



The Ohio State Board of Cosmetology

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Consumer Protection Guidelines

The Ohio State Board of Cosmetology is charged with protecting the public, while regulating cosmetology service providers and facilities. As a consumer, there are steps you should take to ensure your health and safety. To inform customers and licensees alike, the Ohio State Board of Cosmetology endorses the following information to experience a safe and sanitary cosmetology service.

- **Licenses Are Important**

Salons, tanning facilities, and service providers **MUST** have a current and valid license, permit or certification on display at all times. The license or certification is proof that the individual has received the necessary training to perform specific cosmetology services; the salon license and tanning facility permit ensure that the facility has been approved by the Board to offer cosmetology services or indoor tanning.

- **Sanitation Is Crucial**

Every item/implement that touches a customer's nails, skin or hair, or surfaces that a customer comes into contact with; **MUST** be disinfected between **EACH** use. If something does not appear to be clean; ask for it to be cleaned and disinfected, or refuse to allow it to be used on you. Some common items and areas are: hands, tabletops, countertops, towels, nail clippers, nail files, combs, brushes, scissors and clipper blades. In addition to implements and surfaces, air quality is also important. Most artificial nail products have some odor, but overwhelming or noxious odors or fumes may indicate the use of methyl methacrylate (MMA), a product that is prohibited in Ohio salons. The air within a salon should be well ventilated, with minimal fumes. If you have any concerns with the salon conditions or license status you should notify the salon manager as well as the Board office.

You have the right to expect safe and sanitary conditions in a salon. After all, Ohio law requires it.

Issues rising from sanitation, safety and/or license status will be addressed by the Board. Complaint forms can be accessed at www.cos.ohio.gov.