

From Rural Beginnings to Celebrity Salon

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Before becoming one of Bollywood's most in-demand hairstylists, Amit Yashwant began his career in the small city of Ratnagiri. In an interview, he recalled starting with basic barbering as soon as his 10th grade exams were over. Despite limited resources, he completed a hairstylist course in London and then took up work in a modest salon in Ghatkopar, Mumbai—laying the groundwork for his eventual rise.

Breaking Into Bollywood

The turning point came when Amit got his first film styling job for actor Kunal Kemmu in *Blood Money*. From there, his portfolio grew steadily, culminating in a long-standing collaboration with Tiger Shroff. "I was fortunate... the first project I got associated with him was *Baaghi* and since then, there was no looking back," Amit said.

Amit noted that for film styling the pressure is higher: "Any small mistake can be seen on the big screen."

Expanding Into Entrepreneurship

Beyond styling individual stars, Amit teamed up with fellow celebrity hairstylist Amit Thakur to launch the salon-studio brand Manemaniac in Mumbai (Khar-Linking Road) in 2017.

The studio aimed to offer "celebrity make-over, celebrity treatment" in a space designed for style, comfort and prestige. This step showed Amit's shift from individual contributor to business builder.

Style Philosophy & Signature Approach

Amit emphasises precision, client trust and versatility. In describing his work with Tiger Shroff, he praised the actor's humility and the level of collaboration that made ongoing projects possible.

He has also spoken about the importance of continuity in styling—especially for film shoots where looks must remain consistent across days of filming.

What His Journey Teaches Us

- **Persistence matters:** Starting small as a barber and investing in education (London course) paid off.
- **Seizing opportunity:** A stylist course, a first celebrity project, and strategic networking opened crucial doors.
- **Skill + trust = growth:** His long-term work with Tiger shows how reliability and relationship matter in the creative industry.
- **Scale when ready:** Launching Manemaniac shows how moving into business expanded his impact beyond styling alone.

- **Focus on craft:** Despite glamour, the job involves intense detail (continuity, on-set pressure) and no shortcuts.

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