

3rd February 2020 – Career of the Week

Beauty Therapist

Provide face and body treatments to help clients' look and feel better.

National Careers Service

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk



Entry Requirements

You can get into this job through a college course, an apprenticeship, working towards this role, specialist courses run by private training providers

College

You could study for a Level 2 or 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy.

Entry requirements - You'll usually need:

- 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course

Apprenticeship

You can do an intermediate or advanced apprenticeship in beauty therapy.

Entry requirements - You'll usually need:

- some GCSEs, usually including English and maths, or equivalent, for an intermediate apprenticeship
- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

Work

You could start out as a beauty therapy assistant in a salon or spa. You could then study for a qualification on the job.

Other routes

You could also train with a private beauty school.

More information

Professional and industry bodies

You may find it useful to get professional recognition by joining a register like the [Register of Beauty Professionals](#).

Further information

You can find out more about careers in beauty therapy from the [Hairdressing and Beauty Industry Authority](#) and the [British Association of Beauty Therapy and Cosmetology](#).

What you'll do

Your day-to-day tasks may include:

- giving a facial by cleansing, massaging and toning a client's skin
- giving a makeover by applying and advising on make-up
- shaping eyebrows and colouring eyelashes
- giving a manicure, pedicure or other nail treatment like extensions and nail art
- removing unwanted facial and body hair
- giving electro-therapy treatments to improve body tone and shape
- giving non-surgical skin improvement treatments
- offering UV (ultraviolet) and spray tanning

Skills Required – You'll need:

- customer service skills to put clients at ease
- sensitivity and understanding towards your clients' needs
- the ability to work well with your hands for giving treatments
- excellent verbal communication skills to explain treatments
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with others
- the ability to sell products and services
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Working Hours

Typical hours – 37 - 40 hours per week

You may work evenings and weekends as customers demand

Working Environment

You could work in a salon, at a health spa, on a cruise ship, in a hotel or from home.

You may need to wear protective clothing.

Related Careers

- Massage therapist
- Reflexologist
- Nail technician
- Aromatherapist
- Beauty consultant

Salary

These figures are a guide.

Starter: £ 15, 000

Experienced: £ 20, 000

Career paths and progression

With experience you could progress to salon manager.

You could become self-employed and get your own salon, work from home or travel to clients.

You could also move into fashion, theatre or media make-up.

What is labour market information?

Labour Market Information (LMI) is the name for facts and figures about jobs and employment.

The information is used to give an overall picture of the past, present and future of work.

The **labour market** is the term used to describe the amount of people working and looking for work, and the amount of jobs.

Labour Market Information

In **North West England** there are currently 10,399 Beauticians in employment.

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