

Easy Hair Tutorials

Most of us have had to stay inside over the past year, which has meant getting hands on with our hair care. These easy DIY hair tutorials don't just bring salon-level style to your home – they open up a host of new styles too!

Easy Hair Tutorials: The Basics

Okay, so as easy as these styles are, what happens if you don't get it right the first time? That's okay; most of us don't, especially early on! We've all learned the same secret, though: practice, practice, practice! As you get comfortable with the techniques, you'll only get faster and more confident.

One more thing to remember: prepare your hair beforehand! These easy hair tutorials produce the best results after a good pre-wash and condition. Shampoo your scalp thoroughly before treating your hair with a gentle conditioner. Finish up by combing a water-based moisturizer through your hair to keep it healthy and lustrous.

Right, let's check out our first style!

Dutch braids

We love the versatility of this style. Dutch braids are a fun look that brings out your hair's natural volume. The braiding technique is great for beginners too, as you only work with two big sections. Once you get the technique down, it'll be even easier to approach similar styles like cornrows and box braids.

You'll need:

- Comb/brush
- Hair tie of choice
- Parting needle

Step 1: Pick a part

Dutch braids can be split with two types of parts: symmetric or asymmetric.

A symmetric part gives your look a sense of balance and structure. An asymmetric part is an eye-catching variation for a less traditional look.

To do a symmetric part, find the center of your hairline. The easiest way to do this is to put a finger in the middle of your brow and move it straight up until it touches your hairline. For an asymmetric part, move two fingers either side of the center line.

Step 2: Part and tie up

Once you've found your starting point, use a parting needle to split the hair on either side of that line. A symmetric part should end at the center point at the back, roughly where your spine meets your rear hairline.

Loosely tie up each section.

Step 3: Braid and Tuck

Before we begin, loosen up your shoulders! Don't be afraid to take small breaks if your arms get tired too.

To braid the scalp portion of your hair, untie one section and comb it out fully. Detangle any knots or snags, as these will make your braids uneven. Once the section is ready, find your parting line and pick out the front strand of hair.

Pro tip: pick out thicker strands for bulkier braids and thinner ones for more definition.

Split this strand into three pieces. Think of them as a front, middle and back. Moving your fingers carefully, pull the middle strand to the back, so that the back strand becomes the new "middle" one. Now take the new middle strand and pull it around the front, making the front strand the new "middle" one.

That's the motion you'll repeat: back-to-middle, front-to-middle, repeat. That's one cycle. Grab a new strand with each cycle to braid onto your scalp.

Step 4: Twist and seal

When you reach the back of your scalp, you might find you have quite a lot of hair left. That's okay! That's the hair that gives Dutch braids their iconic tails.

Finish your braid by twisting down your shoulder before tying up the end.

Repeat on the second portion, and there you go! As you practice this style, don't be afraid to play around with parting lines and strand thickness too!

Space Buns

Few styles are as quirky and bold as space buns. They can add a playful edge to a formal look or turn a casual outfit full-on punk. The fundamentals of DIY space buns will also give you a leg up on similar styles, such as: top buns, formal ties, ponytails, fringe styling and binding techniques.

You'll need:

- Hair ties of your choice
- Parting needle
- Leave-in moisturizer

Step 1: Pick a Part

Like the Dutch braids, the first thing you'll need to decide is how to part your sections. A four-bun style is great for protecting short hair against tightness. Each bun should end up snug without pulling uncomfortably on your scalp.

Step 2: Part and Tie Up

For a two-bun style, find your center line again and part your hair on either side of it. From there, use your hair tie of choice to tie up the sections.

For a four-bun style, part your hair along the centerline. Now find the center of your scalp, what we normally think of as the "bald spot". From there, part your hair again horizontally, ending at the same point behind both ears. Instead of halves, your hair should now be parted into quarters. Tie up each section.

Step 3: Build Your Buns

Tied up, you should get a pretty good idea about the basic position of your buns. If you want to readjust them, now is the time. To do this, undo one section and retie it where you want the bun to sit.

Once you're happy with the overall positions, it's time to style. Untie one section and comb the hair out fully.

For a tall bun, retie the section with a wider wrap, like a silk or satin ribbon. For a bun with more volume, use a thinner hair tie and wrap the base of the bun a little more tightly. If your hair is long enough, you can create messy buns by "looping" the hair before tying or using a hair cloud.

For the funkiest variety, take out a strand near the base of the bun and tie it with your own hair instead.

Step 4: Fringe and finish

If you want to ease the tightness along your hairline, leave out a front portion to make a fringe. This part only needs to be a finger or two thick. Lay it down over your brow and play with it as you would with a ponytail fringe.

If your hair's curling pattern makes this tricky, you can split this front section in two and twist instead!

To finish up, massage a leave-in conditioner along your parting lines. These lines are where the buns pull the most, so a leave-in conditioner can ease the tension while keeping the exposed parts of your scalp from drying out.

These styles offer a lot of variety and are a great intro into more difficult DIY styles, so don't forget: practice makes perfect!