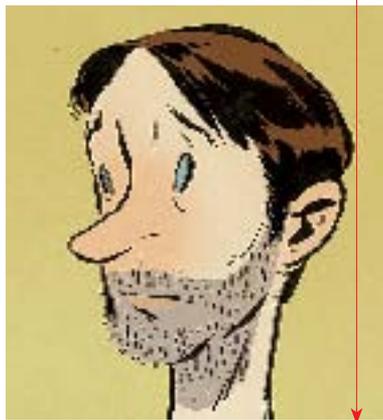




# Snip Tips

THE CLEAN-SHAVEN LOOK IS SO PRE-RECESSION. YOU CAN NOW LET IT GROW—BUT THAT'S NOT LICENSE TO BECOME TEEN WOLF. FOLLOW THESE RULES



## Beard

### CONSIDER THE CHIN

The longer your face is, the shorter your chin hair should be. Otherwise the beard will exaggerate your features, says Grooming Concierge owner Craig Whitely.



## Sideburns

### CHECK LENGTH

Let your face shape be your guide. If your face is round or your chin isn't very pronounced, keep 'burns at mid-ear or shorter. If you have an oblong or rectangular face, keep them a little longer—mid-ear to earlobe length.

## Hair

### NO 'FRO

As curly hair grows out, thin the sides every 3 to 4 weeks, but barely trim the top, says Danny Kerr, head stylist at Spiff in New York City. Until your hair's weight controls your curls, tame them with a molding product like Bumble and Bumble's Sumotech.



### FADE IT OUT

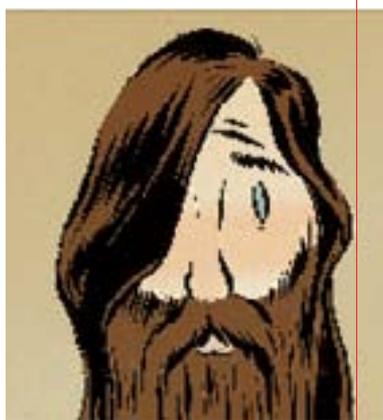
You can just trace your jawline and shave below it. But for a more casual look, Whitely says, create a fade. Use the shortest clipper setting on the bottom quarter inch of your beard; go a bit longer every quarter inch up your neck. Adjust the blade settings to blend any lines.

### KEEP 'EM NARROW

Don't let them grow wider than about an inch or you'll need a sequined jumpsuit to match, says Whitely. Keeping them that way is easy: Buy a comb as wide as your 'burns, hold it up against them, and follow its smooth edge with a trimmer.

### NEATEN YOUR NECK

"As long as you clean the back of your neck, you'll look like you've had a haircut," Whitely says. If you have a wide neck, round the edges of the neckline. Otherwise, trim straight across. Every 6 weeks, ask your barber to take off a quarter inch and thin your hair.



### CLEAN REGULARLY

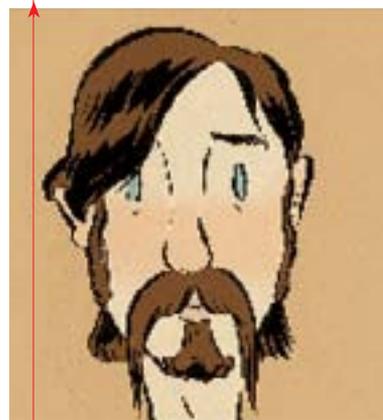
Each time you shower, shampoo your beard and rub in a dime-size dollop of moisturizing conditioner, Whitely says. Rinse after 10 seconds. Without conditioner, shampoo can dry your face and overstimulate oil glands.

### AVOID FLUFF

Watch the edges and puffiness of your sideburns. If you have shaggy hair, keep your sideburn hair short, around an eighth of an inch. Bushy 'burns push long hair away from your face, creating a mushroom effect.

### TRIM UP FRONT

If you have a receding hairline, keep the front trimmed and swept across your forehead. "This thickens it up and gives the appearance of more hair," Seattle stylist Jake Gravbrot says. "If you go too long, it looks stringy."



**Mess yourself up** "You can create that second-day unwashed look without actual second-day greasiness," says Seattle stylist Jake Gravbrot. Just use a product like this one—Aveda Light Elements Texturizing Creme (\$24, [aveda.com](http://aveda.com)), which hit stores this winter. No matter what your hair length, just rub a small amount between your palms and then use your fingertips to work the cream evenly through the ends of your hair, Gravbrot says. It'll leave your hair soft and movable, but still properly messed.