



How to Get the Best Shave with your Copper Hat Equipment

| **Prepare your Skin** | The best way to ensure your skin is ready for an optimal shave is to start with a shower. This fully moisturizes the skin and makes your hair softer and easier to shave. If you can't shower first, try a simple hot towel treatment – soak a small towel with hot water and place it on your face/skin for a few minutes. At the very least, splash your skin several times with warm water and rub it into your pores. Skin should be damp when you apply lather.

| **Build Lather & Prep your Brush** | *(If you'd rather SEE how to lather check out our tutorial video by finding our channel on YouTube. Our videos are also linked through our website).* If your hard soap isn't already in a lathering bowl or tin, put it in one. Fill the bowl or tin with hot tap water and leave it for 30 seconds to a few minutes. This softens the top layer of soap and makes it easier to lather. If you're using a cream-type soap, put a nickel-sized amount into a bowl. Soak the bristles of your brush (bristles pointing down) under warm tap water for about 10 seconds. Give the brush a good shake, so that it just stops dripping. Dump the hot water from the lathering bowl. Now swirl your brush around the bowl vigorously until lather appears. A good lather is thick, like whipped cream, not bubbly like body wash. It should take 15 to 45 seconds to build. If the lather doesn't seem to build as you move the brush, add a few drops of hot water. If the lather is very bubbly and thin, there is too much water in the mixture and you should shake the brush out a bit more. Building lather is an art and takes practice. Stick with it; it's like riding a bike; once you get it, you'll never forget it.

| **Lather Up!** | Make sure your skin is damp, then swirl lather onto your skin moving your brush in a circular motion. Once you have distributed a thick, even layer over your skin (you may choose to go over the same spot with your brush more than once), pull your brush over your skin against the grain of your hair growth (this lifts the hair so that it is easier to cut).

| **The Shave** | When you load your blade, you don't need to tighten the razor with much pressure - it is a fine instrument. It's also probably a lot heavier than your drug store razor. Because of its weight, your razor will easily do the work for you – be sure not to push your razor down onto your skin or hold it too tightly. The best way to hold a safety razor is to grasp it lightly at the middle or end of the handle with your thumb and a few fingers. For face shaving, it is best to start by shaving the entire face with the grain. Usually one pass will achieve optimal smoothness, but if another pass is needed, we recommend re-lathering the entire face and shaving once more across the grain. For leg shavers, however, shaving against the grain on the first (and usually only) pass works just fine.

| **Finishing Touches** | Rinse your skin thoroughly and pat it dry with your favourite towel. Liquid aftershaves disinfect and tone skin and work great for people with normal to oily skin. For those with more sensitive or dry skin, an aftershave balm is ideal. It's a good idea to try a few different aftershaves and balms as your skin will react differently to different products. For legs, a nourishing body butter, like our own Copper Hat Leg balm is the best way to keep skin smooth and hydrated. We can help you choose the right post shave product for you, just let us know!

Rinse out your brush thoroughly then shake out the excess water and hang it upside down to dry. Open the head plates of your razor slightly so that there is airflow around the blade, and store it in a stand or lying on its short edge (not the sharp blade edge). Store your razor, brush and blades in a dry place like the counter or medicine cabinet. Used blades should be stored in a sealed container and never thrown loosely in the garbage or recycle bin. Return your stock piled blades to us or the recycling centre in your community.

Feel free to drop us a line if you have any questions. Happy Shaving!