

Salon Services

BARBICIDE



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Barbicide is a clear blue solution often used to disinfect hairdressing and barbering equipment such as combs, brushes and scissors. It is a quaternary ammonium product that Health Canada categorizes as a low-level disinfectant.

Proper uses of Barbicide:

1. CLEAN TOOLS BEFORE USING BARBICIDE

A dirty tool cannot be properly disinfected. Placing a soiled item (e.g. comb with hair strands) in a container filled with Barbicide will not disinfect the item - it will only contaminate the solution and all other items placed in it.

ALL tools must be thoroughly cleaned with soap/detergent, scrubbed with a brush then rinsed with potable water BEFORE placing them in the Barbicide solution.

2. PUT BARBICIDE BY THE SINK

Put the Barbicide container next to the sink rather than the workstation. This will make it easier to wash items first before disinfecting with Barbicide.

3. FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions about:

- Proper dilution
- How often it needs to be changed
- The amount of time the disinfectant must remain on the surface of the instrument

4. CHECK EXPIRY DATE

Check the expiry date of the Barbicide to ensure the product has not expired.

I want to disinfect...	Can I use Barbicide?
NON-CRITICAL TOOLS (Tools that come in contact with intact skin. Some non-critical tools require an intermediate level of disinfection after cleaning.)	YES - Only after cleaning.
Can include: - combs and brushes - hair rollers - instruments for razoring/feathering hair	YES - Only after cleaning.
Clippers Scissors	YES - Only if they have NOT nicked the skin. If skin is nicked, the item must be treated as a semi-critical tool.
SEMI-CRITICAL TOOLS (Tools that may come in contact with blood or body fluids or accidentally penetrate body surfaces.)	NO - Can use an intermediate to high-level disinfectant after cleaning (See Table 2, pg. 47 of Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Personal Services Settings).
Can include: "Crochet hooks" for cap highlights	NO - May scratch the scalp. Can use an intermediate to high-level disinfectant after cleaning.
Straight razors	NO - Generally not recommended for use, cleaning sharps are hazardous to the worker. Can use an intermediate to high-level disinfectant after cleaning.
Tweezers <i>Nail Service equipment and instruments</i>	NO - Can use an intermediate to high-level disinfectant after cleaning (See Table 2 pg. 47 of Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Personal Services Settings).
CRITICAL TOOLS (Instruments that are intended to penetrate the skin.)	No - Sterilization of item after thorough cleaning (please see table 3 pg. 49 of the Best Practices document).