

DIANA THE HUNTER
ADONIS

GETTING SNIPPY

Scissors, clippers,
and razors—oh
my! The newest
hair-shaping tools
will keep your
creations a cut
above the rest.
—Jeryl E. Spear

JAGUAR JAPAN "KAMIYU" 5.75

RUSK SWIVEL DELTA 5.5



BELSON SHEAR TECHNOLOGY
YOSAN COMFORT GRIP SHEARS




FAN OUT FHTF 500



CENTRIX V2 5.75



VIDAL SASSOON VS 5"



You can chip it, snip it, slice it and buzz it. But you can't cut artfully without the best tools. The array of hair shapers is both dazzling and mind-boggling. What to choose? What to use? According to our cutting pros, that all depends on your cutting personality and how far you dare to go with your skills.

Perhaps Nick Arrojo, owner of the Arrojo Studio in New York and Wella special creative artist, says it best. "Advancing your skills by using different tools is a natural extension of your growth as a hairstylist. But tools can never define how skilled you are as an artist. Tools simply help you to express your knowledge and creativity."

No one can argue with that piece of advice, but dang, the steely arsenal that winks at every stylist passing by is more than daunting; it's downright heart-stopping. A stellar tool to most stylists is like a new Ferrari to a racing buff. How many do you have? One? Two? A whole drawer full? If you're hankering to spread your cutting wings—or simply lusting for your next big purchase—read on. Have we got the tools for you!

Shear Madness

Do you dry cut? Is point cutting your bag? Do you have a penchant for slicing long, wispy locks? For every cutting technique there is a tool that will precisely meet your needs.

Not-So-Standard Issue

Unless you're a purist who strictly adheres to a single cutting system that dictates the use of a specific scissor, the standard 5½-inch to 6-inch blade—thick, thin or loaded with extras—is your main squeeze when cutting behind the chair. No matter which model fits your fancy, it's the tool that you think of first—and rely on most—when working your brand of magic on clients' hair.

Which scissor model is best for your needs depends on who you are as a cutter. "I look for balance and smooth cutting action in scissors," says Martyn Duff, North America creative director for Sassoon. "They need to feel weightless, become one with my hand and have a pointed tip for detail work." Duff also notes that the thumb ring must be snug enough to prevent slippage, yet free enough to allow his thumb to deftly move for flawless control. Says Duff, "If the ring causes the side of your thumb to develop a callus, it's a sure sign that your scissors are a poor fit."

CENTRIX TEXTURE V2-39

MEHAZ ONYX 6.0
CHUNKER

Pattern Making

Choppy bobs. Notched bangs. Softly textured ends. Texture scissors provide endless opportunities to imprint plenty of personality into your cuts. Unlike the free-wielding purists who shape every piece by hand, stylists who use texture scissors can create distinct patterns in the hair with a single snip of the blades. And whether you crave uniform chunkiness or consistently fine tapering on the ends, texture scissors can rock the cut while showing off some real sleight of hand. To get the biggest bang for your buck, look for texture shears with teeth that are hollow ground (provides an exceptionally sharp cutting edge), hand-finished (for smoothness), and don't have the least bit of resistance when opening and closing the blades.

KARG 8-TOOTH
TEXTURE SHEAR

FAN OUT FSS-302MC

RUSK ALPHA
SHEAR

JAGUAR
JAPAN WISPER
TEXTURIZER

INFRASHINE
REDLINE PRO T16

MEHAZ SHIZUKA 930T

DIANA THE HUNTER
THINNING SHEAR

SAKURA RZ6021

Texture

Dry Cutting

SHARK FIN "HISAKI" SWIVEL



SHARK FIN "HISAKI" 70R LONG



FAN OUT FMF450C



FEATHER SWITCH BLADE SHEARS



KARG K-LONG



CENTRIX V2 500



MEHAZ ONYX 6.0" SWIVEL SHEAR



INFRASHINE 550



WASHI ZEBRA TITANIUM R AINBOW SWIVEL



WASHI 3 HOLE DOUBLE SWIVEL



Swivel

Hold the Water

No soggy strands here. Dry cutting has become the method of the moment for many elite cutters who want to see the finished cut as they move through the hair. "For our dry-cutting technique, we use a very light scissor with a 4½- to 5-inch blade," says Dwight Miller, legendary cutting maestro and founder of the new V L V T (pronounced Velvet) Academies in Savannah, Georgia; Toronto; Rome; and Seoul. "Anything longer or heavier would dampen our ability to create intricate texturing and tapering movements—two techniques we use to form seamless blending throughout the shape."

How does Miller describe his perfect scissors? "Our method of dry cutting involves feeling, as well as seeing the hair," he notes. "We can only do this by using a small, delicate scissor." Why the *feel* aspect? Miller explains, "Without being able to feel your work, cutting becomes mechanical and the style will not have the fluidity that a dry-cutting method should create."

Revolving Rings

When it comes to smooth moves, even Shakira couldn't swivel her hips like these sexy new tools. Moving with your thumb, and mirroring your every cutting movement, flexible, swivel thumb rings are raising the bar on scissor ergonomics by relieving thumb and wrist strain. One bit of advice? You've got to cut with your thumb and not your whole hand—a basic movement that separates solid stylists from the wannabes, no matter which type of scissors you're using. Another tip? These moving objects require a perfect-fitting thumb ring for ultimate control.

clippers & trimmers

OSTER
SOLARIS CLIPPER

ANDIS POWER
FADE CLIPPER

BELSON
PROFILER "P"
CLIPPER SET

FORFEX BABYLISS
PRO CLIPPER

HOT TOOLS
CLIP AND
GROOM
CLIPPER/
TRIMMER/
DETAILER

OSTER SPIRIT
CLIPPER

CHI PRO
CERAMIC CLIPPER

MAGIC IONIC
DIGITAL
CLIPPER

HAIELITE DIGI CLIPPERS

ANDIS POWERTRIM
CLIPPER/TRIMMER

FORFEX BABYLISS PRO
CORD/CORDLESS TRIMMER

On the Edge

A short cut is never finished until the perimeter is shaped into sharp angles or round edges and all the hair below the cut line has been trimmed to the nub. But as any stylist can attest, dull, rough blades or a trimmer that refuses to snip stray hairs short enough to make the cut look neat and clean, can ruin your work. To garner the best results and avoid scrapes and scratches on the back of the neck caused by poorly made tools, check out these hot trimmers that are on the lips and in the hands of top-notch stylists around the world.

OSTER O BABY
CLIPPER/TRIMMER
PLATINUM EDITION

ANDIS T-LIGHT
TRIMMER

EURO X-TRIM
HAIR/BEARD
TRIMMER

Razors

Cutting on the Razor's Edge

Creating everything from standard bobs to flipped-out 'dos, razor cutting has returned to the beauty industry with a vengeance. Unlike the days when stylists used razors to simply texture the ends or transform a head full of boxy hair extensions into a believable mane, razor cutting is now being recognized as an art that's on a par with scissor cutting. This has led to a flood of new tools in the marketplace, including those with ergonomic features, ultrasound and heat technologies, and yes, even a resurgence of the old-fashioned straight-edge razor—newly fashioned, of course.

Style wonder Vivienne Mackinder claims she has never laid down her razor, preferring to use it "for creating soft texture and a feather-like feel to the hair," she relates. "I can create an interior and exterior shape simultaneously with the razor, which is quicker and more effective than using scissors. I was trained by the masters in this area. When used correctly, razoring is like dancing through the hair."

1. RETRO TWO-IN-ONE RAZOR
2. FHI HEAT WIRELESS HEAT RAZOR
3. PAUL MITCHELL T.D.S. TWIST BY DONALD SCOTT
4. PAUL MITCHELL CARVING COMB BY DONALD SCOTT
5. JAGUAR RAZE RAZOR
6. SSR BY JOSH B
7. ERGO JPT HOT RAZOR
8. BELSON PRODUCTS VIBRA STYLE VIBRATING HEAT RAZOR
9. MARILYN KALIENTE WI-FI HEAT RAZOR
10. CENTRIX ROTORAZOR
11. DIANA THE HUNTER **SHARP 21**
12. **FEATHER STYLING RAZOR**
13. **ARROJO RAZOR**
14. **KARG K-360 SUPER STYLING RAZOR**



ARROJO DVDS
BASIC AND **ADVANCED**
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