

Barbershop Operations & Equipment Checklist

An itemized physical equipment inventory, capital budget estimator, technical tool spec guide, and state board compliance checklist.

Executive Opening Budget & Capital Estimator

Capital expenditure requirements vary by station count, furniture specification, and service scope. Standard baseline capital estimates:

SINGLE STUDIO SETUP \$5,000 - \$8,500	3-STATION BARBERSHOP \$18,000 - \$32,000
5+ STATION FLAGSHIP \$45,000 - \$75,000+	AVERAGE STATION SETUP \$2,200 - \$4,500

Category 1: Core Workspace Infrastructure & Heavy Furniture

Heavy furniture and primary fixtures represent the core physical investment. Select cast-iron hydraulic bases and chemical-resistant surfaces.

✓	ITEM & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION	QTY / STATION	COST ESTIMATE
☐	Heavy-Duty Hydraulic Barber Chair Steel base, 360° lockable spin, recline for hot towel shaves.	1 unit	\$1,200 - \$3,500
☐	Barber Workstation & Cabinetry Quartz/laminate surface, lockable tool drawers, clipper pockets.	1 unit	\$600 - \$1,500
☐	High-Clarity Station Mirror Min. 36"x48" tempered glass with neutral LED illumination.	1 unit	\$150 - \$450
☐	Backbar Shampoo Basin & Plumbing Porcelain side-wash basin, hot/cold mixing valves, vacuum breaker.	1 per 2 stations	\$800 - \$2,200
☐	Anti-Fatigue Station Floor Mat Commercial 3/4" rubber mat with bevelled anti-trip edges.	1 unit	\$80 - \$180
☐	Hot Towel Steamer Cabinet UV sanitizing towel warmer, 24-72 towel capacity.	1 per shop	\$200 - \$600

Plumbing Note: Ensure all shampoo basins integrate code-mandated vacuum breakers to comply with municipal health inspections prior to opening.

Category 2: Precision Barber Cutting Tools

Cutting implements require high-RPM rotary motors, cordless lithium-ion reliability, and Japanese stainless steel edges for precision fades.

✓	TOOL DESCRIPTION & TECHNICAL SPEC	RECOMMENDED QTY	AVG. UNIT COST
☐	Bulk Cutting Clipper (Cordless, Rotary Motor 6,000+ RPM)	2 units	\$160 - \$280
☐	Detail T-Outliner Trimmer (Zero-gapped, 360° exposed T-blade)	2 units	\$120 - \$220
☐	Hypoallergenic Foil Shaver (Titanium double foil for skin fades)	1 unit	\$100 - \$180
☐	Main Cutting Shears 6.5" - 7.0" (Japanese 440C stainless steel)	1 pair	\$150 - \$450
☐	Texturizing / Thinning Shears (28-40 convex teeth)	1 pair	\$120 - \$350
☐	Straight Razor Body (Shavette) with replaceable blade arm	2 units	\$30 - \$80
☐	Carbon Styling & Fade Combs Set (Heat-resistant materials)	1 set (6-8 combs)	\$40 - \$90
☐	Nylon Neck Duster & Talc Shaker	1 set	\$25 - \$50

Category 3: Station Accessories & Sprayers

Station accessories control hair moisture during scissor work and improve daily ergonomic organization.

✓	ITEM NAME	PRIMARY PROFESSIONAL USE	AVG. COST
☐	Fine-Mist Water Sprayer Bottle	Continuous hair dampening for tension control.	\$12 - \$25
☐	Astringent / Witch Hazel Spray Bottle	Post-razor skin cooling and pore contraction.	\$10 - \$20
☐	Magnetic Clipper Guard Organizer	Securing guard attachments #0.5 through #8.	\$20 - \$45
☐	Professional Hand Mirror	Displaying back-of-head line views to clients.	\$15 - \$35

Maintenance Note: Alternating clippers between appointments prevents thermal blade expansion and protects client skin from hot blade friction.

Category 4: Sanitation & State Board Compliance

Meeting public health board standards requires hospital-grade disinfectants, immersion trays, and sealed sharps containers for used razor blades.

✓	COMPLIANCE ITEM	REQUIRED SPECIFICATION	MANDATORY PROTOCOL
☐	EPA Hospital Disinfectant (Barbicide)	Quaternary ammonium bactericidal solution.	10-minute submersion between clients.
☐	Glass Submersion Jar (37 oz)	Glass jar with stainless steel basket.	Positioned on every active station.
☐	5-in-1 Clipper Coolant Spray	Aerosol disinfectant, lubricant, cleaner.	Spray running blades post-haircut.
☐	Biohazard Sharps Container	Puncture-proof polypropylene bin.	Deposit used blades immediately.
☐	Single-Use Neck Strips & Dispenser	Self-adhesive paper barrier rolls.	Mandatory barrier for 100% cape fittings.
☐	Non-Porous Capes & Towels	Waterproof capes, 100% cotton towels.	Launder after single client usage.

Category 5: Backbar Chemicals & Retail Inventory

Maintaining a dedicated retail stock of pomades, beard balms, and shaving creams generates secondary revenue with 40% to 50% profit margins.

✓	PRODUCT CATEGORY	STOCK COMPOSITION	TARGET RETAIL MARGIN
☐	Hair Styling Hold Products	Water-based pomades, matte clays, styling powders, sea salt sprays.	45% - 50% Margin
☐	Beard Care Line	Joboba beard oils, shaping balms, beard cleansers.	40% - 50% Margin
☐	Shaving Essentials	Pre-shave oils, lather creams, cooling aftershaves.	40% Margin
☐	Tool Maintenance Supplies	Mineral blade oil, replacement razors, neck strip packs.	Backbar Expense
☐	Hot Lather Soap Concentrates	Liquid shaving soap formulation.	Backbar Expense

Retail Tip: Displaying 3-4 styling products directly on station mirrors increases retail upsells by over 30% during appointment checkouts.

Category 6: Digital Operating System & POS Integration

Physical tools require cloud-based management software to automate appointment bookings, process payments, and track inventory depletion.

Administrative Operating Engine Essentials

Integrating your physical setup with digital management software automates daily shop management across 4 critical pillars:

- **Automated Inventory Control:** Monitor stock depletion automatically, receive low-stock notifications for Barbicide and neck strips, and manage retail sales.
- **24/7 Calendar Scheduling:** Enable client self-booking through Google Search, Instagram, and Facebook, eliminating phone distractions on the cutting floor.
- **No-Show & Deposit Protection:** Secure upfront deposits for hot towel shaves and high-value services to eliminate costly late cancellations.
- **Integrated POS & Financial Reporting:** Process Tap-to-Pay and card payments effortlessly while generating real-time revenue reports per barber chair.

Final Shop Opening Launch Protocol

Complete these final administrative and inspection milestones 14 days prior to welcoming your first client:

✓	MILESTONE TASK	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	VERIFICATION ACTION
☐	State Board Inspection Passed	Shop Owner / Manager	Display establishment license on front wall.
☐	Commercial Insurance Active	Insurance Broker	Verify liability rider coverage for razor work.
☐	Management Software & POS Configured	System Administrator	Execute test appointment booking and payment.
☐	Barber License Verification	All Active Staff	Confirm all state barber licenses are current.

Compliance Reminder: Store this document at the front reception desk for instant reference during state cosmetology board spot inspections.

