



Career Portfolio

Creating Beauty & Building Confidence

Maya Rodriguez

Year 11 Work Related Skills
Riverside Secondary College
2025

A Who I Am Today

Understanding my current strengths, skills, and goals

Personal Profile

About Me

I'm a creative person who loves making people feel confident and beautiful. I've always been fascinated by hair, makeup, and styling - I'm the friend everyone comes to for advice about their look for special events. I love experimenting with different techniques, watching YouTube tutorials, and following the latest trends. What really drives me is seeing how a great haircut or style can completely transform someone's confidence.

My Core Strengths

- Creative flair & artistic vision
- Great with people & conversation
- Attention to detail
- Patient and encouraging

Areas to Develop

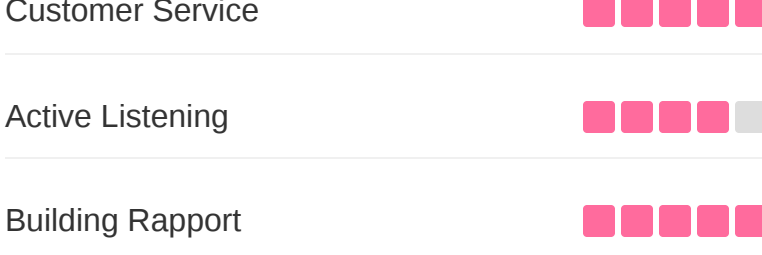
- Business and financial management skills
- Advanced technical hairdressing techniques
- Building professional confidence

My Next 2-3 Years

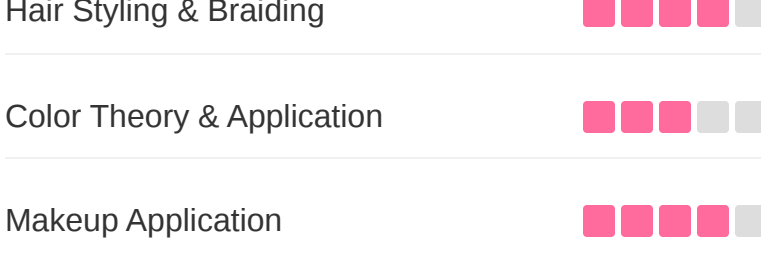
Complete Year 12 while building my portfolio of hair styling work. Start a Certificate III in Hairdressing in 2026. Find a great salon for my apprenticeship. Begin building my client base and social media presence.

Skills Inventory

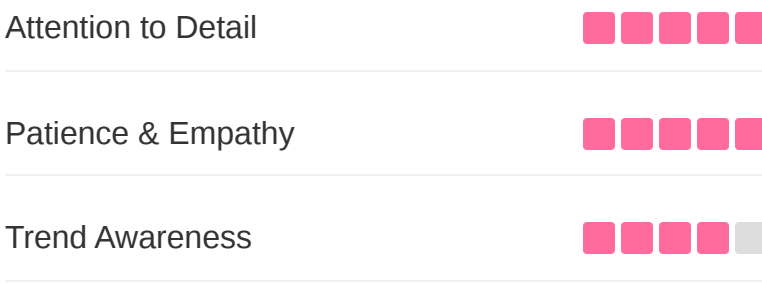
Communication



Creative & Technical



Personal Qualities



Top 5 Skills with Evidence:

- 1. Customer Service (5/5):** I work part-time at my aunt's beauty supply store and consistently receive positive feedback from customers. I'm comfortable helping people find products and giving advice.
- 2. Building Rapport (5/5):** Friends always feel comfortable in my chair when I do their hair for formal events. I've done hair and makeup for 3 school formals and multiple parties.
- 3. Attention to Detail (5/5):** My teachers consistently praise my precision in art projects, and friends specifically request me because I never miss small details in styling.
- 4. Patience & Empathy (5/5):** I spent 4 hours helping my friend with curly hair learn a routine that worked for her texture, and I volunteer helping elderly residents with grooming at the local aged care facility.
- 5. Hair Styling & Braiding (4/5):** I can do complex braids, updos, and have taught myself advanced techniques through online tutorials. I've styled hair for over 20 different people in the past year.



Portfolio Highlights

15+ different hairstyles created for friends & family



Social Media

Instagram: @MayasHairMagic
500+ followers



Recognition

Won school's "Most Creative" award for prom styling

B My Career Direction

Exploring my chosen industry and career pathways

Industry Focus

Beauty & Personal Care Industry - Hairdressing

Industry Overview: The Australian beauty and personal care industry is worth over \$4.7 billion annually, with hairdressing being one of the largest segments. The industry includes hair salons, barbershops, mobile services, and specialized treatments. Current trends include sustainable beauty practices, personalized services, and the integration of technology in salons.

Why This Industry Appeals to Me: I love the combination of creativity, technical skill, and personal connection that hairdressing offers. Every client is unique, and I get to help them express their personality while making them feel confident. The industry is constantly evolving with new techniques and trends, which means I'll never stop learning.

Key Skills Needed for Success:

Technical Hair Skills

Creative Vision

Client Communication

Trend Awareness

Business Acumen

Physical Stamina

Future Outlook: The hairdressing industry is expected to grow steadily, with demand driven by population growth and increased spending on personal grooming. There's growing demand for specialized services like color correction, extensions, and sustainable/organic treatments. The rise of social media has also created opportunities for stylists to build personal brands.

Career Exploration

PRIMARY INTEREST: Hair Stylist/Hairdresser

Typical Responsibilities:

- Consult with clients about their hair goals
- Cut, color, and style hair using various techniques
- Maintain salon cleanliness and hygiene standards
- Stay updated with latest trends and techniques
- Build and maintain client relationships
- Recommend hair care products and treatments

Required Qualifications:

Certificate III in Hairdressing, completion of apprenticeship

Salary Range: Apprentice: \$21,000-30,000 |

Qualified: \$45,000-65,000 | Senior/Salon Owner:

\$70,000+

Day-in-the-life: Start by setting up station and reviewing appointments, consult with first client about their vision, perform cuts and colors throughout the day, maintain equipment between clients, build rapport with regulars, and update client records.

ALTERNATIVE 1: Color Specialist

Specialists who focus on advanced coloring techniques, color correction, and complex color transformations using bleaching, toning, and specialty products.

Connection: Builds on foundational hairdressing skills but specializes in the technical and artistic aspects of hair coloring - an area I'm particularly interested in developing.

ALTERNATIVE 2: Mobile Hair Stylist

Independent stylists who travel to clients' homes, events, or other locations to provide personalized hair services with flexible scheduling.

Connection: Uses the same core hairdressing skills but offers more flexibility and direct client relationships, with potential for higher earnings and creative freedom.

Current Job Opportunities:

Hairdressing Apprentice - Bella Vista Hair Studio, Melbourne

Requirements I Meet: Enthusiasm for hair styling, good communication skills, creative flair

Requirements I Need: Year 12 completion or equivalent, willingness to learn, commitment to 3-year apprenticeship

Salary: \$22,000 - \$28,000 + training + mentorship

Junior Stylist Position - Toni&Guy, South Yarra

Requirements I Meet: Portfolio of styling work, social media presence, customer service experience

Requirements I Need: Certificate III in Hairdressing, 6 months experience, advanced cutting techniques

Salary: \$48,000 - \$55,000 + commission + ongoing training

C My Future Pathway Plan

Strategic planning for education and career development

Education & Training Plan

Immediate Next Steps (2025-2026):

Year 12 Subject Choices:

- English (essential communication skills for client consultation)
- Business Management (understanding salon operations and future business ownership)
- Health & Human Development (understanding scalp/hair health and client care)
- Art (developing creative and color theory skills)
- VET Certificate II in Salon Assistant (head start on industry qualification)

Additional Experiences:

- Complete basic hair cutting course at local community center
- Attend Melbourne Hair & Beauty Expo
- Seek work experience placement at local salon
- Build Instagram portfolio to 1000+ followers
- Practice advanced techniques through online masterclasses

Post-School Education Research: Certificate III in Hairdressing

Course & Provider:

Certificate III in Hairdressing
(SHB30416)
Melbourne Institute of TAFE,
Collingwood Campus

Duration & Mode:

18 months (full-time)
Combined with apprenticeship
1 day per week at TAFE + 4
days in salon

Entry Requirements:

Year 12 completion or
equivalent
Basic English and numeracy
skills
Secured apprenticeship position

Cost & Support:

Free for apprentices under 25
Government-funded training
Tools and equipment included

Key Units:

- Cut hair using basic techniques
- Color and lighten hair
- Provide shampoo and basin services
- Style hair
- Apply safe hygiene practices

Career Alignment:

Industry-standard qualification
that leads directly to qualified
hairdresser status and full salon
employment

Further Study Options:

- Certificate IV in Hairdressing
- Diploma of Salon Management
- Specialized courses in color, extensions
- Small business management courses

Additional Information:

Industry placement assistance
Modern facilities with salon
simulation
Info Session: February 10, 2025

Course Link: www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/courses/certificate-iii-in-hairdressing

Career Development Timeline

My Pathway from Now to Age 28

2025-2026

Year 12 & Prep

Complete VCE with
focus on business
Build portfolio &
Instagram presence
Secure
apprenticeship
placement

2027-2028

Apprenticeship

Certificate III in
Hairdressing
Work 4 days/week in
salon
Build client base &
skills

2029-2031

Qualified Stylist

Full-time salon
employment
Specialize in color
techniques
Build strong clientele

2032+

Career Growth

Senior stylist or
salon owner
Mentor new
apprentices