

Deepak Jalhan is counted among Delhi's favourite hairstylists. **Shveta Srivastava** meets the genius who values imagination above everything else

When other children his age were chasing cricket balls in the local playground, Deepak Jalhan was perfecting his grip over hair pins and rollers in his mother's salon in Punjab. Today, Deepak is the most sought-after hair stylist at the Looks Salon in Khan Market, Delhi, where he is also a much-admired mentor to junior hairstylists for the past seven years.

Looks is counted among the frontrunners in the hair-styling business in northern India. A flourishing chain, it has 33 branches across the north and is poised to open another seven outlets by the end of the financial year. Long before Deepak joined the widely

popular chain, he was with A N John Salon in Calcutta. "During the four years that I spent there, I gained a lot of valuable experience by attending national and international workshops and training sessions," says Deepak, who has worked closely with many stalwarts of the hair industry, including Raman Bhardwaj of L'Oreal Professional Dream Team. He has also shared the stage with leading stylists Adhuna Akhtar, Hakin Aalim and Sumit Israni during the L'Oreal Professional Rock and Folk collection, and worked with celebrities and actors at the IIFA in Macau.

"I have learned all that I can by experimenting with new styling books, checking out trends on the internet and travelling overseas," says Deepak. "I am also lucky to have a clientele that's keen to experiment beyond layers and the clichéd step-cut. With all the tools and techniques available in the →

