

What next?

Qualifications

Thorough training is essential for today's competitive market and National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs), or Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) are qualifications about work, based upon standards developed by industry and commerce. They are about raising the standard of people's competence. That means training more people to a high level so that they can produce good quality products and services.

NVQ/SVQs are placed in a framework of four levels starting with an introduction at Level 1, through to the essential skills required for basic beauty therapy, nails and spa at Level 2 to the more technical skills at Level 3 and the manager at Level 4 and above. There are specific standards at NVQ/SVQ Level 3 for Beauty Therapy, Spa Therapy and Nail Services. On completion of these levels, therapists can move on to a Higher National Certificate or Diploma (HNC/D) qualification a Foundation Degree or Honours Degree.

Guidance and advice

Where can I go to get free guidance and advice?

You can visit the Habia website for the latest guidance and advice on careers in the beauty therapy industry.

www.habia.org

Careers Offices

Staff at Careers Offices provide information and advice on training opportunities in their region. They provide young people with information on the opportunities available to them, helping them to choose the right career. Careers Offices contain leaflets from

Apprenticeships

Taking an Apprenticeship in Beauty Therapy means learning while you are employed in the salon. As well as taking NVQ/SVQs for Level 2 and/or Level 3 to become qualified in beauty therapy, you will also cover key or core skills that are important for a successful career. However, if the results of your GCSEs, Standard or Higher grades are sufficiently high enough, you do not have to take the key/core skills. Some Apprentices will also study for a technical certificate, which is an additional vocational qualification. All apprentices can learn the Information Technology skills that will be needed by all beauty therapists in salons in the future.

Apprenticeship programmes in Nail Services and Spa Therapy are also available.

The learning programmes for Apprenticeships will vary, depending on where you study, so check the Habia website for the latest information and developments.

particular employers and training organisations, they also hold information about job vacancies.

Training providers

Local training providers can provide careers advice and information regarding suitable training courses available.

learndirect

'learndirect' provides impartial advice on careers, learning programmes and courses nationwide. learndirect can be contacted on freephone 0800 100 900 or www.learndirect.co.uk

	Careers Office	Contact
England	Connexions	www.connexions-direct.com Telephone: 080 800 13 2 19
Wales	Careers Wales	www.careerswales.com Telephone : 02920 906700
Scotland	Careers Scotland	www.careers-scotland.org.uk Telephone: 0845 850 2502
Northern Ireland	Career Service Support Unit (CSSU)	www.delni.gov.uk Telephone: 028 9044 1784

standards • information • solutions

Habia is the government approved standards setting body for African-Caribbean hairdressing, barbering, beauty therapy, hairdressing, nail and spa, and creates the standards that form the basis of all qualifications including NVQs, Apprenticeships and codes of practice.

A central point of contact for information, we provide guidance on careers, business development, legislation, salon safety, equal opportunities, and are responsible to government on industry issues such as training and skills.

We also raise the profile of our industries through the press and media, and are the first port of call for organisations such as the BBC, Channel 4 and Sky TV on news items and background information.

As a not-for-profit organisation, everything you spend with Habia is invested back into your industry.

To find out how we can help you, contact us at:

Habia also delivers solutions direct to:

salons - to help them understand complex legislation such as health & safety and employment law, improve client retention and raise business performance;

employees - to gain the skills that employers need to stay up-to-date with client demand and the latest techniques, equipment and products, and using NVQs;

trainers - to deliver qualifications with training support manuals, and to create successful teaching programmes that cover induction and initial assessment;

learners - by offering books and teaching guides directly related to their studies, and by providing advice on career paths and qualifications.



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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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A career in Beauty Therapy

What makes a good Beauty Therapist?

To become a beauty therapist you will need to have a unique combination of skills and you will also require a great deal of training. You will also have to possess an almost unrivalled level of ability in a vast array of skills.

You will have to be an excellent communicator. Not only with your friends and the people you know well, but with people from every age group, social background, ethnic origin, occupation and gender.

- You should have a good degree of artistic skill and flair
- You will have to learn basic rules of chemistry, physics, human anatomy, physiology and mathematics
- You will need to have a high degree of physical stamina
- You should be highly dextrous
- Your personality should be vibrant, sparkling, strong and interesting
- You should be diplomatic, sympathetic and have the ability to listen and communicate well
- You will have to be prepared to undertake a long initial training and then continue to develop your skills by learning new techniques throughout your working life.

To find all these qualities in a single individual is very difficult. That is why good beauty therapists are unique and unique skills should be rewarded. The pay while training may be low, but it is often enhanced with tips and gratuities from clients and will be increased further by commission earned through selling retail products to clients. Beauty therapists in top salons and those who progress to management positions or run their own salons will earn even more.

In addition, as a qualified beauty therapist with further training and experience, there are opportunities to diversify into other beauty related occupations. Some are in teaching and training, which attract high salaries and benefits.

Job satisfaction is a payment that can never be quantified. You'll be working in a fast-moving, ever-changing industry. Beauty therapists love their work and gain enormous pleasure working with the public to enhance their appearance and well-being. As a beauty therapist, you have skills that will ensure job mobility within salons, spas and health farms in this country, on board cruise liners and in international holiday resorts that span the world.

Beauty therapy is an industry that will be here forever and has an amazing product. But, most importantly in today's society, with job losses and failing industries, the product that beauty therapists produce and the skills they have will never go away.

A career in Beauty Therapy

What does a Beauty Therapist do?

A beauty therapist provides treatments and services to enhance a client's appearance as well as improving their well-being. Some of the treatments, for example body massage, will aid relaxation and help to relieve the stress of busy lives. Some beauty therapists will offer treatments such as manicure, pedicure, make up, waxing and lash and brow treatments. Those with higher level qualifications provide electro-therapy treatments to improve body tone and shape and provide epilation treatments for permanent hair removal.

The Beauty Therapy Industry - Facts

There are over 7,500 beauty therapy salons in the UK plus over 5,400 hairdressing salons offering beauty therapy treatments. The beauty therapy industry is becoming increasingly diverse. The number of nail bars and spas is growing, offering the beauty therapist more opportunities to expand their skills and knowledge.

Career ladder - Beauty Therapy

