



Cleaning and Disinfection Information

The Health (Hairdressers) Regulations 1980

Appliances and Equipment:

Please be advised that the Health (Hairdressers) Regulations 1980 prescribes when and how cleaning and disinfection of hairdressing equipment (brushes, clips, combs, etc) is to be carried out, as outlined below:

After use on each customer every hairdressing appliance, brush or comb shall be:

- Cleaned to remove hair and other foreign material; and
- Washed in water and detergent at a temperature of at least 43° C.

At the end of each working day, and immediately after use on a person with inflamed or suppurating skin, every hairdressing appliance, brush or comb shall be:

- Washed in water and detergent at a temperature of at least 43° C; and
- Be rendered hygienic by one of the following methods –
- Immersion in boiling water for at least five (5) minutes; or
- Exposure to confined live steam for at least five (5) minutes; or
- Immersion in a suitable disinfecting fluid for at least fifteen (15) minutes; or
- Exposure for at least fifteen (15) minutes to effective ultra-violet radiation in a type of apparatus approved by the Medical Officer of Health and subject to such conditions as to use and operation or maintenance as he/she may prescribe

After each use, shaving brushes, mugs and sponges are to be sterilised by immersing in boiling water for at least five (5) minutes.

Appliances / instruments with non-detachable parts are to have all hair removed by brushing the teeth with a clean brush, kept solely for that purpose, prior to wiping the blades with a clean cloth or clean cotton wool saturated with a disinfecting fluid.

Disinfecting Fluids:

Disinfecting fluids are to have a sterilising effect at least equal to a 70% solution of alcohol. A simple disinfecting fluid that meets the standard of this regulation is a mixture of three (3) parts methylated spirits to one part water.

The Supplier of any commercially prepared disinfectant, sold for such use in a hairdressing premises, should be able to provide evidence (from the manufacturer) that it meets/complies to the standard required by these regulations.

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