

ROUTES HAIR EXTENSION AFTERCARE GUIDE

On consultation your hair extension technician has a lot of points to cover to ensure that extensions are suitable for your hair and your lifestyle (as well as your colour match and which method is right for you). It is important that you are open and honest about your lifestyle as certain activities/holidaying abroad can at times affect your hair extensions. Also hair extensions are not suitable for everyone so it is much better to find out before you have a fitting than after.

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE YOU DECIDE TO HAVE HAIR EXTENSIONS FITTED:

Extensions require regular maintenance appointments (usually every 4-6 weeks) make sure you have the time to attend these appointments as if you miss maintenance then run into problems neither your extension technician or Routes hair will be able to rectify the problems for you.

Using heat tools: using straighteners /tongs and wands etc are totally fine and can actually help tame and smooth hair out. Carry out regular check that your heat appliances are clean and free of build up of product as this has been known to discolour blonde extensions. Over use of heat appliances can cause hair extensions to dry out leading to breakage, snapping and splitting. Always section your hair and blow dry as smooth as possible. We do not recommend 'air drying" your hair as this can saturate the bond leaving the bonds wet for too long and compromising the quality and lifespan of the bonds.

Holidays/swimming: though we want to look our best on holiday we don't advise having a brand new set fitted directly before a holiday overseas for many reasons. Salt water in the sea will severely dry out your hair extensions as will chlorine. We strongly recommend these be avoided altogether. If you do swim ensure hair is plaited up on top of the head and not submerged in the water. Also there have been cases reported where holidaying in areas with high iron content in the water overseas can discolour blonde extensions to a peach/orange shade. If you notice any discolouring you will need to wash hair with bottled water only. Discolouration should fade out upon return to the UK and washing frequently. This is not a fault with the hair but chemicals and minerals in the water that seeps into the hair cuticles and deposits the iron.

SUN/ SUNBEDS: UV rays can fade or discolour extensions – we advise wearing a hat while out in the sun and if you use a sunbed to wrap the hair up in a towel and completely keep out of exposure to strong UV rays.

Sports/gym: detangle your hair using a teezer brush and tie up using slinky bobbles

Colouring – We do not recommend colouring your hair extensions as it has already been processed and coloured when it reaches you. For this reason further colouring will be unpredictable. We advise strongly against bleaching extensions, which are highly likely to ruin your hair or at least severely shorten the lifespan of the hair. Using toners or colouring the hair darker with a professional hair colourist often works well but Routes can not accept any liability for the outcome and this may reduce the lifespan of the hair. As colouring the hair will be entirely at your own risk, as the hair will not be considered for any fault if it has since altered in any way after leaving Routes.

Incorrect product use – We only recommend Routes Hair Extensions products. We stock everything your hair should need to keep it soft protected and long lasting. Styling products are fine to use in conjunction. By using any other brand of hair care (shampoo, conditioner, protein spray, oils) you are forfeiting any guarantee on your hair extensions as our products are specifically made for our hair extensions and are tried tested and proven to work. Other products are not and can cause an array of problems.

We also do not recommend hair oils as these can sit on the outside of the hair shaft causing strands to rub together and start to bunch up. Instead we recommend protein spray, which seeps into the hair cuticles and reduces tangling and static.

Sleeping- always de-tangle your hair thoroughly before bed with a teezer brush and plait or ponytail up using slinky bobbles that won't snag and break the hair.

You must NEVER go to bed with your hair extensions wet. If you do you will likely wake up to a new set of dreadlocks which will be very difficult and time consuming to try and rectify for your extension technician – very often this is impossible and the extensions would need to be removed.

Separating your strands- First make sure your bonds/ rings (if wearing strands) are separated daily to avoid matting. If you miss this step you will slowly develop the dreadlock roots. Your natural hair sheds every day and is held in the bond/ring and therefore needs to be separated before it wraps around the hairs from the bonds around it. Never pick at your bonds/rings as this will cause premature slipping/loosing strands and can also damage your own hair.

Brushing- Use a teezer brush morning and night. Holding your hair in a bunch near the top so you are not yanking the fitment of your extensions or causing any strain or damage to your own hair gently brush from the ends working your way up the hair to detangle and smooth. Teezer brushes are lightweight and great to keep in your bag for the occasional brush through.

Lifespan- we cannot offer a definitive lifespan due to this being a consumable product. We can only give a guide and the biggest part of the lifespan will be down to the care given by the end user. By following this guide this will maximize your hair lifespan and should give an approximate lifespan of 6 months. Lighter shades will have slightly less lifespan due to higher processing to achieve their colour. The light shades will also require more care to increase their lifespan

STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE YOUR FITTING

Check you are happy with the extensions purchased/colour match, quality etc.
(as once fitted any discrepancy's will not be able to be rectified)

You have washed your hair (preferably with clarifying shampoo) and used NO conditioner or products of any kind on your hair prior to fitting. This is very important to achieve a good strong bond on any bonded extensions and to avoid slipping on micro rings or weft fittings.

AFTER YOUR HAIR IS FITTED

It is vital that you use only the products guided by Routes hair extensions ltd. Hair extensions can be processed very differently from one brand to another so it is very important to choose products that are made specifically for the hair you are wearing.

Routes aftercare products are specially formulated to protect and care for your extensions to give you the best lifespan and to protect against the problems that incorrect product exposure can cause.

TO ENSURE YOUR HAIR HAS THE FULL CARE YOU WILL NEED:

Routes hair extension shampoo, Routes hair extension conditioner and Routes protein therapy spray

These 3 products are NEEDED for continuous regular use. Without all 3 of these products being either ordered with your hair by the extensionist or in your own name after fitting Routes will take no responsibility for any damage caused to hair as incorrect products can seriously damage extensions.

Routes also offer other great products such as extension boost – deep treatment hair mask- this is a fabulous product to revive hair extensions each week or when on holiday etc. (this product is not needed for continual use and does not need to be purchased to guarantee your hair against product damage)

DIRECTIONS OF USE

ROUTES HAIR EXTENSION SHAMPOO:

Wet the hair upright in the shower (do not tip head upside down), apply a small amount of shampoo. Gently lather, allowing the foam to spread down the body of your hair and extensions. Gently massage the scalp between bonds/wefts. DO NOT pileup the hair and rub, as this will cause matting. Do not tug at your extensions. Lather at the root and allow the foam to cleanse your extensions. Rinse thoroughly then repeat for a deep clean.

ROUTES HAIR EXTENSION CONDITIONER:

Apply to length and ends avoiding bonds. Leave in for up to 2 minutes. Without tugging at the extensions, gently rinse out.

ROUTES HAIR EXTENSION PROTEIN THERAPY:

After shampoo and condition is complete pat the hair dry with a towel. Again DO NOT rub or pile the hair up in a towel. While towel dry/damp spray on length and ends of hair and continue to blow dry/style. Each morning and night spritz on length and ends and de tangle with teezer brush to give your hair a daily feed of moisture and protect from wind, air conditioning and heat. DO NOT RINSE OUT- protein spray needs to seep into the hair cuticles to feed the hair where natural oils (sebum) cannot reach.

ROUTES HAIR EXTENSION BOOST:

Once a week or whenever you hair feels dry apply after shampooing instead of conditioner apply boost down length and ends. This time leaving in for 20 minutes. Then rinse thoroughly and proceed to protein spray. This will substantially add moisture to the hair.