

Shave the Day

On your next business trip, pass on the pizza and Pay-Per-View to sample an authentic barbershop experience



A LITTLE OFF THE BOTTOM Virginia's new Grooming Lounge gives guys a place to shed stress and whiskers.

Grooming Lounge

1745 L STREET NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.; 202-466-8900, GROOMINGLOUNGE.COM
Politicians wipe stress (and scandal) off their faces with a Mach 3 shave (\$50). While you wait, peruse the *Washington Post* over a Ketel One Martini. Suburbanites can try the new location in Virginia.

Truefitt & Hill

900 N. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LEVEL 6, CHICAGO; 312-337-2525, TRUEFITTANDHILL.COM
The royal family has patronized the original London location since 1811, but here you'll find knavish businessmen. Head barber Georg Adamson estimates that 20 percent of men fall asleep during the straight-blade shave (\$55).

Aidan Gill for Men

2026 MAGAZINE STREET, NEW ORLEANS; 504-587-9090, AIDANGILLFORMEN.COM
Located on historic Magazine Row, this Old World tonsorial parlor uses a 1930s towel steamer. Hotter, moister towels mean a softer face and beard. But brace yourself: The shave finishes with an iced towel to close your pores (\$35).

Capelli's Gentlemen's Barbershop

925 4TH AVENUE, IDX TOWER, SUITE 404, SEATTLE; 206-587-0900, CAPELLIS.COM
Near the W, Sheraton, and Hilton hotels in Seattle's business district, this 2-year-old barbershop, complete with wood paneling and flat-screen TV, offers a Mach 3 shave (\$25).

Service Station Barber + Body

2000 COTNER AVENUE, LOS ANGELES; 310-268-0333, SERVICESTATION.NET
Owner Scott Holmes based the Service Station on the full-service gas station his grandfather owned on Highway 44 in Florida. This one is conveniently located off L.A.'s own 405 Freeway and blends old and new worlds by using both the straight blade and the Mach 3 (\$45). AMY LEVIN-EPSTEIN

Secrets of a Perfect Shave

Live nick-free with tips from leading dermatologists and barbers

Before Splash with hot water to plump your skin. Pat dry. If you have sensitive skin or eczema, coat your face with preshave cream. For dry skin, use preshave oil. Choose a razor with at least two blades. "More blades create less trauma to the skin, because you get a closer shave without repeatedly stroking the skin," says Bruce Katz, M.D., clinical professor of dermatology at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Change your blade when it starts to drag.

Clarins Shave Ease (\$23), clarins.com. *Mario Badescu Pre-Shave Conditioner* (\$24), 800-223-3728, mariobadescu.com



During Use a gel or cream with aloe to reduce friction. "Friction causes irritation, and irritation causes razor bumps," says Anthony Sandoval, head barber at the Service Station in Los Angeles. Shave with the grain (and then, if necessary, against the grain) to allow that Mach 3 to catch every hair.

Clinique M Shave Aloe Gel (\$13), 800-419-4041, clinique.com. *John Varvatos Shave Cream* (\$36), 800-295-8877, johnvarvatosscent.com



After If you're getting razor burn, have your shirts pressed without starch—the chemicals can irritate freshly shaven skin. Use a hydrocortisone cream or an anti-inflammatory product with chamomile. To stop ingrown hairs, grow a beard—longer hair won't curl back into itself—or apply an exfoliating night treatment.

Anthony Logistics Razor Burn Repair (\$22), 866-268-4669, anthony.com. *Art of Shaving Ingrown Hair Night Cream* (\$40), 800-493-2212, theartofshaving.com



Potion Decoder

Shaving potions are like women: The sooner you figure out what type makes you happy, the better off you'll be

cream

Thick; ideal for dry or normal skin

lotion

Slightly thinner; perfect for hairy areas like the scalp

gel

Light and translucent; best for men with oily skin or a goatee