

AQUA

H A I R E X T E N S I O N S

HAND TIED WEFT AQUA APPLICATION STEP BY STEP GUIDE

TOOLS NEEDED FOR SERVICE

Deluxe Pliers
Loop Tool
Silicone Beads

Needle
Thread
Hair Clips

Single Prong Clips
Rat Tail Comb
Seam Ripper or Small Scissors



PREPPING TOOLS FOR SERVICE

Make sure to prep your Needle and Loop Tool before service to ensure efficiency.

COLOR MATCHING OF SILICONE BEADS AND THREAD

Choose the proper color of Aqua Hair Extensions Silicone Beads and Thread, by matching them to the client's root hair color. Once the color is chosen, thread the Aqua Loop Tool with the beads 3/4 of the way.

KEY POINT: To cut down on prep time, keep 2-3 Loop Tools on hand (threaded at all times) as this will keep you from having to stop and rethread in the middle of the application.

PREPPING FOR THE SERVICE

Using Aqua Hair Extensions Prep Shampoo, shampoo the client's hair 2-3 times. DO NOT use any conditioners or products on the hair; doing so may cause slippage.

Continue by blow-drying the hair until it is completely dry. If necessary, flat iron the hair if it is curly or frizzy. Do not add any styling products or oils to the hair.

FINDING THE PROPER PLACEMENT

Examine the hairline to determine placement using the "tail comb" test.



NAPE SECTIONING

TWO FINGER TEST (LEFT)

TWO FINGER TEST (RIGHT)

TAIL COMB TEST

When working around the hairline, make sure to use a tail comb to identify low-density areas. Starting in the hairline section, place your tail comb directly on the section you plan on taking, gently over-direct hairline hair over the tail comb. If the tail comb is visible, this will indicate your extensions will also be visible. If that's the case, drop the hair and create a larger section to cover the extensions. Repeat the "tail comb" test until you've reached the perfect section to ensure an invisible application.



LEFT SIDE TEST

RIGHT SIDE TEST

NAPE TEST

IMPORTANT APPLICATION NOTE

If you are **RIGHT-HANDED**, you will start your application of beads and sewing on the **LEFT SIDE (SEE IMAGE #1)** of the head.

If you are **LEFT-HANDED**, you will start your application of beads and sewing on the **RIGHT SIDE (SEE IMAGE #2)** of the head.

Following this rule of thumb will allow you to work with the application. If not, you will be working against the application, making it that more difficult.



IMAGE #1



IMAGE #2

BEAD APPLICATION

Start in the nape area; measure 3-4 fingers up from the nape hairline and create a clean, straight, and horizontal parting near the occipital bone, but never directly on it. **(SEE IMAGE #3)**

Clip away the remaining hair and make sure to leave 2-3 fingers from the side hairline to eliminate any extension visibility. Once you know how many wefts you will need for this row, you can begin the application.



IMAGE #3

KEY POINT: You should never apply more than four wefts per row as doing so will cause excess weight and tension to the natural hair.

Measuring roughly 2-3 fingers in from the hairline, start by taking a small section of hair using the metal tail of the comb - approximately 1/4 inch in width and 1/4 inch in depth. This section should be a small half circle/crescent, or a "scoop."

KEY POINT: Place the Loop Tool as close to the scalp **(SEE IMAGES #4-#7)** as possible before pulling the bead through. Doing so will eliminate pushing the bead up the strand, which will result in back-combing.



IMAGE #4

IMAGE #5

IMAGE #6

IMAGE #7

Insert the lock of hair through the Aqua Loop Tool and feed one bead onto the lock of hair, always keeping low elevation. Once the bead is on the section of hair, use your fingers to clean the section, making sure it is at zero elevation, and no flyaways are popping out of the bead. **(SEE IMAGE #8)**

Place your Deluxe Pliers on the bead allowing the top portion of the bead to peak out of the pliers. Slide the bead up the hair strand, until it is roughly 1/4 inch from the scalp. **(SEE IMAGE #9)**

Using the Deluxe Pliers, clamp the bead closed around the hair. Always keep medium tension with zero elevation. Make sure to secure the bead tightly to prevent slippage. Once the bead is flattened, it should lay completely flat against the head. **(SEE IMAGE #10)**



IMAGE #8

IMAGE #9

IMAGE #10

If the section is bubbled or protruding at all, reopen the bead using the Deluxe Pliers and retighten.

Continue to repeat the bead application process until you've worked your way to the opposite side of the head, leaving no space in between each bead.

Once the beads are placed, you will continue by mapping the wefts.

ANCHOR BEADS

Anchor Beads are the beads on each side of the head that will receive two lock knots.

Anchor Beads in the **Nape Area** will always be the two first beads on each side. **(SEE IMAGES #11 AND #12)**

Anchor Beads in the **Temple Area** will always be the first three beads on each side.

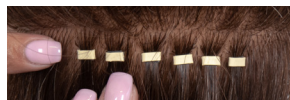


IMAGE #11



IMAGE #12

NAPE AREA WEFT PLACEMENT

Also known as mapping, use a Weft as a visual guide to determine how many you will need. **(SEE IMAGE #13)**

Remove one Hand Tied Weft from the pack and cut the excess string on both sides, making sure to not cut further than the small knot at the base of the weft. **(SEE IMAGE #14)**

LEAVE THE KNOT THERE AND DO NOT CUT THE WEFT AS IT WILL UNRAVEL!

KEY POINT: In the nape area, you want to fold back and forth until you run out, creating no more than four layers of folding with 1 or 2 wefts.



IMAGE #13



IMAGE #14

Areas that incorporate the sides of the head can hold up to four full wefts.

Line up the end of the weft with the first bead in the row, securing the weft to the bead by using a small single prong metal clip at a 45° angle around the bead. **(SEE IMAGE #15)**



IMAGE #15

Continue to clip the weft on top of remaining beads in the row until you reach the last one. Fold the excess weft over and secure the fold using single prong clips. Continue to fold the weft in place until the entire weft has been folded and secured. **(SEE IMAGE #16)**



IMAGE #16

Using the same color of thread as the bead color you chose, cut roughly two full arms lengths of thread (8-10 feet) and thread one needle, leaving the ends of the thread open.

DO NOT KNOT THE THREAD.

SEWING THE WEFT

Beginning on your dominant side, with the second bead in (also known as your “anchor bead”), remove the metal clip attached to the bead and clip underneath it. **(SEE IMAGE #17)**



IMAGE #17

Put your thumb directly underneath the bead, this will help guide the needle over your thumb to prevent the needle from picking up hair. **(SEE IMAGE #18)**

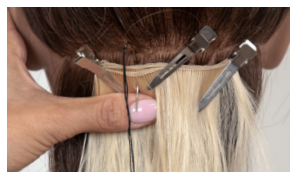


IMAGE #18

With the needle facing downward, push it down and behind the bead, bringing the needle directly out under the bead, sewing the weft with it. **(SEE IMAGE #19)**



IMAGE #19

KEY POINT: The needle needs to go directly down and behind the center of the hair that's above the bead. The needle should **NEVER** go inside of the bead.

To check for correct placement, lift the weft and make sure the thread is centered down the bead.

If the thread is not centered, the application needs to be redone. Not redoing the application will cause breakage and tension on the natural hair.

Pull the needle and thread until the thread has roughly 6 inches left above the bead. **(SEE IMAGE #20)** Use both sides of the thread to make three regular knots, making sure the Box Knot is laying on the top of the weft. **(SEE IMAGES #21-#23)** Clip the excess thread to the client's hair using a metal clip.

Use your arm to drape the excess thread up and out of the way before you begin sewing. This will prevent the thread from picking up hair and matting at the base. **(SEE IMAGE #24)**



IMAGE #20

IMAGE #21

IMAGE #22

IMAGE #23

With the needle still facing downward, push the needle down and behind the same bead, and bring it out directly under the bead again. **(SEE IMAGE #25)**



IMAGE #24

IMAGE #25

Begin pulling the needle with one hand and simultaneously use your other hand to grab the "loop." **(SEE IMAGE #26)** Using equal tension with both hands, pull the thread roughly halfway.



IMAGE #26

IMAGE #27

Hold the loop part of the thread in one hand and the needle in the other. Place your pointer and middle finger into the loop with your fingers extended and facing downwards **(SEE IMAGE #27)**, continue to hold the needle in the opposite hand.

YOU DO NOT WANT THE NEEDLE AND THE LOOP TO CRISS-CROSS

With your two fingers pointing downward in the loop, spin your fingers two full times around. Your fingers should end up facing the same way you started. **(SEE IMAGES #28-#30)**



IMAGE #28

IMAGE #29

IMAGE #30

Now that the loop has two complete spins place the needle down through the loop and begin tightening the thread by keeping tight tension on both hands until the knot reaches the weft. Once the knot reaches the weft, tighten the knot by pulling the thread down and then pulling upward to secure the knot. Tightening the knot will create what is known as a "Lock Knot." **(SEE IMAGES #31-#35)**



IMAGE #31

IMAGE #32

IMAGE #33

IMAGE #34

IMAGE #35

KEY POINT: When tightening the knot, you want to make sure you are holding both the weft and the natural hair together before pulling upwards and downwards on the thread. Make sure to keep tight, equal tension with both hands to ensure a proper application. Not doing so will result in sagging of the thread and weft.

Once the knot is tight, make sure the Lock Knot is laying on the top portion of the weft.

This will be your first Lock Knot which will secure the thread to the bead.

Now that your first Lock Knot is complete, move to the first bead. **(SEE IMAGE #36)** Repeat the previous steps to create a Lock Knot.

Once you complete the Lock Knot on the first bead, go back in on the same bead to create your second Lock Knot before going back to the previous bead.



IMAGE #36



IMAGE #37

REMEMBER ALL ANCHOR BEADS RECEIVE TWO LOCK KNOTS

Continue by moving back to your second bead and repeat the same steps to create your second lock knot on the second bead.

Continue taking the same steps until you reach the opposite side of the head. **(SEE IMAGE #37)**

Once you reach the last bead on the opposite side, also known as your Anchor Bead, make sure to create two Lock Knots before making your way back to the inner Anchor Bead. **(SEE IMAGES #38 AND #39)**



IMAGE #38



IMAGE #39

Once you have completed two Lock Knots on your last bead, you will cut the thread. You want to make sure you are leaving roughly 4-6 inches of thread so you can tie the threads together three times. Once the knots have been completed, cut the remaining thread off. **(SEE IMAGE #40)**

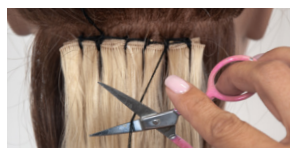


IMAGE #40

Go back to your first Box Knot. Using the remaining thread that you clipped away, create your final Box Knot on the last anchor bead, remembering to cut away the remaining thread when it's been completed. **(SEE IMAGES #41-46 ON THE NEXT PAGE.)**



IMAGE #41

IMAGE #42

IMAGE #43



IMAGE #44

IMAGE #45

IMAGE #46

KEY POINT: Once row is completely finished, the last step is to tack the right and left corner of the wefts down, to hinder the client from picking at them or them sticking out. Starting on the front right bead, place the needle at a diagonal forward above the bead, and exit at the edge of the weft. Triple knot this thread at a diagonal around the weft, to insure it is laying flat.

THIS WILL COMPLETE YOUR FIRST ROW



IMAGE #47

FINAL WEFT APPLICATION

To check for correct placement, lift the weft and make sure the thread is centered down the bead. If the thread is not centered, the application needs to be redone. Not redoing the application will cause breakage and tension on the natural hair. **(SEE IMAGE #47)**

WEFT PLACEMENT IN THE TEMPLE AREA

Remove one Hand Tied Weft from the pack and cut the excess string on both sides, making sure to not cut further than the small knot at the base of the weft.

LEAVE THE KNOT THERE AND DO NOT CUT THE WEFT AS IT WILL UNRAVEL!

Line up the end of the weft with the first bead in the row, securing the weft to the bead by using a small single prong metal clip at a 45° angle around the bead.

Continue to clip the weft on top of remaining beads in the row until you reach the last one. Fold the excess weft over and secure it using single prong clips.

Continue to fold the weft in place until the entire weft has been folded and secured.

If the hair's density and desired result allow for a second weft, begin to stack another weft onto the previous weft, in the same fashion.

Stack on the second weft by starting on the opposite side of where the first weft started and secure it to the previous weft. Be sure to stack all wefts neatly and precisely on top of each other to secure them all together.

Once desired wefts are placed, you will begin to sew the wefts in place following the same instructions underneath the **“SEWING THE WEFT”** heading.

KEY POINT: You will continue to follow the same steps for each additional row. Keeping in mind the **Nape Area** has two anchor beads on each side, and all other rows that incorporate the sides will have three anchor beads on each side of the head.

WEFT REMOVAL

Using a pair of small scissors, carefully cut the thread at the base of the weft. **(SEE IMAGES #49-53)**

MAKE SURE NOT TO CUT THE WEFT, AS IT WILL UNRAVEL.

Use the oval opening of the Deluxe Pliers to carefully remove the beads from the lock of hair. **(SEE IMAGE #55)**



IMAGE #49

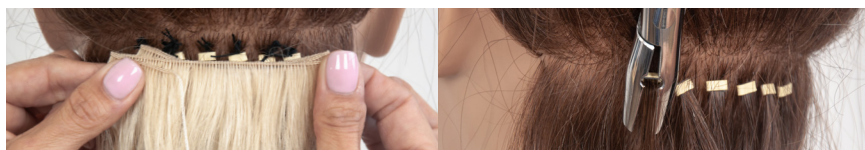
IMAGE #50

IMAGE #51

IMAGE #52

IMAGE #53

KEY POINT: Tack wefts together as you remove the thread to ensure easy reapplication. Doing this will keep the wefts together in place.



HAND TIED WEFT REMOVAL

IMAGE #55

IMPORTANT NOTES

Hand Tied Weft is sewn by hand, strand by strand, and for that reason cannot be cut, glued, and/or burned. The minute the weft is cut, it has been compromised and will unravel and shed, although it doesn't happen immediately. With time, as the client styles, brushes or washes their hair, the weft will shed.

KEY POINT: If you can cut a hand tied weft, it's not hand tied, it's machine tied. Any weft that is truly hand tied, will unravel the minute you loosen the knot. Instead, the wefts are folded in place.

Stylists need to understand the Hand Tied Weft Application is complex and takes time and dedication to fully master. We encourage stylists to practice a minimum of an hour each day to understand all of the steps in this application. With practice, a full head can take about 90 minutes with a removal time of 10-15 minutes. On average it takes two packs of Hand Tied Weft to apply a full head. This is just an estimate; it will always depend on the client's current hair and their desired result.

Finally, always remember to **NEVER CUT THE WEFT**, as it will shed and completely unravel, **RENDERING IT USELESS.**

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