

# Paul Mitchell Schools Mentorship Portfolio

During your training at a Paul Mitchell School, you will want to identify a mentor and create a mentorship portfolio. To ensure your focus and attention to this valuable undertaking, the title “Mentorship Portfolio” appears in a box on your Clinic Floor Worksheets.

A mentor is a teacher or leader who has the knowledge and experience to act as a guide as you develop the skills and knowledge to achieve your career goals. Mentors are people you admire because of the work they have done and who they are. Mentors are people you can learn from along your journey to success. Choosing a mentor is one of the most valuable steps you can take as you create a career plan that will help you achieve your career goals.

*Connecting to My Future* shares ideas for choosing, connecting with, and working with a mentor. Read the information in *Connecting to My Future: My Mentor* and the *Connecting to My Future Activity Book: My Mentor*, and use the mentorship questionnaire to create a mentorship portfolio. Use your imagination to develop and organize your portfolio about someone in our industry who has been a great influence on you. Take your time selecting, researching, and completing your mentorship portfolio.

## SELECTING A MENTOR

Your mentor should be someone in the beauty and fashion industry who has positively influenced or inspired you. Mentors should NOT be someone from your school, since one of the purposes of this exercise is for you to look forward to your future, outside your school experience.

A mentor can be someone you personally know or don't know, and it can be someone current or from the past. You may want to consider mentors from the past who have influenced the beauty and fashion industry, such as Coco Chanel, Kevyn Aucoin, John Sahag, Alexander McQueen, and Paul Mitchell, just to name a few. Current mentors might include Vidal Sassoon, Robert Lobetta, Vivienne Mackinder, Trevor Sorbie, Annie Humphries, Vivienne Westwood, Robert Cromeans, and so on.

If you know the person, then you will want to interview them using the mentorship questionnaire. If you don't know them, then do your best to answer the questions by doing some research online or at your local library.

## STEPS TO CREATING A MENTORSHIP PORTFOLIO

1. Choose a mentor using the information in *Connecting to My Future* and the *Connecting to My Future Activity Book*.
2. Complete an interview using the mentorship questionnaire and/or collect information from the Internet, articles, or books.

3. Write a report, using your interview and/or the information you collected. (The report should be 2–3 pages and typed or professionally presented.)
4. Include pictures of your mentor and your mentor's work.
5. Add stories about your mentor (such as professional success stories; stories of challenges and how your mentor overcame them, etc.)
6. Include a picture of you and your mentor, if possible.
7. Organize the information in a binder for presentation.
8. Present your mentorship portfolio to your Learning Leaders before you complete your graduate exit worksheet.

***Include:***

- Your name
- Your Future Professional number
- Written report
- Photos
- Your mentor's print work, magazine articles, or clippings
- A list of the reference materials you used, including DVDs, videos, press packets, Internet links, books, magazines, etc.

## **VALUABLE RESOURCES FOR MENTOR INFORMATION**

**Plugged In** – As you can imagine, some of your favorite mentors get a lot of requests for this information. To help both you and them, we've posted their answers to the Mentorship Questionnaire on Plugged In. Please feel free to incorporate these standard responses into your report, along with any additional information you discover on your own.

***I'm Not Just a Hairdresser*** – Another valuable resource that may help you research and select a mentor is Vivienne Mackinder's documentary series, *I'm Not Just a Hairdresser*, available at [www.hairdesignertv.com](http://www.hairdesignertv.com).

## **MENTORSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. Where is your mentor originally from?
2. Where did your mentor receive his or her initial training?
3. List your mentor's additional training.
4. What sort of salon experience has your mentor had?
5. What sort of platform experience has your mentor had?
6. What sort of print work experience has your mentor had?
7. What are your mentor's specialties (e.g., cutting, educating, platform artistry, coloring, perming, relaxing, hairpieces, wigs, makeup, etc.)?
8. Has your mentor endorsed or represented a product line? If so, which one(s)?
9. What awards and recognition has your mentor received?
10. Explain your mentor's distinctive style or philosophy.

You may also want to include the following:

- List of ideas you received from your mentor
- List of your mentor's goals and how he or she achieved them
- List of your mentor's accomplishments
- Photos or menus of salons or companies where your mentor has worked