



LIGHTENING

The lightening power of a bleach depends first of all on the alkalinity and processing time, and only to a lesser extent on the volume of peroxide used, which must be carefully chosen and properly used to avoid unnecessary sensitisation of the hair.

Lightening operations can be divided into:

lightening and decapage

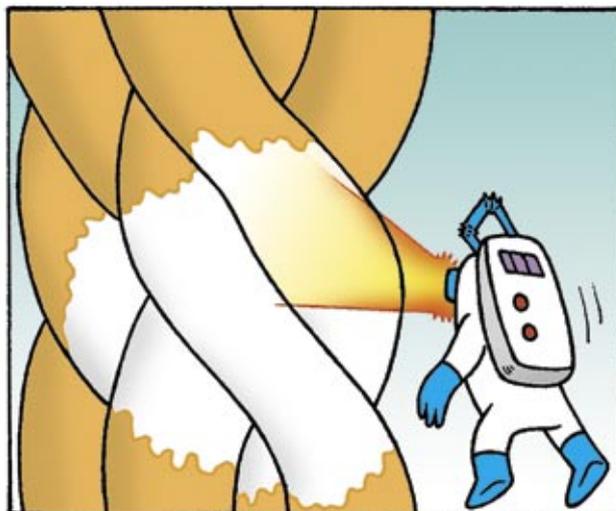
lightening is the process used to give progressive lighting colour. Lightening agents are able to produce between 2 and 3 shades lighter than the original colour. It is recommended that the operation be carried out in two successive stages. Lightening is produced by dissolving the pigments.

To speed up the action of lightening products, additives such as peroxide are used to make it act faster.

Initially, the pigment is detached from the keratin structure and is eliminated. The process then continues progressively dissolved. This will be lighter than the original colour, but will have

Decapage, on the other hand, is the lightening of an artificial colour. In this case, the process progressively eliminates the melanin. This procedure is used above all to totally eliminate the previous colour. This is the only way to carry out this operation because, as you should know, „colour does not remove colour”.

The pigments are always lifted in the same progressive order, passing through the phases of dark red, red, orange red, orange, orange yellow, yellow. In order to reach the last phase it is necessary to leave a suitable lightening agent to process for the proper length of time. Decapage uses the same substances required for lightening, but unlike lightening processes it uses low volume developers and requires a longer processing time.



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Pre-pigmentation

This process may be useful in the case of hair that is extremely stressed or damaged by the use of excessively aggressive products, such as repeated decapage or high levels of lightening. This type of hair does not accept colour, or absorbs it in a very irregular way, forming spots, stains and shadows.

However, by using pre-pigmentation it is possible to prevent colours from tending towards ash, obtain darker shades on light bases and make fragile colours more resistant.

Warm tones, such as reds, coppers or golds, must always be used for pre-pigmentation.

The process is very simple: simply take the colour (1 tone lighter if necessary) and, without mixing it with the developer, apply directly to shafts and ends. To encourage penetration of the product in these areas, which are normally the most impoverished, massage it with your fingers, always remembering to wear gloves. On completing this operation there is no need for any further processing time, and you can move on to apply the actual colour mixture.

Mordenting

Sometimes, when the hair is particularly thick, hard or with tightly closed scales (characteristics that are normally encountered in very dark hair), the colouring product is unable to penetrate sufficiently and, as a result, cannot act properly.

It may therefore be necessary to pre-prepare the hair using 20 volume peroxide, which should be distributed over the hair using a cotton-wool pad, without any particular precautions. After leaving to process for a short time, it will be possible to apply the colour. Alternatively, if considered advisable, use a hood for a few minutes before

