

Profile: *Alexis Scott*

**International WorldSkills Bronze Medalist —
London 2011**

**Qualified Hairdresser; Lecturer; Industry Mentor
and Competition Judge**

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?

WOW! *where do I start.* Being a Hairdresser is the most amazing job in the World. I love every aspect of it, the creativity, the buzz of a busy salon, the adrenalin of competition hairdressing, the thrill of runway shows and of course the instant reward when your client leaves loving their new hair and you see their smile as they leave the salon. There truly is nothing else I would rather do.

CAREER HIGHLIGHT:

My career highlights so far have been -

2007 - **Silver Medal** - State WorldSkills competition.

2008 - **Silver Medal** - State and National WorldSkills competitions.

2009 - **Gold Medal** - State and National WorldSkills competitions.

Winner of 25 IHS awards

2010 - **Gold Medal** - State and National WorldSkills competitions.

Traveling to Paris for training for international competition in 2011.

2011 - **Bronze Medal** International WorldSkills in Hairdressing—London.

and Winning Australia's first international medal in Hairdressing.

Selected for the Gen-next Team - Hair Expo Australia.

2012 - Becoming a judge for the National WorldSkills competition.

I have learnt that with hard work, determination and the motivation to become the best that you can, you will achieve anything that you put your mind to. These are moments I will cherish forever.

MOST USEFUL SKILL ACQUIRED:

Being able to communicate and listen well to your clients and also having the ability to always be open to learning something new. Being able to constantly push yourself and to think outside the box.

STUDY/TRAINING:

Certificate III in Hairdressing. Traveled to London, Paris and Sydney for specialist training in preparation for the WorldSkills International competition in London, England. I have also been to Japan and Korea to learn more about hairdressing.

CHECKING ON COURSES

Some courses are clearly promoted as being based on a training package, but others are not. To find out whether a course is based on a training package, you can contact the training provider and ask. Obtain any written course information you can from the training provider. You could contact them to request an information pack, and/or check their website.

- *Check this information to see if it makes it clear that the course will lead to a **Nationally Recognised Qualification** or **Statement of Attainment**.*
- *Make sure that the organisation is a registered training organisation for the relevant qualifications or units of competency.*

To find more information, visit: www.training.gov.au



Choose a Career in

Hairdressing



*a popular and dynamic
career choice!*

..... Hairdressing

Why consider Hairdressing

A career in Hairdressing has many different prospects and can also open the door to a busy social life. You need to be good with your hands and willing to learn new skills. A fair degree of creativity is required, as are good customer service skills.

Really successful Hairdressers can take their pick from the many top jobs, preparing models for the catwalk, joining the team of a magazine for a fashion shoot or tending the hair of the rich and famous. Career choices include Salon Assistant, Hairdresser, Session Stylist and Salon Manager.

What are the career opportunities?

Key services provided by Hairdressers include haircutting, hair design, hair colouring and chemical work. The vast majority of businesses provide a full range of services to both male and female clients, however there are some salons that choose to exclusively offer a limited range of services as their core business activity.

On completion of formal training, many operators are choosing a specialist pathway such as colourist or stylist. This allows the operator to maintain a high level of skills in a service area where fashion and technology are constantly changing.

Some career choices for you in Hairdressing could be:

SALON ASSISTANT

Salon Assistants are competent in communicating and interacting with and providing service to the clients. They also assist their colleagues and perform routine functions under supervision.

A Salon Assistant also acts in reception, making appointments and answering the phone.

Salon Assistants may perform the following tasks:

- ◆ Greet and prepare clients for salon services
- ◆ Communicate in the workplace
- ◆ Conduct financial transactions
- ◆ Perform shampoo and basin services and dry hair to shape
- ◆ Rinse and neutralize chemically restructured hair
- ◆ Perform head, neck and shoulder massage

HAIRDRESSERS

Hairdressers may be employed in women's, men's or unisex salons. They spend most of the day on their feet and are usually required to work flexible hours to fit in with salon hours of business. They have a high level of public contact, so need to be well presented with good communication skills.

Hairdressers may perform the following tasks:

- ◆ Consult with clients to discuss their requirements
- ◆ Shampoo, condition and rinse hair
- ◆ Cut hair using clippers, scissors or razors
- ◆ Provide services such as bleaching, conditioning, permanent waving, straightening and tinting
- ◆ Dry and style hair using brushes, combs and other equipment
- ◆ Advise clients on hair care and other equipment
- ◆ Perform reception duties such as answering telephone calls and making appointments
- ◆ Sell retail products
- ◆ Compile client records
- ◆ Clean the salon, work areas and equipment.

HAIRDRESSING MANAGERS

Hairdressing Salon Managers are responsible for the operation of the salon in areas such as leading and managing staff, managing the business plan and finances, and maintaining customer relations. They also deal with suppliers and other business related contacts.

Many Hairdressing Salon Managers are also senior hairdressers who cut and style hair and perform a range of chemical treatments on hair such as colouring, straightening and perming. They require a combination of skills drawing on their creativity and their business skills.

SESSION STYLIST

A Hairdressing Session Stylist may perform the following tasks:

- ◆ Work with other professionals such as fashion designers, photographers, photographic stylists, models and session stylist teams
- ◆ Consult with a team on a creative brief or fashion story
- ◆ Interpret a creative brief to develop final hair designs
- ◆ Negotiate a contract
- ◆ Shampoo, condition and rinse hair
- ◆ Cut hair using clippers, scissors or razors
- ◆ Create hair designs combining colouring, straightening, curling or volumising effects, and a range of design finishes
- ◆ Use wigs, hairpieces and ornaments in hair designs
- ◆ Dry and style hair using brushes, combs and other equipment
- ◆ Provide services such as bleaching, conditioning, permanent waving, straightening and tinting
- ◆ Attend hairdressing seminars in order to keep abreast of new products and techniques
- ◆ Maintain a portfolio showing their work

What training do you need?

Hairdressing is a trade qualification in Western Australia, which means that there are formal requirements to become a qualified hairdresser.

Certificate II in Hairdressing

Is designed as a pre-vocational qualification, for people entering the Industry as Salon Assistants. It covers dealing with clients, washing hair, selling products and maintaining the workplace.

Certificate III in Hairdressing

The Certificate III in Hairdressing is the standard requirement to work as a qualified hairdresser in W.A. and is only available through an Apprenticeship.

It includes cutting, styling, colouring hair, chemical treatments and consulting with clients.

Certificate IV in Hairdressing (Post Trade)

Is designed for qualified hairdressers who want to develop their skills further in a range of more specialised hairdressing and beauty services, and to develop skills in supervision.

Diploma of Hairdressing Salon Management

Is designed for those who are interested in managing and/or owning their own salon.

Graduate Certificate - Creative Leadership (Post Trade)

This qualification reflects the role of individuals who apply specialised knowledge and skills in determining and leading the future hair design directions to the hairdressing industry.

The job roles include creative or artistic directors who work for larger hairdressing organisations, a hairdressing products company or independently as a freelance session stylist. Individuals in these job roles provide technical and creative leadership, training and support to colleagues and the industry at a national/international level.