

BUZZ CUTS AND BEYOND

CREATED BY RACHEL WARREN

HAIR HISTORY

Black child, your hair told stories of identity.

In Africa, hairstyles were used to represent you! Your hair would tell others what tribe you came from, your social status, your marital status, your religion... It would tell others whether you were mourning or celebrating or preparing to go to war. Men often kept their hair long because length was associated with life experience and wisdom. The longer a man's hair was the wiser others thought he was.









When we were taken from Africa to be used as slaves in America, the white slave masters shaved our heads. Over time, as we survived slavery and our hair grew back, white slave masters continued to require us to keep short haircuts. This was a way to take away our humanity, our identity, and our connections to each other and the Motherland.

Black child, your hair honors our overcoming, reminds us of our power, and celebrates self-love.

After slavery, we wrestled with how to assimilate our hair to fit white norms.

Black men felt that by immitating the hairstyles of white men they could improve their social status and earn a higher degree of respect from white men. But, the Black Power Movement, among other things, taught us we can be ourselves, love ourselves, and proudly reclaim what others tried to take away! See Bob Marley's locs, Allen Iverson's cornrows, Colin Kapernick's afro, and the entire cast of Black Panther... all inspired by a rich HAIRstory. Men today are increasingly embracing the movement of resistance, self-expression, and freedom through their natural hair.

HAIR INSPIRATION

"Black hair is love. Black hair is power. Black hair is sacrifice. The seemingly simple choice to shape it as

we choose is a daily decision that, in effect, activates and extends Black pride, mystique, and flair - not just for us, but to the outside world as well."

- Tirhakah Love



"You are growing into consciousness, and my wish for you is that you feel no need to constrict yourself to make other people comfortable."

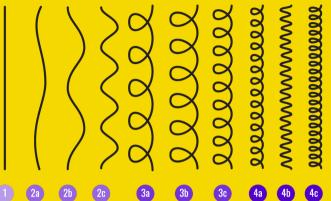
- Ta-Nehisi Coates

Never forget... Your hair is good hair. Your hair is beautiful hair. Your hair is powerful hair. Your hair belongs in every room you walk into in whatever style you choose.



HAIR TYPES

The longer your hair is, the more important it will be to understand what type of hair you have. This will help you take care of it and style it! Using a "hair typing system" can give you the language to describe your hair and teach you about your hair's characteristics. In this system. Type 1s are straight, Type 2s are wavy, Type 3s are curly,



and Type 4s are coily/kinky. The A, B, C categories tell you the width of your wave, curl, or coil pattern. You may find that you have more than one type of hair.

Finding your curls may be challenging if your hair is very short. You may want to try using a sponge brush and a curling product, looking up tutorials on YouTube, or asking a Black barber for support in understanding your hair!

3 A

shiny, large, loose curls the size of sidewalk chalk

3 B

coarse, springy ringlets the circumference of a Sharpie marker

3 C

tight, corkscrew coils the circumference of a straw or pencil; strands are densley packed together with lots of natural volume

4 A



mini, dense, springy, "s" shaped coils the circumference of a crochet needle

4 B



fluffy, cottony, "z" shaped curls; densley packed but still defined

densely packed, tightly coiled, less defined pattern

HAIR PRODUCTS

Once you have an understanding of your hair type or types, you may also want to learn about porosity and other characteristics of your hair. The more you know, the better idea you'll have about what products and styles your hair may prefer!

Some popular brands you may consider using....





fter shampooing, apply conditioner to ends, massaging gently into scalp. Rin ay also be used as a leave-in conditio

indruff & Dry Scalp Elixir









Curl & Shine Shampoo

Hold & Shine Moisture Mist





Restorative Conditioner

pep Treatment Masque of it does: Penetrates deeply to mois raged, chemically treated hair to he to use: After shampoon ce hair under a plastic cap and apply moderate for up to 30 minutes, then rinse thoroughly. May





Cantu



Curis



Creme of Nature Argan Oil

Shea Moisture

You will likely use a mix of brands and products. Look for detangler, shampoo, conditioner. leave-in conditioner. scalp/natural oil treatment, curl enhancer, styling gel, or whatever else your hair needs. All hair, regardless of length, will need some products (ex. shampoo, conditioner, moisturizer). However, the longer your hair and the style you want will determine which and how many more products you'll use. Tips:

Avoid sulfates, isopropyl alcohol, formaldehyde or propylene glycol. These ingredients are prone to dry out your hair and irritate your scalp.

HAIR CARE

It is important to establish consistent and appropriate routines to maintain healthy hair. The length of your hair and the style you choose to wear it in may vary, but you still need to set aside time to take care of your hair.

Here is an example!

Wash Day Routine

<u>Detangle</u>: Depending on the length of your hair, you may want to detangle your hair before you begin washing. You can do this by first spritzing your hair with water to dampen it and applying a detangling product of your choice. You'll finger comb (followed by wide tooth comb or detangling brush) until there are no knots of tangles.

<u>Wash</u>: Apply shampoo and finger comb it through all parts of your hair. Use your fingertips to massage the scalp. It may help to do this is sections if you have thick hair.

** shampooing is necessary, but it strips our hair of it's natural oils and shouldn't be done too often (typically once per week) **

<u>Condition</u>: After rinsing out your shampoo, you'll want to use conditioner to help keep your hair moisturized. You'll use much more conditioner than shampoo, and you'll want to leave the conditioner in for several minutes before rinsing it out.

** conditioning is especially important after you shampoo, but you may also condition your hair even when you don't shampoo. This will keep your scalp hydrated and prevent hair breakage **

<u>Moisturize and Style</u>: After drying your hair, use a leave-in conditioner or oil to add an additional layer of protection. Depending on the style you choose, you may need to add a styling cream, use a sponge brush for curls, or add other details to your routine! No matter what... always remember to moisturize your hair daily!

YouTube tutorials about hair care

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klG_m856Wso (LITTLE BLACK BOYS NEED WASH DAY TOO!)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NZ-3QDvmek (Back 2 School - Boys Natural Hair Routine) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xj1lAk63d84 (Busy 16 Month Old Toddler Hair Routine)

YouTube tutorials about techniques https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yumJXEiEkoY (How To Sponge Twist Your Afro)

HAIR STYLING

Buzz cuts, high fades, burst fades, neck tappers, line ups, mohawks, fro hawks, hair designs, curly high tops, twists, dreads, braids.... the possiblities are endless.

Long or short, find what suits you and wear it proudly!





























HAIR CONFIDENCE

This guide is intended to help you think more deeply about your hair. Remember there is history and culture that you carry in your hair. You can show your power, your pride, and your personality through your hair. You're lucky to be a part of a legacy of blackness that will support you in your hair journey. No matter what length you choose to wear your hair at, always take care of it. Keep it healthy, style it freshly, and wear it proudly. Know how important it is and how important you are, Black King.



Please watch:

Loves Me Like a Rock (The Ojays) full scence from The Fighting Temptations (movie) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jLPJi1S6Mo

Blackish: Chop Shop (Season 2, Episode 8)

Barbershop (movie)

Black Gold (Esperanza Spalding)

Please know:

There are so many resources that tell our history, celebrate our essence, and help us get to where we want to be. Don't be afriad to try something new, and trust that taking care of yourself and your hair is worth it!