Bevel Edge vs. Convex Edge Scissors

When choosing a pair of haircutting scissors, you may be confused by the terms beveled and convex. These terms refer to the specific shape of the cutting edge of the blades on the scissors you use. About 80 percent of the scissors in use throughout the world use a beveled cutting edge.

The term beveled refers to the cutting edge at the top of the scissor blades. If you look closely at a pair of beveled scissors, you will note that the top of the scissor blades suddenly forms a sharp angle. This steep angle allows the scissors to cut more easily than would be possible with a flat cutting edge. Beveled edge scissors are also referred to as Germanic Scissors. They make up the majority of the scissors used by pet care professionals and hair care professionals.

Convex scissors (also called Japanese scissors) have blades that come to a razor edge all the way to the top of the cutting blade. Each scissor blade is honed specifically to leave this razor edge. This creates a thin cutting edge which makes the blades cut very smoothly. This style scissor is not as prevalent as beveled scissors, but they are gaining popularity.

Which is best? It’s a question each stylist decides individually. Convex scissors are generally accepted as the smoother cutting scissors, but because of their manufacture, they are significantly more expensive and much more delicate than their beveled counterparts. Dropping them is much more likely to result in damaging the blades, and the prospect of having them sharpened can be an issue since not all sharpening services correctly sharpen convex blades...plus having them sharpened is more expensive.

Beveled scissors are generally less expensive, easier to maintain, and are more durable, but some people truly cannot get over the smooth feel of the cut with a convex scissor. You should make your decision based on your budget and your situation.

One thing to remember...beveled edges cut well, are more durable, but not quite as smooth...convex edges are more delicate and should never be dropped, but when they cut properly they can be as smooth as silk!

-Lauren Romero-