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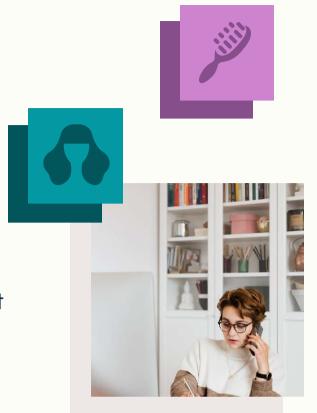




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Introduction

The beauty business is a competitive industry. You may have the best products and services but if you fail to manage your stylists, technicians and clients effectively, your business will definitely fall apart.

New as well as seasoned salon owners often complain about managing salon operations. Well, it's easier said than done.

To ensure your salon, spa or any other beauty-related enterprise thrives, you need to learn how to manage the business.

With a good salon management strategy, you can take your business to remarkable heights.

From elevating the overall guest experience to growing your salon, you need to constantly churn out ways to ensure all the people connected with your business are happy. Investing in technology can help you achieve that.

The transition is already happening as many beauty business owners have reduced their reliance on pen and paper business management and have embraced innovative software.

This eBook aims at discussing the role of technology in managing and operating a salon or spa business. We'll dive into each aspect of salon management which will help you maximize your time on the salon floor and minimize the time spent in the accounts room. After all, you're a salon owner, not an IT professional.



The USA is one of the largest consumption countries of salon software in the world. The spa and salon software market is expected to register a CAGR of 7.11% over the forecast period (2021-2026).

Definition of Salon Management

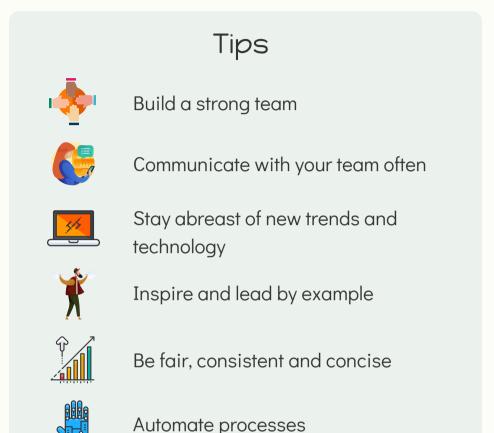
Managing a salon is a full-time job. As the name implies, salon management involves managing every aspect that contributes to the smooth working of an enterprise.

It is usually the salon manager who ensures the success of a business by providing the clients with top-notch service, setting goals, assigning staff duties, marketing the business, and analyzing revenue reports.

Since the beauty business is a highly competitive industry, personnel management skills is something every good salon manager must have.

With effective salon management, there is a visible difference in a salon's culture, employee's attitude and the overall functioning.

To enhance guest experience and improve the other crucial aspects of a beauty business, salon owners are automating their entire operations with software. It tackles all the different challenges posed by the business with the required solutions. It helps add more fluidity to the overall customer experience and vendor relations.





Salon Manager

(noun)

A driven beauty professional responsible for daily salon operations, team management, human resources, finance and accounting, sales and marketing. Putting out multiple fires simultaneously on a limited budget and minimal support staff; dedicated to improving the client's salon experience and creating teamwork/life balance.

Complete Salon Management Checklist

\bigcirc	Online booking to maximize appointment schedule
0	Ability to book or change appointments seamlessly
0	Hiring and training salon staff
0	Managing inventory and retail stock
0	Integrated business management with automated reordering of core products
0	Running personalized marketing campaigns
0	Implementing client retention strategies
0	Tracking customer behaviour, staff performance metrics and other KPIs
0	Managing client feedback and online reputation
0	Ensuring health and safety of salon staff
0	Maintain hygiene and cleanliness in the salon
0	Managing end-to-end finances and staff payroll
0	Planning strategies to encourage repeat business and re-booking
0	Multi-location management and consolidated reports

Setting goals and tracking success
Purchasing latest and upgraded salon equipment
Updating salon décor and design
Incorporating latest technology in the salon
Securing employee and client well-being
Revenue leak control
Choosing the right salon management software

Elevate the Guest Experience

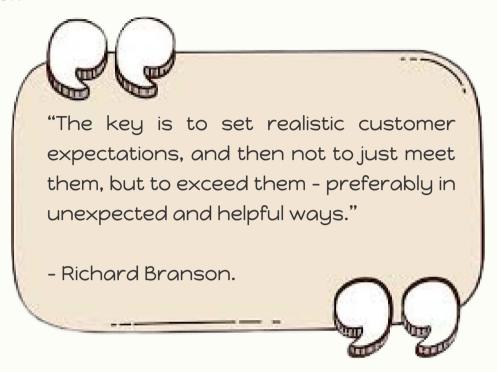
It doesn't matter how big your marketing budget is or how talented your team is if you can't offer a top-notch guest experience from the beginning till the end.

In the bargain, you might end up losing clients. The first prerequisite of the beauty business is to make your clients feel comfortable.

Today's ideal salon client is more invested in the experience than anything else. Since we live in an era of choices, clients want to customize their experience to suit their preferences.

A major part of managing your salon or spa is ensuring that your customers are happy.

Today's modern customer demands more. From the moment someone decides they want to make a booking till they leave your premises, you have to offer them a service they're going to remember.



To automate the process, cloud-based software has a vital role to play

Appointment Scheduling

The pre-appointment experience starts with a smooth booking process.

Every guest values the ability to schedule an appointment at their convenience. Gone are the days when people want to feel restricted when it comes to scheduling an appointment!

They want to be able to act in the moment by scheduling an appointment whenever they feel like and not just in your business hours via a phone call.

Salon management software focuses on putting the customer's needs first.

With an online booking system, customers can schedule an appointment anytime and from anywhere.

This ensures your bottom line is growing even during your nonbusiness hours. When a software takes care of appointment scheduling, customers and stylists are fully coordinated.

There is no room for error as the technicians too are prepared for each client's appointment as they are well-versed with their past appointment history and preferences.

This gives them a chance to elevate customer experience. Beyond a smooth booking process, you also have to ensure your client is getting some kind or pre-appointment material.



This can be an email or text message confirming the booking date and time. Most booking software has this feature built-in.

Automated appointment reminders are sent to the clients before and on the day of their booking.

This eliminates no-shows and cancelled appointments, and ensures staff productivity is maintained.

You can also use this feature to WOW a new client by giving them extra information about your salon. Offer Google Map details or where they can find parking.

Being thoughtful with your choice of words will make the guest feel rest assured that they have made the right choice by booking with you.



Personalized marketing campaigns

Marketing is an important part of growing your business. To stand out in the competitive salon industry, you have to put your best foot forward.

When you're putting in so much effort to improve a customer's journey digitally, it even makes sense to craft personalized marketing campaigns that will resonate with every customer.

Put an end to repetitive and irrelevant marketing campaigns and focus on marketing solutions that will answer a customer's needs.

With this, you can send offers and incentives that will actually make a client act.

For example, if you have certain clients visiting you only for haircuts, send offers around them. This will make them want to visit your outlet.

As part of your marketing initiatives, remember to run a personalized SMS and email marketing campaign. SMS and email marketing has wide potential.

From sending out appointment reminders to promotional messages, you can use it to the best of your ability.

You can also send personalized greetings to clients during their birthday and anniversary. Use the customer database on your salon software to craft messages that will resonate with them.

When you do so, it will make your clients feel like you truly care about them.



of no-show rate is reduced by using Text message appointment reminders.

Beyond this, you can also run offers in your salon that drive value. Remember, in the salon business, it's all about adding value rather than killing your profits.

Consider introducing happy hours, offering three services at the price of two, complimentary sample products, and more to keep your customers coming back.

This will also boost your overall revenue and bottom line. Another way you can improve your salon's visibility and maintain its reputation online is by using social media to your advantage.

You're probably missing out if your salon business isn't on Instagram. Post consistently, go live once a month, conduct Q&As, and run contests and giveaways to attract millennials to your salon.

You can also leverage influencer marketing to attract those who spend most of their time on the visual-sharing platform.



Automated payments

Automation is proving to be positive for the salon industry. Apart from automating processes and operations, the service industry is also automating payments.

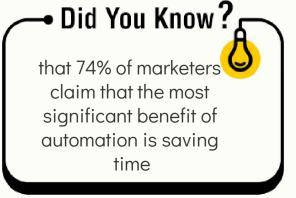
Beyond cash and card, contactless payment modes and UPI are gaining recognition. Post-COVID, mobile money has become extremely popular.

Most salon and spa software have an in-built POS system that enables faster checkout for the clients.

From invoicing to receipts and sales transactions, the software does it all. It literally offers a seamless transaction from chair to checkout.

With an automated payment process, you place a value on your time. You can automatically take deposits from clients at the time of booking.

This process makes clients more respectful of your policies and also financially protects your salon. If they cancel or don't turn up for their appointment, at least employee productivity isn't lost.



Grow your Business

Optimization is the key to managing any modern business. In today's day and age, we can monitor, gather, analyze and interpret data much more easily.

We don't have to do it manually anymore as technology is there to do it for us. In fact, these generated reports can be used to improve the bottom line of the salon too.

When you automate every aspect of your business, you can definitely grow it. Currently, if you aren't using any software, can you tell how many people from your database haven't booked an appointment in the last six months?

Well, it may be difficult to tell as you don't have any metrics with you. However, with technology, the process becomes more seamless.

Since they're intelligent platforms, they mine customer data to answer questions like these. It also helps salon owners craft the right campaigns to keep customers coming back.

With a salon management solution, business owners can generate instant snapshots to understand their most important customer segments and gain other valuable insights which can be used to improve client retention and the frequency of their visits.



Salon Client Retention

If you aim at growing your beauty business, you have to focus on client retention. There are no two thoughts about the fact that the salon and spa space are extremely competitive.

Customer Acquisition & Retention Statistics

Acquiring a new customer can cost five times more than retaining an existing customer.



of your profit can be increased by a 5% increase in your retention.



success rate in selling to your existing customers, while only 5% success in selling to a new customer.

Finding new clients can be difficult and expensive. In that case, you as a salon owner have to focus on retaining clients.



Client retention refers to your salon's ability to keep existing clients continually returning to use your products and services on a regular basis. The opposite of client retention is client churn. It is where your clients no longer use your services.





Running a loyalty program is the perfect way to retain and engage existing clients. Whether you own small beauty business or an established one, with a program like this you can nurture a strong base of repeat customers.



You can reward your clients with discounts, freebies, complimentary services, and more. This also helps you stand out from your competitors.

Also, if the products and services you offer are good, your clients tend to become unpaid advocates of your brand. Before you create a loyalty program, it is important to understand your customer base.

Since you're likely to already have their age and gender, you can figure out what kind of rewards and services they expect from you.

Some of the popular rewards you can consider include – discounts, free add-on products, and services booking priority, premium customer service, a personalized experience, etc.



Membership

Membership programs are another way to increase retention and recurring income in your salon.

Introducing a membership program is a win-win for you as well as your clients.

The nature of the program can be monthly or annual. It usually provides members with discounts for various types of treatments or services.

While they get to avail services at discounted rates, you get to see them as their membership keeps them coming regularly. A membership program can also help you combat unreliable cash flows.

Since customers pay upfront to join a membership program, you can be assured of a fixed source of income that doesn't fluctuate. You can further increase your revenue by upselling.



🤽 Referral Program

A salon referral program is exactly what it sounds like. When a client refers a new business to your salon, reward them.

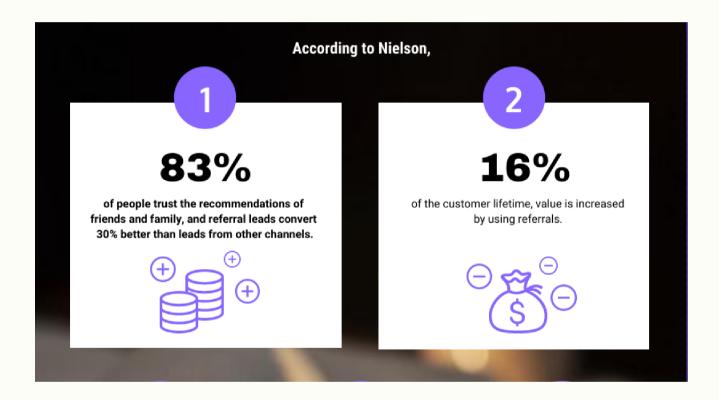
It's similar to word-of-mouth marketing wherein your customers act like brand ambassadors. As a salon owner, you get to decide the specifics of the referral program.

However, most salon referral programs offer the referee discount on a future service, treatment, or product.

Hence, in addition to driving new business your way, it also incentivizes your existing clients to return more frequently.

However, your clients will only refer to your business if you delight them in the first place. If you make them look and feel beautiful, be rest assured that they will sing your praises.

Once you've got your referral program in place, remember to promote it. Put it on your social media pages and explain the perks so that your existing clients actually bring their friends and family.



Efficient Business Management

There may be times when you might find your salon chaotic and disorganized.

If your resources get double booked or if you run out of essential stock, it can be quite embarrassing, especially in front of first-time clients.

The best way to avoid this is by tightly integrating business process platforms and customer data. It helps salon owners pull out information at their fingertips whenever they want.

There is absolutely no headache when everything is managed in one place.

Most salon software is incorporated with a personal dashboard which gives team members valuable insights into future appointments, bookings, a commission earned, customer feedback, goals, and more.

The software also equips your technicians with everything they need to know so that they can offer your clients a VIP experience and manage their workflow at the same time.

📆 Inventory Management

Managing a salon also involves managing inventory. It is a vital part of maintaining profitability.

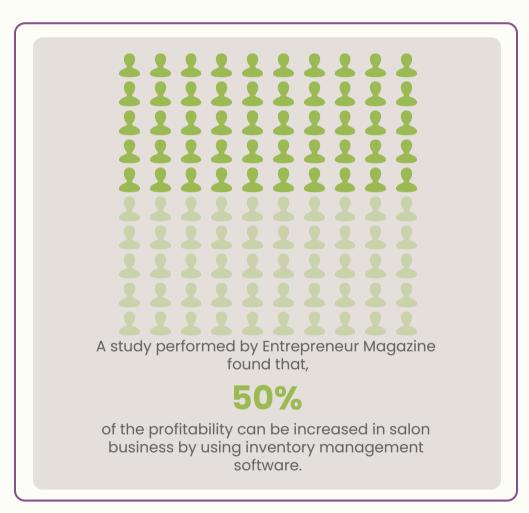
Gone are the days when salon owners would rely on guesswork when it comes to reordering stock.

With inventory management software, you can accurately track stock levels and prevent oversupply.

Efficient inventory management also allows you to manage the flow of goods from the salon to the warehouse and from the manufacturer to the ultimate point of sale.

Since every process is automated, get instant alerts when you're low on stock.

When inventory is managed efficiently, you will not just be able to boost sales but also ensure the right products are available at the right time and in the right quantities.



Make it a practice for your hairdressers and technicians to enter the quantity of product used for every treatment.

Based on this, the software automatically calculates and alerts you when the stock needs to be replenished.

If the vendor details are mentioned, the software also automatically creates purchase orders. Every salon owner would agree that stock loss can be a serious threat to the business.

Another benefit of having an efficient inventory management system in place is that shrinkage in a salon or spa is reduced considerably. Chances of any kind of pilferage, stock loss or theft is eliminated.

Track Progress and Growth

Salon analytics is one term you may be definitely familiar with. You didn't just open a salon to serve clients each day.

Instead, you want to offer them a top-notch experience and improve. You obviously want to know how your business is flourishing, what customers are liking and what they're disliking staff performance and more.

Meticulously analyzing every aspect of your business can be pretty daunting. That's when salon management software comes into the picture. It automates the entire process and makes it less time-consuming.

Within a few clicks, you can track the progress and growth of your business. Churn out weekly, monthly and yearly reports anytime (even when you're on vacation).

These reports will advise and enlighten you, and tell you where you need to make improvements. Without straining your eyes, you can get insights into every function of your salon.

Reports and Analytics

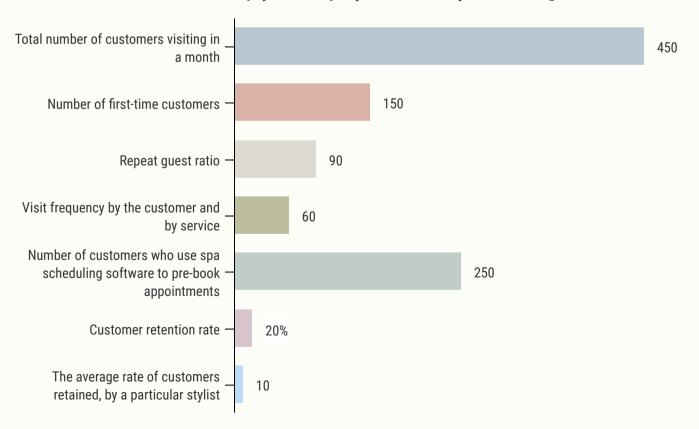
The most important feature of any salon management software is its ability to produce meaningful reports and analytics.

This gives managers and salon owners access to information they need in real-time for decision-making. Important business decisions can be made based on these metrics.

Reports are the roadmap for your business. They give you a clear understanding of what's working and what's not. When your staff has certain goals to work towards, they too will be more motivated.

Churn out reports anytime and see what adjustments have to be made. A lot of salon owners are still tracking KPIs incorrectly because they're still doing it on an excel sheet.

KPIs that will help you shape your monthly sales target



When the process is automated and done on specialized software, human error is eliminated completely. Customer reports, staff reports, business reports, and more can be accessed anytime.

Effective Human Asset Management

Your team is your biggest asset. Without them, your business will cease to exist.

As a salon owner, you don't just have to be responsible for the growth and development of your business but also have to manage employees at the same time, recruit experienced professionals and make them aware of your salon culture.

Efficient human asset management begins with great leadership. As a salon owner or manager, you need to set the bar, and inspire and motivate them.



Before getting an employee on board, make sure you conduct standard background and reference checks. Every employee must fit the role, have a great personality and sound work ethics.

Staff and Incentive Management

In addition to managing your salon retail strategy or marketing approach, you also have to manage your staff and ensure the wheels of your business are running smoothly. Well, it's easier said than done!

Managing human assets can be difficult. No matter how good your stylists and artists are, you can't give them free rein over the place.

When you're hiring your team members, you need to set rules and have certain processes in place so that you and they are working towards the same goal.

If you're looking to build a profitable and successful business, setting targets is crucial. They motivate your team, help them achieve goals, and drive more revenue.

Remember, targets won't achieve anything if they're not monitored and tracked. Thus, even before you introduce targets to your team, you need to figure out how you're going to be tracking them.

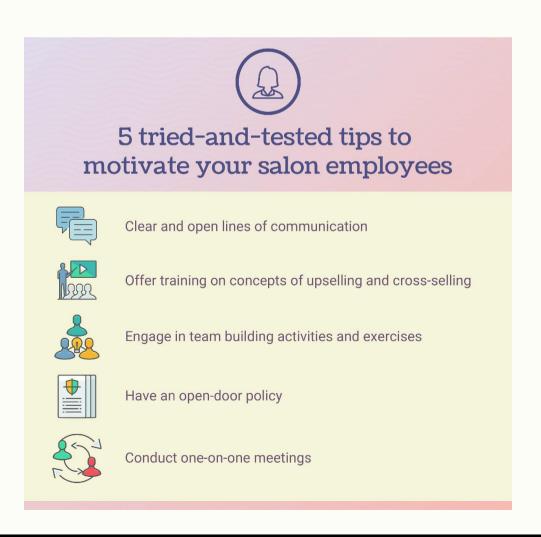
With salon and spa software, tracking targets and incentivizing staff have become more seamless. The progress will automatically be updated based on what your team members have sold. Based on this, incentives can be calculated.

The process becomes more transparent and you can see how your business is progressing as a whole.

Types of targets to set for employees.



You can set weekly or monthly targets based on what suits your team and goals.



Tips to become a Great Salon Manager

Being a salon manager isn't easy. It's a job that keeps you on your toes and requires you to wear many hats.

One day you have to be a good communicator, the next day you might be required to be diplomatic.

How you juggle your various duties and responsibilities is what determines the success of your salon. You may even have to oversee several aspects at the same time.

Being everywhere can become a bit overwhelming at times. That's a major reason why budding, as well as established salon owners, are choosing salon software to manage their business.

It gives them more time to concentrate on bigger things such as planning an event or a marketing activity that will help them gain more visibility in the market.

To become a great salon manager, here are a few tips you must take seriously:

Master Communication

You're not fit to be a salon manager if you don't possess outstanding communication skills.

On a day-to-day basis, you may be required to communicate with a lot of people such as clients, employees, vendors, stakeholders, competitors and more.

If you can't put your point across properly, you may fail as a salon manager. You have to ensure that your staff is always updated and know what is expected of them.

Great communication will also help you resolve conflicts. The best way to express yourself is by holding team meetings regularly.

Explain your salon culture and policy to your employees so that all your customers get a uniform experience. Address urgent issues immediately.

If there are other matters that are not time-sensitive, you can pick them up in your monthly staff meetings. Great communication definitely makes a great manager.



Know your Numbers

As a salon manager, it's important for you to know how your business is tracking overall. And, for that, knowing your numbers is important.

Keep a track of how your team is performing so that you can maintain a certain standard of service and keep your customers happy.

Examine reports on your beauty salon software to dive deep into the key performance indicators (KPIs) of your salon. It gives major insights into your business and helps you identify trends and loopholes.

To be a great salon manager, you need to be able to compare reports and analyze what's working for your business and what's not.

Once you churn out various reports, you can even chalk out a realistic plan to improve your salon's overall bottom line.



Implement Business Growth Tactics

You will be considered a great manager only if you look towards the future.

It's not always about breaking even.

As a salon manager, you need to constantly decide on how you are going to be growing your business.

For that, you need to keep track of what your competitors are doing.

Take a look at their Google My Business profile, their social media pages, and their online presence, in general, to see what they're doing.

If they are making use of any tools and techniques, you too can implement a similar strategy in your salon.

At all times a salon manager must ensure that a business is flourishing.

Salon Operations and Revenue

It comes as no surprise that several functions have to be managed in a beauty business.

The three basic functions include operations, marketing and accounting. If you can't manage these things, you've failed as a salon owner.

Salon management is all about successfully managing the operations of a beauty salon on a day-to-day basis.

Your objective should be to attract more customers and create a positive work environment for your team members. Bookkeeping is a major part of managing operations.

It is important to keep track of the revenue that's coming in from different sources and ensuring client profiles are maintained. Along with these day-to-day tasks, expense and revenue management is equally important.

If there are any loopholes, your business can come to a standstill. When you own a salon, revenue comes in from more than one source.

Some of the common ones include service revenue, retail product revenue, chair upgradation, upselling, booth rental and revenue from pop-ups and exhibitions.



While hair styling products often make up only about 5% to 25% of salon sales, they're much more profitable than hair care services.

Keeping track of expenses will also ensure the swift processing of payments.

Physically managing these books can be pretty challenging.

But when you do it with salon software, you get all the information you need about pending payments.

This helps you minimize loss within the business and lets you stay on top of your salon bookkeeping needs.

The Salon Owner — Essential Management Skills

The salon and spa business is all about people.

Whether it's interacting with customers or delegating work to employees, much of the day is spent surrounded by people.

If you want to run an effective business, great management skills are imperative.

Also, you need to create a working environment that lives up to what a salon should be.

You can do so through great communication, team-building activities, and training and mentoring your employees in the best possible way.

If you've opened a salon or spa recently and are not sure about the management skills you should learn, these points will help you.

Communication Skills

Communication is the backbone of good management. Your approach as a salon owner doesn't have to be casual.

You must speak in a clear and concise manner to put your point across.

If you're unable to do so initially, things can get difficult later.

A good practice would be to establish norms on how you intend to communicate things.

Are there going to be weekly staff meetings, staff newsletters, or a central bulletin board where you will be posting new information? Whichever route you decide to take, remember to be consistent.

Training & Mentoring Skills

You don't just hire employees. Instead, you train, mentor, and groom them.

It's your duty as a salon owner to help them grow – professionally, technically, and personally.

This way, they become a bigger and better asset to your salon. Among the many things you do, make training a regular part of your salon culture.

Consider organizing product training or skill demonstration workshops. You can even collaborate with someone who is proficient in a certain area.

This will help them level up their skills as a stylist, technician or therapist.

As a salon owner, you may be already aware of how upselling and cross-selling is important to your business.

To explain the same to your stylists, maybe you can get an expert sales trainer to do a quick seminar.



🗼 Team Building Skills

Besides managing employees, you also need to create a team that works well together.

The best way to keep everyone close-knit in your salon business is by conducting team-building activities.

A lot of people say that team building doesn't work. Well, when done right, it works wonders.

Consider group lunches, movie outings, volunteering, treks, etc. to grow your bond with your team members.



Conflict Management Skills

With so many people involved in the salon business, it's normal for conflicts to occur.

However, as a salon owner, how you tackle these conflicts matters.

Whether it's between you and an employee, or any team members, it's important for you to take charge and assess the situation. Start by identifying the source of the conflict.

Next, look for solutions that can make things better between both parties.

Once you identify the best solution, create a plan to make changes going forward.

Never resolve a conflict when you're angry. Take some time to cool down and then approach the situation.

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Consider group lunches, movie outings, volunteering, treks, etc. to grow your bond with your team members.

Consider the Cloud – Salon Management Software

Today, paper and pen processes have taken a backseat. Everyone wants things to be done quickly and at the click of a button.

Since you're in the business of making people look and feel their best, you should consider incorporating the latest technology.

Modern customers want a seamless experience wherever they go.

Whether it's booking tickets for a movie, ordering a cup of coffee or scheduling an appointment in your salon or spa, they want the experience to be convenient.

And for this, you need to consider the cloud.

Statistics of salons and spas that use salon software **56% 56% 62%** reduced manual effort decreased missed salons and spas use management software. and paperwork. appointments. 30% **52% 30%** improved marketing increased customer increased sales satisfaction. capabilities. revenue.

Our salon software is designed keeping in mind today's salon owners and their customers.

Everyone desires more fluid services and the ability to schedule appointments at any time – day or night.

They also want to interact with you through a medium that's most convenient for them, be it a phone call, SMS, email, or app.

Keeping this in mind, it's high time new as well as seasoned salon owners consider navigating software options.

Yes, the options in the market can be overwhelming. But if you want to see real business results, you have to streamline how your processes are managed. Our salon software is designed keeping in mind today's salon owners and their customers.

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Yes, the options in the market can be overwhelming. But if you want to see real business results, you have to streamline how your processes are managed.

You as a business owner get better insights as the platform creates efficiencies for your salon in everything from scheduling to inventory management.

MioSalon is one such software that is safe and easy to use. Cloud-based salon software is also safe, secure, and updated.

You don't have to worry about when an upgrade is going to happen or if your platform is in danger of obsolescence.

Our software has just one priority – to offer a first-class experience to your clientele.

Conclusion

Using technology to grow and manage your business may not be anything new for you.

However, we've noticed a lot of salon owners getting overwhelmed with the number of tasks that come along with owning and managing a salon.

If you're someone who strives to offer excellence in customer service, keep track of analytics in real-time, and execute intelligent marketing, salon management software is for you.

It ensures your enterprise remains competitive while keeping a steady eye on your bottom line.

Automating business processes gives your clients the experience they desire, and your employees are on the same page too.

Choosing the right software partner will deliver on all these needs and more while simplifying processes and providing business owners with an in-depth understanding.

From increasing customer bookings to reducing overheads, and improving efficiency and profitability, salon software accurately delivers where it counts.

Leave all the mundane tasks to the software while you spearhead your business and channel your energies in areas that matter the most to you.

MioSalon is the only software your salon needs! It can help you achieve great things in your business as you deserve nothing less.

Explore Now!

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