



Instructor Guide

Razors and scissors

Topic Overview (why the topic is important to the students)

Razors and scissors are essential tools for the hair stylist, but they're also the cause of many injuries. These injuries are usually minor, but most are preventable. Safe work habits will decrease your chance of losing time from work.

Demonstration and Discussion Topics

- **Discuss** the sharp tools used by the hair stylists.
- **Tour the shop** with the students, pointing out the hazards.
- **Distribute** the student handout.
- **Use** the student handout as your discussion guide.
- **Discuss** how cuts and complications can occur.
- **Remind** students that they are required to wear protective gloves when cleaning razors and scissors.
- **Explain** what can be done in the workplace to minimize the risk of cuts from sharps (e.g., good storage, well-marked bins for dirty sharps).
- **Emphasize** that care when working with sharps is mandatory.
- **Make it real.** Tell at least two true stories of injuries from your experience or that of the crew or use these examples:
 - A hair stylist was distracted while working and cut her finger with her scissors. Although the cut was quite minor, it became infected, and she was unable to work for over a week.
 - A young worker in a hair salon slipped on hair clippings on the floor, falling against an open razor sitting on the work station counter. She suffered a long gash in the palm of her hand, requiring stitches.