

# Haircutting Home

The complete guide to making great looking haircuts at home Also includes instructional DVD with 12 contemporary hairstyles



### A Guide to Get Started Cutting Hair at Home

Congratulations. You've taken the first step on the road to savings. With this guide, you'll learn the skills necessary to achieving a worry-free home haircut any style, any time. You are not alone in searching for a how-to guide. Nearly 135,000 people a day scour the internet for information and guides on how to cut hair.

You might be surprised to know that over 40 percent of U.S. households already enjoy the benefits of home haircutting. Many are individuals or families running a mile a minute, looking for ways to cut back in terms of time and money.

Many people think they do not have the skills or the know how to give a great looking haircut. Rest assured, haircutting is a skill most people can achieve utilizing an electric clipper with an easy-to-use system of guide combs. In fact, by starting with simple trimming around the ears and neckline and then expanding to new techniques, a person may become comfortable with haircutting by the end of his or her first try. Need a reason to give it a try?

In just a few haircuts, you will have already saved enough money for the clipper to pay for itself. Once you're comfortable using a clipper, the savings just keep coming. The average family of four can save up to \$500 a year by cutting hair at home or trimming between professional cuts.

Savings and benefits abound:

- Save time
- Save money
- Establish opportunities to spend precious time with the family
- Take the opportunity to be fun, creative and express yourself
- Achieve the satisfaction of helping friends and family look their best
- Provide confidence throughout the day with a great looking haircut

With more than 90 years of experience, Wahl has developed this how-to-guide to get people over the hump and start cutting hair at home today.

WAHL Where the world goes to look good®

# **Table of Contents**

Page 1
Page 3
Page 7
Page 11
Page 13
Page 17
Page 21
Page 25
Page 29
Page 33
Page 37
Page 41
Page 45
Page 47
Page 48
Page 49



# WAHL Introduction to Hair Cutting

Cutting hair is both a skill and an art. The technical ability to cut hair is a skill you can develop, and the ability to envision and create stylish looks is an art you can learn.

The art comes from visualizing the "look" you want before you begin cutting the hair. The best place to start is by looking at haircuts around you whether it is friends, family, or fashion magazines. Take a mental snapshot, and imagine how the cut would look on the haircut subject. Don't be afraid to try a new style; there is always the opportunity to go shorter.

A vision and roadmap to achieve the cut is your starting point, but following the tips and techniques outlined in this guide will help you quickly develop the skills necessary to provide a great looking haircut. Remember it takes a few times to reach a comfort level, so practice and start simply. As the old adage goes, "Practice makes perfect."

By the end of this quide, you'll have learned the tips and techniques to accomplish eight haircuts currently in voque. Some are trendy, more popular styles and others are classics that have stood the test of time. No matter which hairstyle you want to provide, we will show you the steps necessary to make it a success.

Once you've practiced the various haircutting methods, your skill should grow. When you have mastered the basics of haircutting, you will feel more comfortable to develop your own style and specialty.

Good luck!



### Basic Tools for a Successful Haircut

### Wahl Clipper Corporation manufacturers several models of clippers. They include:



#### Chrome Pro™

The Wahl Chrome Pro Complete Haircutting Kit includes Comfort Grip™ for easy handling, adjustable taper control, and Wahl exclusive accessories. You'll have all the tools you need to get that barbershop look at home.



### Clip-N-Trim®

The Wahl Clip-N-Trim Complete Haircutting Kit makes haircuts as easy as 1-2-3! Clip-N-Trim is the only clipper with a built-in detail trimmer for use on sideburns, necklines, and around the ears. The detail trimmer blade is narrower and cuts twice as close as standard clipper blades.



#### Color Pro®

The Wahl Color Pro Color-Coded Haircutting Kit makes it easy to remember the sizes of guide combs that give you the perfect look. Just remember your color. With ten combs, the Color Pro lets you create the look you want, when you want, and from the convenience of your home.



#### Groom Pro™

The Wahl Groom Pro Head & Total Body Grooming Kit is all you need to achieve and maintain your look. The Groom Pro is great for short styles and touch-ups on sideburns and necklines. You can even use it for total body grooming. With Wahl Groom Pro, you'll be amazed at how easy it is to cut hair at home.



#### Home Pro®

The Wahl Home Pro Haircutting Kit gives you all the tools you need to achieve the perfect home haircut! The high-carbon steel blade is designed to stay sharp through many haircuts. In addition, the Home Pro comes with detachable guide combs that allow you to vary the length of cut.

### Haircutting Kits Usually Include:

Clipper
Guide Combs
Styling Comb
Scissors
Cape
Hair Clips
Lubricating Oil
Brush for cleaning the Clipper
Storage Case

### Capes

Some haircutting kits include a cape. The cape helps keep hair off the clothes and skin of the person receiving the haircut. Put the cape around the person's neck, fasten it, and begin cutting.

### Additional Equipment / Supplies

Styling Gel or Mousse Hair Dryer (optional) Styling or Hair Spray

For many haircuts, you will need a spray bottle of water for wetting the hair periodically throughout the haircut.



### Basic Tools for a Successful Haircut

#### **Guide Combs**

Guide combs help you cut hair to a desired length by keeping the blade at an appropriate distance from the skin. Most guide combs are numbered and list the length of the hair after a pass of the comb. If you are new to haircutting, remember to select a guide comb that will leave the hair longer than needed. You can always change to a shorter guide comb and re-cut the hair if it is too long.



#### Color-Coded Guide Combs

Some haircutting clipper kits come with color-coded guide combs. These guide combs make it easy to select the appropriate guide comb for each member of your family.



These larger guide combs are available at: www.wahlhaircuts.com



(31mm)



The number 10 guide comb leaves hair about 1 1/4" long while the number 12 guide comb leaves the hair about 11/2". Both work well for people in your family who like longer hair.

# Tips and Techniques These techniques will help you to successfully cut hair in your own home.



Combing or Brushing the Hair Before you cut and from time to time as you cut, be sure to comb the hair and check for the hair's natural response in order to see how the hair falls into place.

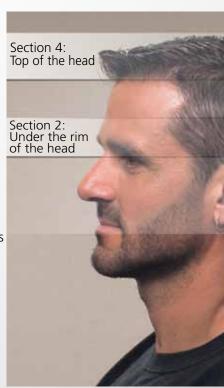
# Visualizing Your Haircut When you cut hair, you should visualize the head as if it were

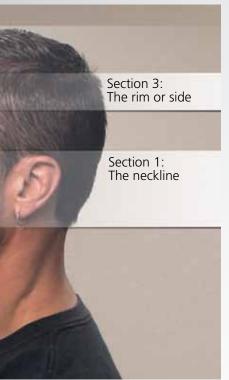
divided into four sections.

We will refer to this diagram throughout the book to help clarify various techniques used by our stylists. Using proper techniques when moving from one section to the next will help you blend the sections together for professional looking results.

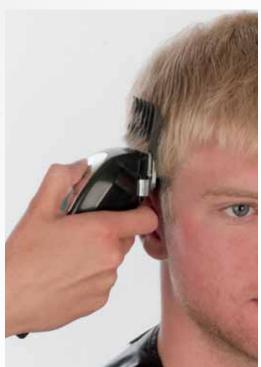


Dampening the Hair Some hair cuts work better if you spray the hair lightly with water. The dampness helps you see the natural fall of the hair and makes cutting wavy or curly hair easier.





Rocking Motion When you want to blend from one section to the next, you will need to practice moving the clipper in an upward rocking motion. This motion will leave the hair slightly longer where the clipper pulls away from the scalp, enabling you to blend between the sections and achieve a smooth transition from one length of hair to the next. This technique will enhance the appearance of your haircuts.



# Tips and Techniques



**Inverted Clipper Technique** 

This technique requires that you turn the clipper upside down so that the blade is facing downward. Hold the clipper in your hand as if it is a thick pencil, and touch the blade to the skin. This technique will help you clean up the hairline at the nape of the neck, around the ears, and the sideburns

Using the Taper Lever The taper lever adds versatility to your clipper by allowing you to gradually change the closeness of your cut. The lever in the "Up" position is the closest cut and the

lever in the "Down" position is the longest cut. Should your blades become jammed with hair, move the taper lever up and down sev-eral times. This action will help free up the blades.

Using the Appropriate Guide Comb When purchasing a haircutting kit, look for a wide variety of guide combs. The number of guide combs vary from kit to kit. If you don't have a desired comb in your kit, it may be purchased on-line. When you begin cutting, start with a guide comb that will leave the hair longer than you might want. This will prevent cutting the hair too short. If you make a mistake, you can switch to a smaller guide comb and correct your cut.



Clipper-Over-Fingers Technique For longer hair lengths, use your fingers to lift the hair to the desired length away from the head, and use the clipper to cut the hair along the fingers. As you continue, you should include a small amount of the previously cut hair to use as a guide to help you maintain the proper length.



### Clipper-Over-Comb Technique Comb the hair upward from the back or toward you

from the front, and stop before the hair leaves the comb.

Run the clipper across the comb, cutting the hair to the appropriate length.



### Scissors-Over-Comb

Comb the hair out from the head, and use the scissors over the comb to trim the hair evenly.



# Pick Your Style



**Business Cut** 



Caesar Cut



Faux Hawk



**Fade Cut** 

Visualize the "look" you want before you begin cutting hair. Look at fashion magazines or department store catalogs to find an appropriate haircut, and imagine how it would look on you.









Self-Cut

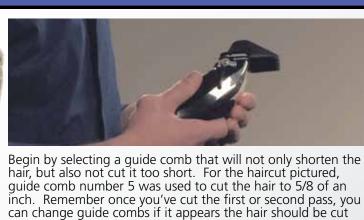
**Crew Cut** 

Flip & Switch

**Long Blunt Cut** 

# **Business Cut**

A conservative look, the Business Cut is popular with working professionals. The hair is cut with a taper on the sides and back. Enough hair is left on top to part and comb to the side or brush back from the forehead.



shorter.

Tools Needed for this Haircut





The first cut you make should be in front of the ear, moving from section 1, through section 2, to section 3. Using the rocking motion (pg. 8), you will be able to blend these areas so that the transition from one area to the next is smooth.



Next, use a number 8 guide comb to cut the top of the head. Start in the front, combing the hair first to see how the hair falls. Then, use small strokes, rolling the clipper away from the head until you have removed the desired bulk.

# **Business Cut**

In order to blend section 4 with section 3, you can apply the clipper-over-comb technique (pg. 10). After you have run the comb upward in the area that needs to be blended, you roll the comb, and lift the hair outward from the scalp. You then run the clipper across the comb in order to blend the sections.





Clean up the neckline and around the ears using either a trimmer or the inverted clipper technique (pg. 9).



Finally, you can customize the look by using your favorite styling product. The result is a neat and clean haircut for work or school.

# Caesar Cut

The Caesar Cut is a short, straight cut named after Julius Caesar. The hair is cut to a short to medium length and is generally layered from one to three inches in length.





Dampen the hair and comb it out. This will help you determine how much hair you need to remove. Select the appropriate guide comb, perhaps a number 2, to cut the hair to 1/4 inches. However, you may want to begin with a larger guide comb and then go shorter if there is a need.

Tools Needed for this Haircut









Start in front of the right ear, and cut the hair in sections 1, 2, and 3. Be sure to cut the hair at the nape of the neck.





Next, blend the hair from section 3 to section 4. Move the clippers straight up to blend section 3 and section 4.

### Caesar Cut

To cut the hair in section 4, hold the hair straight up, and use a technique you are comfortable with such as clipper-overscissors or clipper-over-fingers to shorten the hair (pg. 10). Cut the hair on top of the head from front to back, but do not cut the bangs yet. This approach will help keep the hair even.





Finally, comb the bangs down, and trim them so that they are even and straight across the forehead.



Using scissors on top of the head adds a texturized look to the haircut.



In order to complete the look, trim the sideburns, around the ears, and neckline using a trimmer or the inverted clipper technique (pg. 9).



To finish the haircut, use styling gel. A Caesar Cut is a low maintenance cut and good for busy lifestyles.

Faux Hawk is a great cut for those wanting a trendy, young look. It is a basic tapered haircut with the hair styled longer on top of the head.





Begin in front of the ear, blending sections 1 and 2 as you move around the head.



When working over the ears, bend them down and out of the way, so you can easily cut the hair.

### Faux Hawk



Continue cutting the hair at the nape of the neck. Cut up to section 3, but do not cut the Faux Hawk section on top of the head.



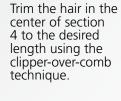
Cut the left and right sides of section 4 to the desired length, leaving the center long. It will be cut later.



Blend section 3 into section 4 using the rocking motion (pg. 8) or the clipper-over-comb technique (pg. 10).



Before cutting the Faux Hawk area, trim around the ears using the inverted clipper technique (pg. 9). To clean up the neckline and cut a sharp line, use a trimmer or the inverted clipper technique.







Then, push or comb the hair up and out from the head.



Take your preferred styling product, such as mouse or gel, and apply it to the center section of the haircut. Generally, you'll want the hair to stand up, creating the illusion of much longer hair on the top of the head.

### Fade Cut

The Fade Cut is a tight taper from the nape of the neck, through section 3. Hair at the sides and back is cut close with clippers, and the hair "fades" or tapers to the top, which is usually kept short.





Using the taper lever, start in section 1 with the blade in its closest position. This will allow you to create a balding look (pg. 8).

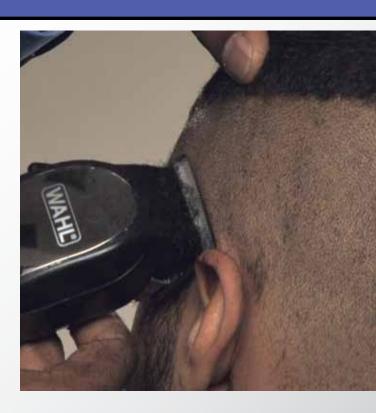
Working from the bottom up, use the upward rocking motion to cut section 2. Continue using this technique on the back of the head, following through to the other side.



Then place guide comb number 1 on the clipper with the taper level in the closest position, and remove the bulk of the hair from sections 3 and 4.

# Fade Cut

While cutting over the ear, pull the skin taut. This will help create a closer cut. You can clean up any areas by running the clipper over the scalp with the taper lever in the closest position.





Next, choose a longer guide comb and use a rocking motion to blend sections 1, 2, and 3 with the longer section 4. Be sure to run the back of the blades directly on the scalp.

Clean up the whorl area (cowlick) by cutting in the opposite direction of growth. The cowlick lays in a swirl pattern usually at the crown, but it can be found in numerous places on the head.

The whorl area can be blended on the Fade Cut using the clipper-overcomb technique (pg. 10), or by using a larger guide comb.

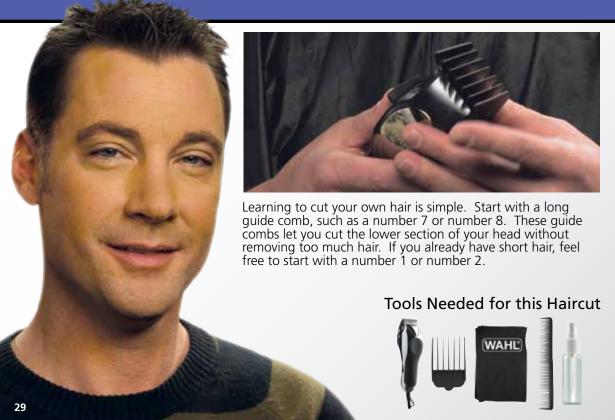


Finish this great look with the styling product of your choice.



Self-Cut

This haircut can be anything you want from a Business Cut to a Spiky Cut. The fun part is learning how to do it yourself.





Cut upward from section 1 through sections 2 and 3.

Continue cutting around your head using the rocking motion (pg. 8). The rocking motion helps blend the sections of hair for a smooth and even haircut.





Once you feel comfortable cutting with this long guide comb, you can cut hair shorter by using a lower numbered guide comb.

You are now ready to cut the top of your head. Select the appropriate guide comb for your hair style, and start cutting from the front.



# Self Cut

For instance, use a number 6 for a contemporary Business Cut or a number 2 for a sporty Buzz Cut.

Cut section 4 from the forehead to the crown.

If you notice any cut lines between sections, use the guide comb you used on the lower section to blend the sections.





To remove more bulk from behind the ears, use the left ear tapered guide comb. Start behind the ear and arch the clippers around the ear for a clean line, repeating the steps on the right side using the right ear tapered guide comb.



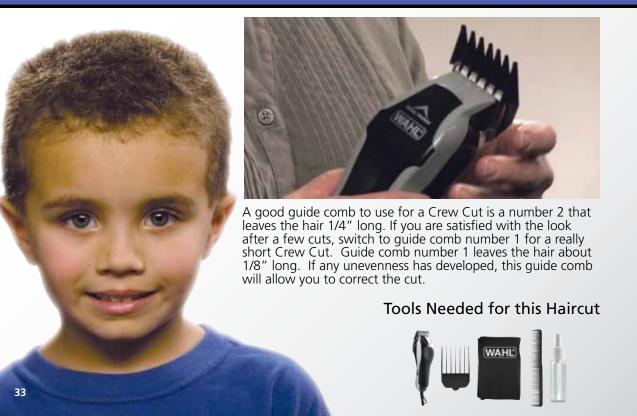
Then, clean up your sideburns and the back of your neck using a trimmer or the inverted clipper technique (pg. 9).



Finish this great look with the styling product of your choice.

### Crew Cut

Sections 1 and 2 are cut very short in the Crew Cut. The hair on top is graduated in length and generally conforms to the shape of the head.





Starting at section 1, the base of the neck, take the clippers and cut up to, but not into, section 4. Do this around the entire head.



Then, put the clippers at a slight tilt to help ease the ridge between the section 3 and section 4. Keeping the angle straight, move the clippers horizontally around the head. This process should be repeated until the sides fade into the top.

# Crew Cut

If you want the haircut to be slightly longer on top, you might want to change to a longer guide comb, such as number 2.



Next cut the top of the head, section 4, from front to back. Continue to cut the rest of the hair in the same manner until all the hair on the top of the head is the same length.





Continue to cut the hair on top in this same manner until all the hair on the top of the head is the same length.

Cut opposite the direction of growth in the whorl area or cowlick. Then, run the clippers in the other direction for a great cut. This section must be blended or the whorl area will be noticeable.





Trim the neck and around the ears using a trimmer or the inverted clipper technique (pg. 9).

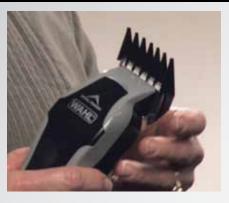
Add styling gel to finish the haircut.

It's a great cut for those who want little maintenance and are always on the go.

# Flip & Switch

First made popular in the 60's, the Flip and Switch Cut has made a comeback. This haircut is very popular with both young men and teenagers.





Select a guide comb that will leave the hair long, such as a number 10 or number 12.



Start cutting in front of the ear.



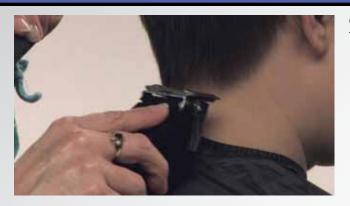
Using the rocking motion (pg. 8), work your way around the entire head. Blend sections 1, 2, and 3 as you go.

# Flip & Switch

Use the clipper-over-finger (shown) technique to cut the hair in section 4 to the desired length. Cut the bangs last.

Use the clipper-over-comb technique (pg. 10) to blend sections 3 and 4.





Clean up around the ears and the neckline with a timmer or the inverted clipper technique (pg. 9).

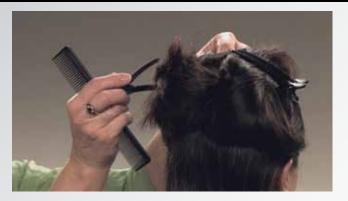


When this haircut is finished, the hair on the sides should brush the top of the ears, and hair on the back of the head should be left long. The bangs are long and combed to the side of the forehead, with the eyes peeking out underneath the hair.

# Woman's Blunt Cut

A woman's haircut that is all one length is called a Blunt Cut, and it can be almost any length.





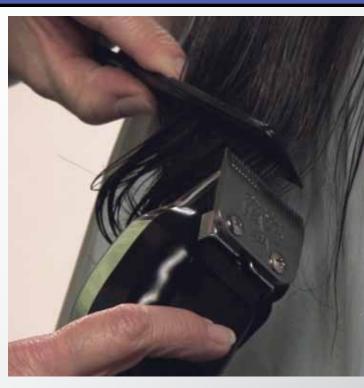
Section the hair into as many layers as necessary to work on the first layer. Using the long clips, hold the hair away from the first layer, so you can trim it.

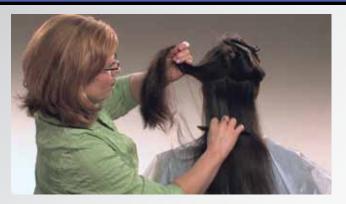


Moisten and comb the first layer of hair until it is smooth and without tangles.

## Woman's Blunt Cut

Continue to comb the hair. As you reach the end of the hair, roll the comb away from the neck, and with the clipper inverted, swipe across the comb. Continue cutting horizontally until you have cut the entire first layer.







Release the next layer of hair from the clip and trim it to match the length of the first layer. Use the clipper-over-finger technique to blend the layers.

Work from either side toward the center and then on to the other side, combing the hair to determine the natural fall and checking length and balance.

When you need to cut a straight line, stand directly facing the section you are cutting. This will enable you to see a straight line.

Make sure the person's head is vertical. If she leans right or left and you fail to notice, the Blunt Cut will be uneven.

Have the person getting the haircut tuck her chin under. It helps keep the hair on the nape stay shorter than the top or outer layer.

Finish the cut by checking how the hair falls around the face, and even out the sides if necessary.

# Clean-up and Maintenance

### Cleaning the Clipper Every clipper kit comes with a

small brush you can use to clean hair from the blades and the body of the clipper.



Oiling the Clipper The blades of your clipper should be oiled before and after every haircut. Oil is a clipper blade coolant and lubricates the moving parts. With regular use, it promotes longer life for your clipper.

First, remove any hair that may be sticking to the blade. Then, while the motor is running, place a few drops of oil on the teeth of the blades and allow the clipper to run for a few seconds. Move the taper lever up and down a few times. This will help lubricate the blades. Then, wipe off any excess oil

with a towel. The oil will lubricate the blades, help maintain the blade's sharpness longer, and make haircutting smoother.

WAHL

TOTAL

Use oil specified for use on hair clippers and trimmers, or use Wahl Clipper Oil, which comes with every Wahl Clipper Kit, or is sold separately. It's a high quality oil formulated for your clipper and will not evaporate or leave a gummy residue that could slow down the cutting blades.

You can also clean, lubricate and cool your clipper with Wahl's Total Care Spray.





#### **Power Screw**

Your clipper was adjusted when it was manufactured for peak efficiency.

However, if the voltage in your house is different, you may need to adjust your clipper. On the side of the clipper you'll find a power screw to adjust the clipper's power setting. Turn on the clipper and using a screwdriver or a small coin, turn the screw clockwise until you hear a buzzing noise. Then turn the screw counterclockwise until the noise stops. When the noise stops, you have reached the maximum power setting for the voltage in your home.

#### Aligning the Clipper Blades

The blades are aligned at the factory when they are manufactured.

However, it is possible that you may need to adjust them to their original specification if the cutting becomes uneven.

The clipper has two blades; one moves and the other is stationary. The moving blade is the small top blade, and the stationary blade is the larger bottom blade.

#### To check alignment of the blades, follow these steps:

If your clipper has a taper lever, position the lever in the up or close cut position. Check that the tips of the top blade teeth are one-thirty-second of an inch below the tips of the bottom blade. If the blade teeth are too close, the moving top blade may touch the skin.

The farthest left-hand tooth of the top blade must cover or be to the left, of the first small tooth of the bottom blade. Finally, check that the right-hand tooth of the top blade is touching the big tooth on the bottom blade.

If, through these tests, you find the blade alignment is incorrect then follow this procedure: Add a few drops of oil to the blades, and run the clipper for a few moments. Turn off the clipper and unplug it.

Loosen the blade screw slightly, and adjust the blades to the required measurements. Finally, tighten the screws once the blade is aligned.

Always wipe your clipper off after you've finished using it.



# WAHL Conclusion

By now, you've seen that home-haircutting is not only practical, but it can also be fun. Being able to assist your family and friends to look their best is a wonderful skill.

We've shown you various haircuts you can achieve with your clipper, and you have learned about the supplies and equipment needed to complete your haircutting arsenal.

You've even been shown basic haircutting techniques, essential for that perfect haircut. The tips and techniques in this book are sure to help you out as you perfect your art. Last but not least, you've seen eight contemporary hair styles that you are going to want to try on your friends and family. Wahl is here, now and in the future, to help you create hair styles that will be popular with your family and friends. With your Wahl Clipper Kit and this book, you can help them achieve a professional cut and style.

It is now time to pick up your clipper and start cutting hair. Talk with your friends and family and let them know that you're ready to help them look great.



Enjoy the challenge, and just remember that haircutting with a Wahl Clipper Kit is both an art and a skill

### Look for these other quality Wahl products



The #1 Pet Clipper



First Full Line of Therapeutic Massagers



World's First No Compromise Shaver



First Lithium Ion Trimmer



First Lithium Ion Clipper



# **About Wahl Clipper Corporation**



For more than 90 years, Wahl Clipper Corporation has developed and manufactured the world's most innovative and trusted brand of hair clippers and other personal grooming products.

It all began when Leo J. Wahl first experimented with developing vibrating electromagnetic motors in 1911 while he was a junior in high school. Years later, on October 14, 1919, that vision came to fruition when Wahl applied for patents on his newly developed electromagnetic hair clipper. Production began at the Wahl Manufacturing Company in Sterling, Illinois, first serving barbershops in the Midwest and years later, expanding globally.



49

#### Wahl Clipper Corporation's accomplishments along the way include:

- Expansion of the product line to include additional clippers and other products for hair salons in the 1940s
- Introduction of the world's first cordless hair clipper using Wahl's rechargeable battery technology in 1967
- Released a line of back and foot massagers in 1975
- Introduced the world to a hygienic, battery-operated nose and brow trimmer in 1977
- Developed the world's first cordless beard and mustache trimmers in 1977
- Worked with NASA in 2004 to certify a Wahl clipper for use on the International Space Station
- Wahl Unveiled the first facial hair grooming tool to harness the power of lithium ion technology In 2009

Currently, Wahl operates manufacturing facilities on three continents with sales offices around the world. There are more than 2,000 people employed by Wahl worldwide in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, England, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Japan, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Spain, and the United States. With worldwide influence and American ingenuity, it's easy to see why every day, in 165 countries, people are turning to Wahl to look and feel good.



Where the world goes to look good®



# Home Haircutting

or short hair. . .Wahl makes it all easy! easily apply them to a wide variety of hairstyles. Long Learn the basic techniques the pro's use and how to





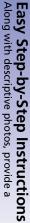
# Intro to Haircutting

steps in getting you started with Our book takes you through the simple haircutting at home.

# **Fips and Techniques**

job done right. And have fun doing it! Learn tips and techniques to help you get the





women and kids. variety of hairstyles for men,





MORE HAIRSTYLES TO CHOOSE FROM DVD INCLUDED STEP-BY-STEP WITH EVEN



@2011 Wahl Clipper Corporation part no. 90059-100 PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Visit us at www.wahlhaircuts.com

The Brand Used By Professionals

