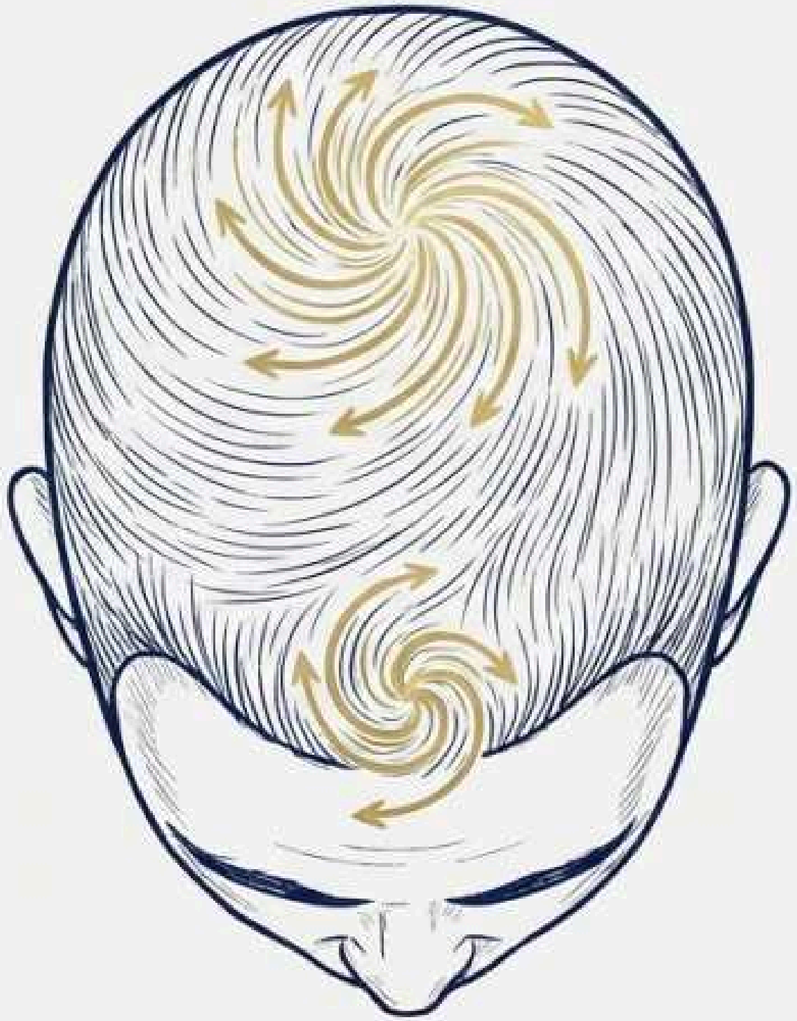
- **Soft, wispy edge on straight hair.**
- **Avoid on curly hair (can cause frizz).**

4.11

‘Add some texture’ ‘Make it piecey’	Broken, textured ends
‘Take some weight out’	Remove bulk
‘Keep it blunt’	Straight line Fuller, sharper look
! ‘Please don’t thin it out’	Crucial request for fine/thinning hair

4.12

4.12



- **Cowlick**: Swirl/patch growing in a different direction.

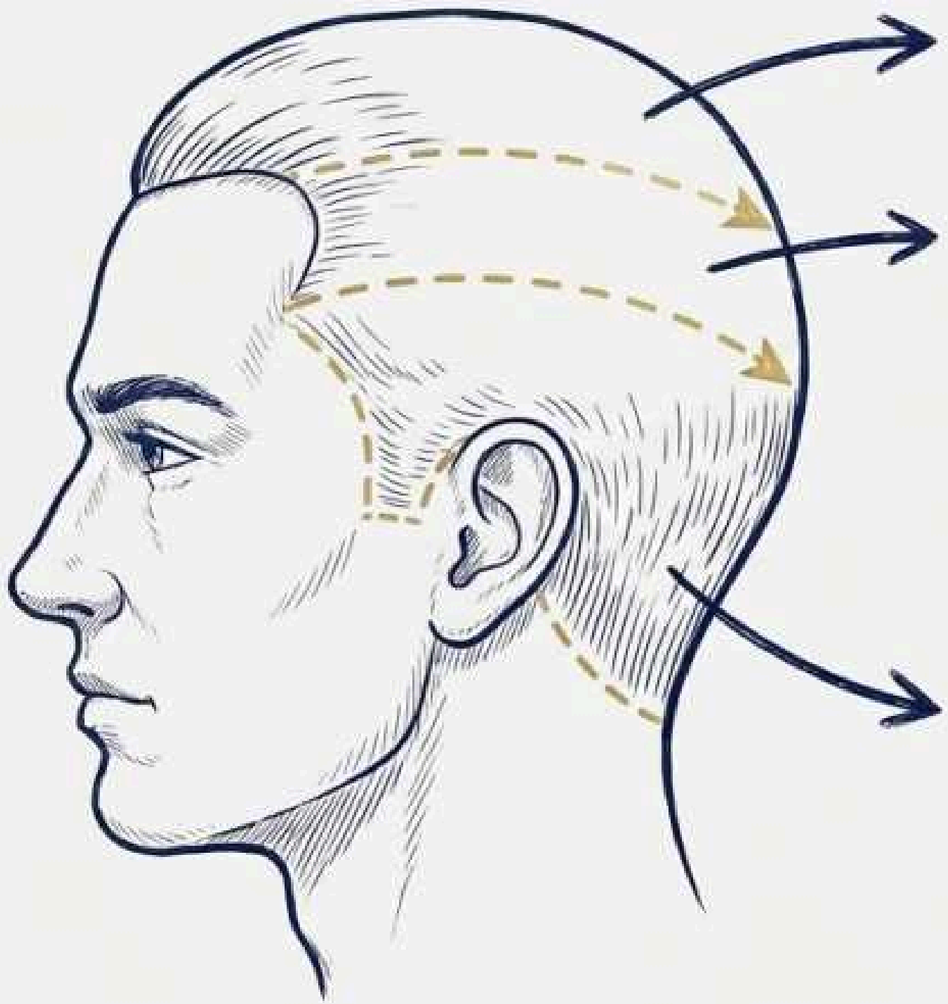
- **Cut too short** = **Stands straight up.**

- **Left longer** = **Weight holds it down.**

- **Double Crown**: Two swirls at the back.

Action: Point these out to the barber!

4.13



Modern cuts mix multiple tools.

Example (Modern):
- **Skin fade** (**clippers**) for sides.
- **Ridge blend** (**clipper-over-comb**) for the transition.
- **Top/Fringe** (**shears** & **point cutting**) for the top length.

Example (Traditional):
- **Scissor-over-comb** for the sides.
- **Clipper taper** at the neck outline.
- **Shears** on the top length.

4.14



- **Scissor work:** Often done damp, refined dry.



- **Clipper work:** Best done on dry hair.
- **Curly hair:** Often cut entirely dry to see curl placement.

Question to ask: "Do you cut it wet or dry?"

4.15

4.15 ⚓

Scissors on the sides, a natural taper at the neck, and about two inches on top with some texture.

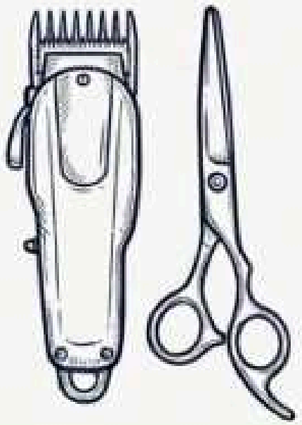
Use clipper-over-comb to blend the fade into the top, so it isn’t boxy.

Keep the top heavy and blunt; no thinning, please.

4.16

4.16

Tools



Clippers: Short, even length.

Scissors: Any length, soft finish.

Sides



Over-Comb: Shapes graduated sides.

Top



Fingers-and-Shear / Elevation: Shapes the top.

Texture



Texturizing: Controls bulk and ends (use care on fine hair).