

# **Clara Alexander**

## **Professional Hair Topper Training Manual**

A comprehensive guide to designing, constructing and finishing professional hair toppers for clients experiencing hair thinning or hair loss.

Hair Loss Solutions • Hair System Training • Education for Stylists

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# Introduction

This training manual has been created to guide stylists and beginners through the process of creating a professional hair topper. Hair toppers are one of the most effective non-surgical solutions for women experiencing thinning hair, crown hair loss or reduced volume. By following the methods outlined in this guide, you will learn how to construct lightweight, natural looking toppers that restore confidence for clients experiencing hair loss.

The guide is divided into four key stages: template creation, materials and foundations, construction of the topper, and professional finishing techniques.

# Part 1 – Creating the Hair Topper Template

The template is the foundation of the entire topper. A well-constructed template ensures the finished piece sits naturally on the head and provides the correct level of coverage for the crown area.

## Step 1: Identify the Coverage Area

Begin by identifying the area of thinning hair or hair loss. The topper is typically placed at the crown. Use a comb to locate the natural parting and crown position. The template should extend slightly beyond the thinning area to allow the topper to blend with surrounding hair.

## Step 2: Measure the Crown

Measure the crown area from front to back and side to side. Many toppers use a 6 inch by 6 inch base, but the size should always be adjusted to suit the client's individual needs.

## Step 3: Create the Template Shape

Using flexible material or paper, create an oval or rounded shape that follows the natural contour of the crown. The template should lie flat without lifting. This ensures the finished topper will sit comfortably.

## Training Tip

Take time during the template stage. Errors in template design can lead to toppers that appear bulky or unnatural.

## Part 2 – Materials, Closures and Tools

Understanding the materials used in topper construction is essential. The base material and closure determine how natural the parting will appear and how the topper will attach to the scalp or natural hair.

### Types of Closures

- **Silk Closure:** Contains layers of material that create the illusion of a natural scalp. Best used when the client has hair underneath the topper.
- **Lace Closure:** Made from lace material that sits directly on the scalp. Ideal when the wearer has minimal or no hair in the crown area.
- **UltraStrand Base:** Contains small holes allowing natural hair to be pulled through the base to add volume.

### Essential Tools

- Hair wefts – used to build density within the topper.
- Weft splitter – used to divide thick wefts and reduce bulk.
- Mesh base – the foundation material used to construct the topper.
- Pins – used to secure materials during construction.
- Curved sewing needles – ideal for sewing through mesh and wefts.
- Strong thread – used for stitching the topper structure.

## **Part 3 – Constructing the Hair Topper**

This stage involves assembling the structural components of the topper. The closure is attached to the mesh base and hair wefts are sewn around the perimeter and towards the center.

### **Step 1: Secure the Template to a Mannequin**

The template should be pinned to a mannequin head. Never perform construction directly on a person, as pins and needles are used throughout the process.

### **Step 2: Create the Mesh Base**

Place mesh over the template and trace the shape. Once traced, cut the mesh to create the topper base.

### **Step 3: Attach the Closure**

Position the closure centrally and sew it to the mesh using a back stitch technique. Leave the front edge open to allow flexibility for styling and finishing.

### **Step 4: Install Hair Wefts**

- Split the wefts before sewing to reduce bulk.
- Begin sewing at the perimeter of the topper.
- Follow a U-shaped pattern around the closure.
- Keep spacing between wefts consistent.

## **Part 4 – Professional Finishing Techniques**

The final stage transforms the constructed topper into a professional wearable hair system.

### **Step 1: Hide Closure Stitching**

Attach a thin row of weft over the stitch line surrounding the closure to conceal visible stitching.

### **Step 2: Strengthen the Edges**

If the wefts extend beyond the mesh edge, fold them over and sew them to the underside. This creates a stronger edge and improves durability.

### **Step 3: Trim the Base**

Trim excess mesh around the closure to allow the lace to sit directly on the scalp if glue or adhesive is used.

### **Step 4: Add Attachments**

- Clips – suitable for clients with medium to thick hair.
- Velcro – useful when clips do not hold securely.
- Silicone patches – ideal when adhesive is used.

### **Step 5: Prepare and Style the Hair**

Wash, condition and style the hair. Train the hair in the direction you want it to fall, such as a center part or side part.

With practice, these techniques allow stylists to create lightweight, natural looking toppers that restore confidence for clients experiencing hair loss.