

Chromastics

The Evolution of Hair Color

Technical and Training Manual



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Introduction

Chromastics has been developed and designed to return control of hair coloring services to the professional colorist. It is designed to enhance the colorist's professionalism and expertise by allowing the colorist to determine every aspect of the process.

Chromastics gives the colorist control of tone, lightening and deposit.

Chromastics gives the colorist maximum creativity with minimum products.

- 19 Shades of Permanent Color
- 16 Shades of Deposit-Only Color + Clear
- 16 Shades of Liquid *Shades* Color + Clear
- 5 Concentrates
- 2 Lightening Creams
- 1 Lightening Powder
- 4 Developers (10, 20, 25, 40)

Chromastics has been designed and formulated for professional hair colorists.

*Chromastics is an American color and is based on the American level system.
It is entirely produced in America with the finest possible ingredients.*

Chromastics Gold, Red-Orange, Red-Violet and Ash (BV) shades do not contain brown.

Brown only appears in the 1N, 2N, 3N, 4N, 5N and in 4G.

This allows the colorist to determine the amount of brown to add to any formula.

Chromastics/American Level System

	12 Highest Lifting Blondes
	11 Extra-Lightening Blondes
	10 Lightest Blonde
	9 Very Light Blonde
	8 Light Blonde
	7 Medium Blonde
	6 Dark Blonde
	5 Darkest Blonde/Lightest Brown
	4 Light Brown
	3 Medium Brown
	2 Dark Brown
	1 Black

Chromastics vs. Blended European

	Chromastics permanent	Blended European
Number of shades	19	80 to 120
Tonal families	5 (N, G, RO, RV, BV)	10 + Confusing Names
Tonal ingredients	Each series is pure	Unknown blending
High-Lift shades	XL-S customizes to 6 shades	6+ Different shades
Intermixing	Predictable results	Unknown results
Corrective services	One step corrections	Multiple step corrections

With pure tone Chromastics, there is never a question as to what is in each tube.
There is no “background” color. The background is the tone itself.

When Chromastics colors are intermixed the colorist always knows what has been created.

*When European blended colors are intermixed the results are unpredictable.
 You don't know what's in the tube.*

When you use a tube of Chromastics 4RO you know there is no brown in the tube.

When you use European blended 4RO, it may contain Gold, Neutral or any other tone along with the RO and you don't know the concentration of each dye.

With Chromastics colors the colorist can create multi-dimensional shades.

This is not possible with blended colors as they tend to get “muddy”.

Because you add the missing pigment to a color formula, corrections with Chromastics are generally one step. There's no need to “fill the hair” first.

Corrections with traditional blended colors require multiple steps of priming, filling and coloring.

Converting European systems to American

To convert any European system to American use the following chart

Insert your European level numbers to the **left** of the name and then look to the **right** to see what American level to use

European		American
	Highest-Lifting Blonde	12
	Extra-Lightening Blondes	11
	Lightest Blonde	10
	Very Light Blonde	9
	Light Blonde	8
	Medium Blonde	7
	Dark Blonde	6
	Lightest Brown	5
	Light Brown	4
	Medium Brown	3
	Dark Brown	2
	Darkest Black Brown	*
	Black	1

* To create Darkest Black Brown Mix 45g 2N + 15g 1N

Weighing in Grams

By using a scale to weigh color formulations, you can dramatically affect both the color result and the profit margin of the salon; as well as assure a consistent result for your client.

By weighing in grams, you always have an exact formula that can be easily customized or adjusted for quantity and there is less product waste less. Less product waste means more profit.

Here's an example of why measuring is important:

If you throwaway 30g (1oz.) of product from 8 color applications in one day, you have thrown away two full applications.

Two applications per day times 5 days per week means you throwaway 10 applications per week.

If you charge \$50.00 per application, this means you throwaway \$500.00 in services that would not cost anything to perform.

Multiply that by 50 weeks in a year and you have thrown away enough product to earn \$25,000.00.

Conversion chart for ounces to grams

2 ounces	60 grams
1 ½ ounces	45 grams
1 1/3 ounces	40 grams
1 ounce	30 grams
2/3 ounce	20 grams
½ ounce	15 grams
¼ ounce	7 grams
1/8 ounce	3 grams
2 inches	2 grams
1 inch	1 gram

Formulating with Permanent Color

First – Choose the Target Level.

For better results, it should not be more than 3 levels lighter than the natural hair color.

Second - Choose the predominate tone.

It should be 30 to 45g of the formula.

Third – Choose the secondary tone (if desired).

Generally it is not more than 15g of the formula.

Fourth – Choose the Developer

10-Volume for 1 level of lift

20-Volume for 2 levels of lift

25-Volume for coarse or resistant hair

30-Volume for 3 levels of lift (1oz 20 vol. + 1oz 40 vol. = 2oz 30 vol.)

40-Volume for maximum lightening

Use equal parts of developer + color.

Do **NOT** add extra developer when using 15g or less of Concentrate to modify your formula.

Generally timing is 35 to 45 minutes for permanent colors.

Longer timing will result in better results on resistant “gray” hair

Formulating for Salt & Pepper (gray) Hair

Formula for resistant hair:

60g of color + 60g of 25 volume developer

Formula for resistant and coarse hair:

60g of color + 45g of 25 or 30-volume developer

Permanent Hair Color Overview

Chromastics permanent color palette contains:
19 shades of permanent color

8 Neutral colors
4 Gold colors
3 Red-Orange colors
2 Red-Violet colors
2 Blue-Violet colors

When Chromastics permanent colors (not high-lift) are mixed and applied to the hair, there is less than 1% ammonia in the mixture.

With these few colors a colorist can create an infinite variety of customized formulas for the client.



Deposit-Only Hair Color Overview

There are 16 shades of Deposit-Only colors + Clear

No Lift, No Ammonia, No MEA

Created to be mixed with an equal amount of 10-volume developer.

Can be mixed with up to 20-volume developer for coarse and resistant hair.

1 Clear

4 Neutral colors

4 Gold colors

2 Red-Orange colors

1 Red-Violet color

3 Blue-Violet colors

2 Golden-Beige colors

Deposit-Only colors do NOT contain ammonia.

Deposit-Only colors do NOT contain MEA (Ethanolamine)



Chromastics Liquid *Shades* Overview

No Lift, No Ammonia, No MEA, Liquid Color

- 1 Clear
- 4 Neutral colors
- 4 Gold colors
- 4 Red-Orange colors
- 1 Red-Violet color
- 3 Ash (Blue-Violet) colors



Chromastics Liquid *Shades* Overview

Chromastics *Shades* is a Deposit-Only hair color designed for toning, glazing, refreshing and corrective color.

With the addition of XL-Cream to your formula it can be transformed into a base-breaker.

Chromastics *Shades* contain hydrolyzed wheat and rice protein to leave hair feeling great. Since it has a lower pH and works with just 10-volume developer, it's gentler than regular permanent hair color.

In an applicator bottle, mix equal parts of Chromastics *Shades* and 10-volume developer. Apply to shampooed, towel dried hair. For glazing, refreshing and corrective color, process 10 to 30 minutes.

For toning process 2 to 8 minutes.

Base-Breaking

To transform Chromastics *Shades* to a soft, 1/2 level base-breaker: In an applicator bottle mix, 60g of Chromastics *Shades* and 60g of 10-volume developer, then add 15g of XL-Cream and rapidly apply to the new growth, Process up to 20 minutes. For a full level of lift replace XL-Cream with 15g of XL-Super.

Do not use heat with Chromastics *Shades*.

Lighteners Overview

There are 3 chromastics lighteners.

XL-Cream with an ammonia content when mixed of 1.6%

XL-Super with an ammonia content when mixed of 3.0%

XL-Powder Lightener

XL-Cream and XL-Super can be added to any chromastics color to create a higher lifting shade.

Working with Neutrals

There are 8 Neutral colors



10N Lightest Neutral Blonde

9N is created by mixing 10N + 8N



8N Light Neutral Blonde

7N is created by mixing 8N + 6N



6N Dark Neutral Blonde



5N Darkest Blonde/Lightest Brown

(Transition level between blonde and brown)



4N Light Neutral Brown



3N Medium Neutral Brown



2N Dark Neutral Brown

Darkest Brown/Black is created by mixing 45g 2N + 15g 1N



1N Black

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Working with Neutrals

Neutral colors are designed to be used directly or be intermixed with Red-Orange, Red-Violet, Gold or any Concentrate.

Neutral colors give complete “gray” coverage and soften all other tones.

To create the “Double N” series for better “gray” coverage and make colors appear more opaque, (European like) add the recommended amount of Neutral Concentrate to any formula. (See pg. 10) Do **NOT** add extra developer.

To create Soft Ash colors from any Neutral formula, add the recommended amount of Green Concentrate. (See pg. 15)

Use Green/Blue for stronger Ash.

Use Blue Concentrate for Smokey Ash.

Do **NOT** add extra developer for the concentrates.

When using 4N, 5N or 6N on Salt & Pepper hair that has a high percentage of white, the final results may appear too cool.

To prevent this from happening add a 2-inch ribbon (2 grams) of Gold concentrate to the mixture. Do **NOT** add extra developer.

Mixing Neutral shades with BV is not recommended. It creates Warm Ash.

Creating the “Double N” Series

The difference between a neutral color (N) and a “double N” color (NN) is the concentration of the dye.

4N and 4NN are the same color only the NN version has a slightly higher concentration of dye.

Another way to describe NN is an opaque version of N.

N = Translucent

NN = Opaque

Here’s how you can change any neutral from N to NN.

60g Neutral (N)	Double N (NN)
10N Lightest Blonde	+ 2 inches or 2 grams Neutral Concentrate
8N Light Blonde	+ 4 inches or 4 grams Neutral Concentrate
6N Dark Blonde	+ 6 inches or 6 grams Neutral Concentrate
5N Lightest Brown	+ 8 grams Neutral Concentrate
4N Light Brown	+ 10 grams Neutral Concentrate
3N Medium Brown	+ 15 grams Neutral Concentrate

Do not add extra developer for the concentrate

7 grams = ¼ ounce

10 grams = 1/3 ounce

15 grams = ½ ounce

Working with Gold

There are 4 Gold colors



10G Lightest Golden Blonde

9G is created by mixing equal parts of 10G + 8G



8G Light Golden Blonde

7G is created by mixing equal parts of 8G + 6G



6G Dark Golden Blonde



4G Light Golden Brown

3G is created by mixing equal parts of 4G + Gold Concentrate

Gold shades have been designed to be used directly, or be intermixed with Neutral, Red-Orange, Red-Violet, and Blue-Violet.

Gold colors can be used on white hair **without** adding Neutral.

To increase the depth of a Gold color, add the recommended amount of either Gold or Neutral Concentrate to any formula. Do **NOT** add extra developer.

Use Gold shades to alter the depth and intensity of any Red-Orange or Red-Violet shade.

Creating the “Double G” Series

60g Gold	Double G (GG)
10G	+ 2 inches (2g) Gold Concentrate
8G	+ 4 inches (4g) Gold Concentrate
6G	+ 6 inches (6g) Gold Concentrate
4G	+ 10g Gold Concentrate

Working with Red-Orange

10RO is created by mixing 45g XL-C + 15g 6RO

8RO is created by mixing 30g XL-C + 30g 6RO



6RO



4RO

3RO is created by mixing 30g 4RO + 30g 2RO



2RO

Red-Orange colors do not contain brown.

Red-Orange colors have been designed to be used directly or be intermixed with Gold colors to lighten them or Neutral colors to soften them.

Mixing 3or 4 parts Red-Orange with 1 part Red-Violet creates Red tones.

Adding 1 part Red-Orange to 4 parts Red-Violet increases the brightness of the Red-Violet color.

Red-Orange colors, when applied to white hair, create very vibrant red-orange results. They do **NOT** turn pink.

2RO results in very deep results that appear to be almost red-violet.

Pure Red-Orange colors give best results when applied to Dark Blonde, Light Brown, Medium Brown and Dark Brown natural hair color.

To create European Aubergine colors, use combinations of 2RO and 2RV.

Red-Orange colors are lightened and softened by using Gold in the formula.

Warm chocolate colors are created by adding
7g of 4RO to 60g of 3N, 4N or 5N.

Working with Red-Violet

There are 2 Permanent Red-Violet colors

*Red-Violet colors are often referred to as Burgundy, Plum or Wine.
They do not contain brown*

6RV is created by mixing 30g XL-C + 30g 4RV



4RV Light Red-Violet

3RV is created by mixing equal parts of 4RV + 2RV



2RV Dark Red-Violet

Red-Violet colors have been designed to be used directly for maximum intensity.

Then can be intermixed with Gold or Neutral to lighten or soften them.

A small amount of 4RV (7g) can be added to Red-Orange colors to create less Orange and stronger Red tone.

A small amount of Neutral Concentrate (7 to 15g) can be mixed with Red-Violet shades to “brown-them-out”.

Red-Violet colors provide best results when applied to Light Brown, Medium Brown and Dark Brown natural hair.

When applied to natural blonde hair, Red-Violet colors give very vibrant Red-Violet results.

Red-Violet shades should be intermixed with Gold or Neutral for application to blonde, white or “gray” hair.

Cool chocolate shades are created by adding 7g of 4RV to 60g of 3N, 4N or 5N.

Working with Blue-Violet

There are 2 Permanent Blue-Violet colors

8BV is created by mixing 30g 6BV + 30g XL-C



6BV Light Blue-Violet

5BV is created by mixing equal parts of 6BV + 4BV



4BV Dark Blue-Violet

Blue-Violet s colors do NOT contain brown

Blue-Violet colors have been designed to be used directly only when white hair is **NOT** present.

To use Blue-Violet on white or “gray” hair, it must be intermixed with Gold.

Intermixing Blue-Violet with Gold creates warm Beige and Soft Ash shades.

Intermixing Blue-Violet with Red-Orange lightens the RO and adds Violet.

Intermixing Blue-Violet with Red-Violet deepens the color and adds Violet.

Blue-Violet shades are particularly useful for lightening natural dark brown that does not have white or gray, to achieve lighter brown results. This is accomplished by mixing BV with 20, 25, 30 or 40-volume developer.

Add the recommended amount of Blue-Violet to 60g of Gold to create warm Beige or Soft Ash results. (see concentrate chart on pg. 15)

Mixing BV with Neutrals is not recommended. It creates Warm Ash.

Working with Concentrates

There are 5 Chromastics Concentrates

	Neutral
	Gold
	Green
	Red
	Blue

Each has a specific function.

Neutral Concentrate is used to create “Double N” colors for better “gray” coverage.

Gold Concentrate is used to create “Double G” colors, to add warmth to neutral colors and to soften both Red-Orange and Red-Violet colors.

Green Concentrate is added to Neutral to create Soft Ash colors and is added to Gold colors to create Cool Beige.

Red Concentrate can be added to Neutral, Gold, Red-Orange and Red-Violet to create customized red shades.

Blue Concentrate is added to Neutral colors to create “Smokey” blondes and “Smokey” brunettes. *Only use ½ of the recommended amount of blue.*

Working with Concentrates

Use the following guidelines when adding concentrates to formulas.

Do NOT add extra developer for the concentrate

60g of color	Recommended amount of Concentrate
Level 10 Lightest Blonde	+ 2 inches or 1 gram
Level 8 Light Blonde	+ 4 inches or 4 grams
Level 6 Dark Blonde	+ 6 inches or 6 grams
Level 5 Lightest Brown	+ 8 inches or 8 grams
Level 4 Light Brown	+ 1/3 ounce or 10 grams
Level 3 Medium Brown	+ 1/2 ounce or 15 grams

When adding Blue Concentrate use ½ of the recommended amount

Blue Concentrate + Red Concentrate = Violet Concentrate

All concentrates can be use alone for Deposit-Only “Fashion Tone” results!

Working with XL-C (Xtra Lightening Cream)

Extra Lightening Cream is a versatile product that lightens hair without adding tone.

When mixed properly and applied to the hair it contains 1.6% ammonia. It is mixed with equal parts of any chromastics developer.

To create Level 11 Extra-Lightening Blondes:
Mix 60g of **XL-C** with 60g of 40-volume developer. Add 7g of any level 6 color. The level 6 color is diluted to level 11 when added to the mixture.

Do not mix XL-C with double developer.

The ammonia content of XL-C is less than half of other high-lift colors and has been designed to create gentle lightening and not give “raw looking” yellow results.

XL-C remains active for one hour.

Add 7 to 15g of **XL-C** to any chromastics formula to increase lightening or to create a more translucent color.

XL-C contains hydrolyzed wheat and soy proteins, which help maintain a healthy state when lightening hair.

Working with XL-Super (Xtra Lightening Super)

XL-Super creates more lightening than XL-Cream without moving up to powder lightener

It is designed to be mixed with an equal amount of developer and will lift 2 to 3 levels higher than XL-C but still provide all the benefits of hydrolyzed wheat and soy protein.

When mixed properly and applied to the hair it contains 3.0% ammonia.

It remains active for one hour.

It can be intermixed with any shade of Chromastics permanent color

To create Level 12 Highest-Lifting Blondes, mix:

60g of XL-S + 60g of 40-volume developer + 7g of any level 6 color.
For more deposit use 7g of any level 4 color.

Do NOT mix XL-S with double developer.

Caution: Some clients are very sensitive to High-Lift Blondes when applied to the scalp. If the client experiences any discomfort (burning or severe itching) immediately rinse the product from the hair.

Working with XL-Powder (Xtra Lightening Powder)

Xtra Lightening Powder is an Off-the-Scalp lightener that can be mixed with any Chromastics developer.

For each scoop of powder add an equal amount of Chromastics developer.

Add a small amount of extra developer to create thinner consistency.
Do **NOT** add more than 7g of extra developer for every 60g of XL-P.

This product is designed to function best when mixed to a thicker cream. (similar to toothpaste)

Increasing the amount of developer creates a thinner product and swelling.

XL-P remains active for 1 hour.

DO NOT add **XL-P** to any mixture containing color.

XL-P can be applied to both dry and shampooed and towel-dried hair.

When dryer heat is used with foils, **USE LOW HEAT**. (110 degrees)

Do not use high heat.

Higher heat encourages swelling, over processing and damage to the hair.

To create a “creamier” mixture, add 7 to 15g of XL-C to XL-P.

For Balayage,
Mix 60g XL-P +7g Liquid Clear + 45g 30 or 40-volume developer.

Creating On-the-Scalp Lightener

To create On-the-Scalp Lightener, Intermix XL-Cream with XL-Powder.

For gentle On-the-Scalp lightening mix:

60g of XL-C + 1 scoop XL-P + 90g of 20-volume developer.

For regular strength On-the-Scalp lightening mix:

30g of XL-C + 1 scoop XL-P + 60g of 20-volume developer.

For extra strength On-the-Scalp lightening mix

15g of XL-C + 45g of XL-P + 60g of 20-volume developer.

On-the-Scalp lightener will remain active for 1 hour.

Do NOT place a plastic bag over processing hair.

Do NOT use dryer heat.

Gentle steam heat may be used if desired. (No plastic bag)

Caution:

Do not mix XL-Powder with XL-Super

Creating Chromastics SuperGlaze

Chromastics SuperGlaze is a Low-Lift, Full-Deposit color.

A SuperGlaze is created by mixing:

30g Permanent + 30g Deposit-Only + 60g 20-volume developer.

It is normally timed for 20 minutes but can be processed for 30.

- 20 minute timing gives $\frac{1}{2}$ level of lift
- 30 minute timing gives 1 level of lift

It has been designed to blend or completely color “Gray” hair,

To blend “Gray” mix a formula that is 2 or 3 levels lighter than the natural hair color.

For complete “Gray” coverage, mix a formula at or 1 level lighter than the natural hair color.

Any Concentrate can be added to a formula to customize color results.

Chromastics on Relaxed Hair

The integrity of the relaxed hair is the most important consideration when coloring. Hair that has been **properly** relaxed **can** be lightened, colored and highlighted. *Hair that breaks or pulls apart with medium tension should not be colored; it will most likely break or “melt” during processing.*

The use of a relaxing product increases porosity and sensitizes melanin. Most of the time, relaxed hair can be processed with 10-volume developer. This gives results similar to 20-volume on virgin hair.

When matching or going darker use 10-volume developer and deposit-only color or Liquid *Shades*.

When going one level lighter mix equal parts of permanent and deposit-only color with 10-volume developer.

When going two levels lighter use permanent color with 10 or 20-volume. *Always strand test first to preview results.*

When going three levels or more lighter, the hair must first be treated with a mild lightener to obtain a yellow color and then toned with Deposit-Only or Liquid *Shades*. *Do not attempt this process if the hair is fragile or damaged. Always strand test.*

Avoid using straight powder lightener. Instead, use 20g XL-Cream + ½ scoop of XL-P and 10-volume developer. *Always strand test first.*

Never use high-lift shades with 40-volume developer on relaxed hair. The hair will break or disintegrate.

Never under any circumstances lighten relaxed hair to white. The hair will immediately break or disintegrate.

Do not put color or highlights under heat when applied to relaxed hair.

Always condition with Extreme Lock-Down conditioner after any color service.

HEAT AND HAIR COLORING

Using Steam Heat

The determination to use steam heat is up to the individual cosmetologist.

1. Turn the steamer on.
2. Before placing the client under the steamer allow the color to penetrate for 5 minutes.
3. Do **NOT** place a plastic cap over the hair.
4. Do **NOT** pack the hair against the scalp. Lift it away so the steam can circulate through all the hair and be sure all of the hair is inside the hood.
5. Allow for a medium flow of steam.
If the steam is flowing around the client's face, adjust the vent on top of the hood to allow steam to escape.
6. Generally, the color will process in 18 to 22 minutes.
7. Remove the steamer from the hair and allow the client to cool down for 5 minutes.
8. Rinse, shampoo and condition.

Do NOT use dryer heat with hair color. A plastic cap and dryer heat will dramatically increase the chance of scalp irritation, burning and an allergic reaction.

Creating Blended Tonal Families

A great advantage of pure tone color is its ability to create blended tones.

When you create blended tonal families using Chromastics, you eliminate all of the extra inventory from the dispensary.

Here are a few examples of blended tones.

To create **Soft Ash Brown** mix Neutral + Green Concentrate

To create **Ash Brown** mix Neutral + Green Concentrate + Blue Concentrate

To create **Warm Ash Brown** mix Neutral + BV (Not recommended)

To create **Smokey Brown** mix Neutral + Blue Concentrate

To create **Warm Brown** mix Neutral + Gold Concentrate

To create **Ash Blonde** mix Neutral + Green Concentrate

To create **Warm Beige Blonde** mix Gold + Blue-Violet

To create **Cool Beige Blonde** mix Gold + Green Concentrate

To create **Auburn Brown** mix Neutral + RO or RV

To create **Red** mix 3 parts RO + 1 part RV

To create **Aubergine** (Italian Red) mix Deep RV + Deep RO

Chromastics Sales & Education

New England, Carabito Corporation
207-548-1103

Illinois, Midwest Salon Solutions
847-477-0034

Ohio, Salon Sean Distributing
513-368-0778

Georgia, Salon Resource
478-318-5296

Florida, Eco Salon Solutions
914-400-8550

New York City, United Beauty Products
800-635-3950

California, Chromastics West Coast 818-481-4859

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