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Hollywood wax for men: the no-nonsense guide for first-timers

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Let's be honest, booking your first intimate wax as a man takes a bit of nerve. There's the not-knowing-what-happens factor, the will-it-hurt factor, and the classic will-this-be-awkward factor, all rolled into one. If you're curious about a Hollywood wax but haven't quite worked up to booking, you're in good company (and exactly the right place).

Male waxing is more popular and more normal than ever. Therapists do it day in, day out, and the whole thing is far more straightforward than you might imagine. We'll walk you through exactly what a men's Hollywood wax is, how it differs from a Brazilian wax, how much it actually hurts (spoiler: less than you think), how to prepare, and what to expect on the day. No awkwardness, no judgement.



What is a male Hollywood wax?

A male Hollywood wax is the complete removal of all pubic hair, front to back, leaving you entirely smooth and hair-free down there. It's the most thorough of the intimate waxing options, and a popular pick for men who want a completely clean finish rather than just a tidy-up.

What a Hollywood wax includes

A men's Hollywood removes everything: the hair above and around the penis, the shaft itself, the testicles, the perineum and between the buttocks (the intergluteal area, if you want the technical term). Top to bottom, nothing left behind.

Because it's such a thorough treatment, your therapist works through it in careful stages, one small section at a time. Prefer to keep a little hair at the front? That's a Brazilian rather than a Hollywood, and you can discuss exactly what you want before anything begins.

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Why men choose to go bare

There's no single reason men book a Hollywood, it's purely a personal choice. Some do it for comfort and to feel fresher, especially in warmer weather. Others do it for sport (cyclists, swimmers and runners are big fans). Plenty just love the low-maintenance smoothness and the look of it.

Whatever your reason, there's no need to justify it to anyone. Male grooming is more mainstream than ever, and a good therapist won't bat an eyelid, whatever your motivation for booking.



Hollywood vs Brazilian wax for men

The difference comes down to how much hair is removed: a [Brazilian](#) leaves a little at the front, a Hollywood takes the lot. These are the two most common intimate waxes for men, so here's how they compare:

Wax type	What's removed	What's left
Brazilian wax	Most hair front to back	A small strip or patch of hair at the front
Hollywood wax	All hair front to back	Nothing, completely smooth

In short, a Brazilian creates a neat strip or shape at the front, while a Hollywood removes absolutely everything. Both remove hair from the shaft, testicles and buttock area; the only real difference is whether you keep a small amount at the front or go fully bare. Not sure which you want? Your therapist can help you decide, or you can always start with a Brazilian and go fuller next time.

Or if you'd prefer a less intimate treatment for your first wax, then back, shoulders, chest, abdomen are all available (and don't involve taking off your boxers).

[Book a men's waxing treatment on Treatwell](#)





Does it hurt?

Yes, there's some discomfort, especially the first time, but it's usually far more manageable than you expect, and it's over quickly. We won't fib, most people describe a sharp sting as the wax comes off followed by an immediate fade. This is where a skilled therapist works fast to keep it as brief as possible.

Here's the reassuring part: it gets much easier. Your first wax is almost always the most uncomfortable, because the hair is at its coarsest and thickest. With regular waxing, the regrowth comes back finer and sparser, and each session stings less than the last. Many salons use a gentle hot wax on intimate areas that grips the hair rather than the skin, which keeps discomfort down. It's a few seconds of "ooh" for weeks of smooth, and most men are surprised how fuss-free it really is.

[Find a men's Hollywood wax near you on Treatwell](#)

Feeling nervous? You're not alone

If the idea of a stranger waxing your most private areas makes you want to close this tab, take a breath. That reaction is completely understandable. Every single person books their first wax feeling exactly the same way. Here's the thing though: your therapist is a trained professional who does this all day, every day. There's nothing they haven't seen, and it's a matter-of-fact experience for them (about as routine as a haircut on their end).

A good therapist will put you at ease from the moment you walk in, explain what's happening as they go, and keep you covered as much as possible throughout. If you'd feel more comfortable with a therapist of a particular gender, you can usually request that when you book, so don't hesitate to ask. Any embarrassment you're anticipating tends to evaporate within the first couple of minutes, and most men walk out wondering what they were ever worried about.



How to prepare for your wax

A little preparation makes your wax more comfortable and more effective. Here's how to set yourself up properly:

- **Get the hair length right.** Your hair needs to be long enough for the wax to grip, ideally around a quarter of an inch (roughly the length of a grain of rice). If you shave, let it grow out for a couple of weeks before your appointment. If it's very long, your therapist may trim it first.
- **Exfoliate a day or two before.** Gently exfoliating the area beforehand lifts dead skin and helps prevent ingrown hairs. Skip it on the day itself, as freshly scrubbed skin can be extra sensitive.
- **Shower beforehand.** Clean skin is nicer to work on (and everyone appreciates it), so a quick shower before your appointment is the polite and comfortable move.
- **Go easy on caffeine and alcohol.** Both can make your skin more sensitive, so maybe save the coffee for after.
- **Consider a painkiller.** If you'd usually take an over-the-counter painkiller before something like this, have a quick word with your pharmacist about what's suitable for you.

- **Wear loose, comfortable clothing.** Your skin will thank you afterwards, so leave the tight jeans at home.



What happens during a male Hollywood wax

Knowing the deal removes most of the mystery (and the nerves). Your therapist guides you through the whole thing, but here's roughly how it goes.

You'll be shown to a private treatment room and asked to remove your lower clothing, boxers included (this is the daunting part, we know, but fear not, it's a completely judgement-free zone). They'll usually provide a towel or covering and only expose the specific area they're working on at any one time. They clean the skin, sometimes apply a pre-wax oil, then work section by section: applying warm wax, letting it set or laying a strip, and removing it swiftly.

You'll be asked to help too: maybe holding the skin taut, moving your limbs out of the way or changing position. That might mean pulling your knees up or turning over so they can reach between the buttocks. It's all very practical and matter-of-fact, and should be done within about 20 to 30 minutes. Your therapist finishes by soothing the skin with a calming lotion and checking you're happy with the result.



How long a male Hollywood wax lasts

A male Hollywood wax typically lasts around three to six weeks, depending on your individual hair growth cycle. Waxing pulls the hair out from the root rather than cutting it at the surface, like shaving does. That means it takes much longer to grow back and the regrowth is softer and finer.

Most men find rebooking every four to six weeks keeps them consistently smooth. Wax regularly and you'll notice the hair growing back more sparsely over time, your appointments getting more comfortable, and your smooth stretches lasting longer. This is a treatment that really rewards sticking with it.

Shaving between appointments

It's tempting, but try to resist, because shaving between waxing appointments actually works against you. It slices the hair off close to the skin and disrupts the growth cycle that makes waxing so effective. To wax properly, your therapist needs a certain length of hair to grip, and if you've been shaving you'll have to grow it all out again from scratch.

For the best results, let the hair grow naturally between sessions and simply rebook when it reaches the right length. We know the in-between regrowth phase can feel a bit itchy or awkward (we've all been there). But powering through it, rather than reaching for the razor, is what keeps your results

improving over time.



Possible side effects and disadvantages

The downsides are mostly minor and temporary: some redness, tenderness and small bumps right after your appointment, which usually settle within a few hours to a day. That's about it.

The main ongoing thing to watch for is ingrown hairs (where regrowth curls back into the skin) along with occasional irritation or, rarely, an infection if bacteria enters a freshly opened follicle. Regular gentle exfoliation and good aftercare keep most of these at bay. The other honest trade-offs: it involves some discomfort, the results aren't permanent so you'll need to rebook, and you have to grow the hair out in between. For most men, weeks of low-maintenance smoothness make those trade-offs well worth it, but it's your call.



Male Hollywood wax aftercare

How you treat your skin afterwards makes a big difference to how smooth and irritation-free you stay. Freshly waxed skin is a little vulnerable, so be kind to it.

- Wear loose, breathable underwear and clothing for the first day or two to avoid friction.
- Skip the gym, hot baths, saunas, steam rooms, swimming, and sex for 24 to 48 hours, as heat and sweat can irritate freshly waxed skin.
- Start gently exfoliating again after a few days to keep ingrown hairs at bay.
- Moisturise with something gentle and fragrance-free to keep the skin calm and soft.
- Keep the area clean and steer clear of heavily perfumed products for a couple of days.

A little redness or sensitivity straight afterwards is completely normal. If it worsens, or you notice signs of infection like spreading redness, swelling, warmth, or pus, see your GP, as these things are easily treated when caught early.



When waxing might not be suitable

For the vast majority of men, a Hollywood wax is perfectly safe. But there are a few situations where it may not be suitable, or where you should check with your therapist or GP first.

Waxing may need to be adapted or avoided if you have very sensitive skin, a skin condition such as eczema or psoriasis in the area, active irritation, sunburn, broken skin or a history of skin reactions. It's especially important to mention if you take certain medications, particularly acne treatments or retinoids like isotretinoin, as these can thin the skin and make waxing unsafe. The same goes for any recent procedures in the area. A reputable salon will ask about all of this before they start, so answer honestly, flag anything relevant when you book, and let a professional make the call. They'd always rather adapt or reschedule than risk your skin.

What a male Hollywood wax costs

The price of a men's Hollywood wax is around £50-£90 depending on where you are, the salon, and whether you're a new or returning client. Salons in big cities tend to charge more than those in smaller towns, and specialist male-waxing studios may sit at the higher end.

Rather than simply hunting for the cheapest option, prioritise a clean, reputable salon with therapists experienced in male intimate waxing. Good technique makes the whole experience more comfortable and the results better. Many salons offer packages or loyalty deals if you plan to go regularly, so it's worth asking. Comparing a few options near you is the easiest way to find the right balance of quality and budget.

Booking online makes this simple: you can see prices, read reviews from other men, and check availability before you commit, all without the awkwardness of ringing up to ask. Reviews are also the quickest way to find a salon with therapists who really know male intimate waxing. That experience is exactly what makes your first appointment go smoothly.

[Compare men's waxing salons near you on Treatwell](#)





Male waxing at home vs a professional

When it comes to intimate male waxing, this really is one to leave to the professionals. You'll find home waxing kits and plenty of "do it yourself" videos out there, and we understand the appeal of privacy, but hear us out.

The area is sensitive, the skin is delicate and the angles are tricky to manage by yourself. That makes home attempts painful, patchy and far more likely to cause irritation, bruising or ingrown hairs. A trained therapist has the right wax, the right technique and the experience to get you smooth quickly and safely, with far less discomfort. The small awkwardness of booking is nothing compared to the results (and the regret) of a DIY job gone wrong. Put simply, this is a job worth paying an expert for, and your skin will thank you for it.

Ready to book?

A men's Hollywood wax really isn't the ordeal your nerves are building it up to be. It's quick, the discomfort is brief and manageable, the therapists are unflappable pros, and the smooth, low-maintenance results last for weeks. The first appointment is always the biggest hurdle, and almost every man clears it wondering why he waited so long. So if you're ready to ditch the daily shaving and enjoy weeks of fuss-free skin, browse male waxing specialists near you on Treatwell, read real reviews, compare prices, and book for whenever suits. Future you will be glad you did.

[Book a men's Hollywood wax near you on Treatwell](#)

FAQs

Can men get a Hollywood wax?

Absolutely. Male Hollywood waxing is a common, popular treatment, and many salons have therapists who specialise in men's intimate waxing. It removes all pubic hair, front to back, for a completely smooth finish.

What is the difference between a Brazilian and Hollywood wax for men?

A Brazilian wax removes most of the hair but leaves a small strip or patch at the front, while a Hollywood removes everything for a totally bare result. Both take hair from the shaft, testicles and buttock area, so the only difference is whether you keep a little at the front.

How long does a male Hollywood wax last?

It typically lasts around three to six weeks, depending on your hair growth cycle. With regular waxing, regrowth becomes finer and sparser over time, so your smooth results last longer and appointments become more comfortable.

What are the disadvantages of a Hollywood wax?

The main downsides are temporary redness and tenderness afterwards, the possibility of ingrown hairs, some discomfort during the wax, and the fact that it isn't permanent so you'll need to rebook. Good aftercare and regular exfoliation keep most of the niggles at bay.

How should men prepare for a Hollywood wax?

Let your hair grow to about a quarter of an inch, gently exfoliate a day or two beforehand, shower before your appointment, and avoid excess caffeine or alcohol.



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