

## Conditioner and combing detection

### What do I need for the conditioning and combing technique?



White hair conditioner  
 An ordinary comb  
 A fine tooth comb  
 Hair clips  
 White tissues or material  
 A magnifying glass  
 A mirror if treating yourself  
 An old toothbrush, safety pin  
 or dental floss

### Method for the conditioning and combing technique

1. In a well lit area, untangle dry hair with an ordinary comb.
2. Apply hair conditioner to **dry hair**, covering the whole scalp and all hair from the roots to tips.
3. Comb through the conditioner using an ordinary comb and divide the hair into four or more sections using the hair clips. A mirror helps if you are combing yourself.
4. Change to a head lice comb.
5. Start with a section at the back of the head. Place the teeth of the head lice comb flat against the scalp. Comb the hair from the roots through to the tips.
6. Wipe the comb on the tissue or material after each stroke and check for head lice. Adult lice are easier to see—young lice are difficult to see. A magnifying glass will help. You may see some eggs.
7. Comb each section twice until you have combed the whole head. If the comb becomes clogged, use the old toothbrush, dental floss or safety pin to remove the head lice or eggs.
8. **If you find head lice:**
  - either keep combing the whole head until all the hair conditioner is gone and repeat the conditioner and combing every 2 days until you find no more head lice for 10 consecutive days. You will be removing all the adult lice and any young lice that hatch from the eggs, or
  - choose a chemical treatment option.
9. After treating for head lice, soak combs in soapy hot water (just after boiling) for at least 30 seconds to ensure head lice are killed (this should be done by an adult). When the water has cooled, use an old toothbrush, safety pin or dental floss to remove the debris.