OPENING A SALON CHECKLIST



STEP 1: PLAN & ESTABLISH YOUR BUSINESS (6-12 months before opening)

- Select a name & business legal structure
- Develop your business plan, financial projections & budget
- Develop business branding, logo & identity
- Obtain your cosmetology license (if applicable)
- Obtain a federal employer ID number
- Obtain a state tax ID
- Open a company bank account
- Choose a website domain name & register it
- Research local zoning to locate areas with proper zoning for salons
- Choose a location for your salon & sign a lease/purchase space

STEP 2a: OPERATIONAL SETUP (4-8 months before opening)

- Research inspection requirements, local codes & regulations for your area
- Research, interview & hire plumbers, electricians & handymen
- □ Create salon layout & design plan
- □ Map out electrical & plumbing
- □ Apply for business licenses & building permits

STEP 2b: OPERATIONAL SETUP (4-8 months before opening)

- □ Arrange any needed financing
- Obtain business insurance coverage
- Contact utility providers (power, security, water, waste, etc.)
- Choose a phone & internet provider
- □ Choose suppliers for wet goods & consumables
- Choose a credit card processing company
- Purchase point of sale equipment
- Purchase computers & appointment-booking software
- Purchase & set up accounting & record-keeping software
- Purchase business cards
- Purchase outdoor & indoor signage

STEP 3: PURCHASING YOUR EQUIPMENT (3-6 months before opening)

Note: Start purchasing these items 8 - 12 weeks before your grand opening day. You'll want to give yourself plenty of time to get shampoo bowls plumbed in, electrical finalized, etc.

- □ Salon Styling Chair
- □ All-Purpose Reclining Chair
- Stylist Cutting Stool
- Salon Chair Mat
 - SALON STATIONS

- □ Salon Styling Station
- Double-Sided Styling Station
- Portable Styling Station
- □ Tool Appliance Holders
- □ Utility Carts & Trolleys
- Utility Trays

- DRYERS/STEAMERS/HAIR PROCESSORS
- Dryer Unit: Hooded or Wall-Mount
- Dryer Chair
- □ Wheel Set for Box Dryer
- □ Hair Steamers
- □ Hair Color Processors
- □ Blow Dryers & Flat Irons
- RECEPTION AREA
- □ Reception Desk
- □ Reception Seating
- □ Retail Product Display
- □ Magazine Rack

SHAMPOO AREA Shampoo Backwash Units Shampoo Wall-Mount Bowls Shampoo Chairs Shampoo Area Cabinetry & Storage Shampoo Bowl Hair Trap Hair Color Bar	SKINCARE & SPA EQUIPMENT Facial Machines & Map Lamps Facial & Massage Beds Spray Tan Machines & Equipment Trolley, Carts, Trays Multifunctional Skincare Machines Wax Warmer
MANICURE & PEDICURE Pedicure Chair Pedicure Technician Stool Pedicure Technician Cart Manicure Table Manicure Technician Chair Manicure Customer Chair	ACCESSORIES Stools & Task Chairs Utility Carts Utility Trays Salon Lighting Hair Vacuum Child Booster Seat/Bar Shampoo Towels
BARBER EQUIPMENT Barber Chair Barber Station Barber Pole Hot Towel Warmer Sanitizer	

STEP 4: ESTABLISH CULTURE & HIRE EMPLOYEES (2-4 months before opening)

- Develop a mission statement & core values
- □ Create a list of all needed positions
- □ Create staff training plan
- $\hfill\square$ Post jobs listings for employees
- □ Interview & hire employees
- Purchase employee welcome gift/and or apparel
- $\hfill\square$ Schedule & train staff on salon processes

STEP 5: Installing Equipment & Inspection (6-8 weeks before opening)

- □ Schedule delivery of salon equipment directly with carrier
- □ Schedule plumbing install
- □ Schedule furniture assembly & install
- □ Schedule electrical install
- □ Schedule inspection

STEP 6: Get the Word Out (6-12 weeks before opening)

- Develop & launch website
- Develop a marketing strategy
- □ Create social media accounts
- Subscribe to industry magazines
- □ Join trade associations
- Post flyers in local businesses
- Reach out to local publications for grand opening announcement

STEP 7: FINISHING TOUCHES (2-4 weeks before opening)

- Finalize your grand opening event & send out invitations
- □ Set open & close hours
- □ Set up retail displays
- □ Test all electrical outlets
- □ Clean, Clean, Clean!

DON'T FORGET!

- Wall art
- □ Waste bins
- □ Cash register & safe
- Appointment books
- □ Cleaning products
- □ Bathroom supplies
- Outside door mats

STEP 7: FINISHING TOUCHES (2-4 weeks before opening) \square Outside door mats Magazines for customers Laundry supplies \square First aid kit \square Stationary, envelopes, stamps \square Pencils, pens Salon music system Flowers for grand opening \square STEP 8: OPENING DAY Open the Salon of your dreams! \square

Need More Expert Guidance? We're Here to Help!

Opening a salon is exciting, but you don't have to do it alone. Give us a call to speak with one of our design consultants—we'll help you navigate every step, from layout planning to choosing the right equipment. With 88 years of experience, we know this process like the back of our hands and are here to make your dream salon a reality!

