CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A razor cartridge (10) comprising:
   a) a housing(16);
   b) a guard (40) located at a front (18) of the housing (16);
   c) a cap (42) located at a rear (20) of the housing (16);
   d) a skin contact element (50) disposed in the housing partway between the guard (40) and the cap (42);
   e) a skin contact plane (P_s) defined by a plane (P_{1A}) tangential to the guard and the skin contact element and a plane (P_{2A}) tangential to the skin contact element and the cap;
   f) one or more blades (12) located between the guard and the skin contact element, each of said blades having a cutting edge (12') located at a distance y_1 between 70µm and 300µm and an angle α_1 between 20° and 45° below the skin contact plane;
   g) one or more blades (12) located between the skin contact element and the cap, each of said blades having a cutting edge (12') located at an angle α_2 above or below the skin contact plane, wherein α_2 is lower in magnitude than α_1.

2. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said one or more blades between the skin contact element and the cap has a cutting edge located at a distance y_2 between 50µm below to 500µm above the skin contact plane.

3. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the at least one blade between the skin contact element and the cap has a cutting edge located at an angle α2 between +/- 15° relative to the skin contact plane.

4. A razor cartridge as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising a guard to cap plane tangential to the guard and cap, wherein a top surface (60) of the skin contact element is located between 50µm and 500µm above the guard to cap plane.

5. A razor cartridge as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the plane tangential to the guard and skin contact element intersects the plane tangential to the skin contact element to cap at an angle ɵ of between 145° and 180°.

6. A razor cartridge as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising two or more blades between the guard and the skin contact element, wherein the angle α_1 between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane progressively decreases from the blade adjacent the guard to the blade adjacent the skin contact element.

7. A razor cartridge as claimed in any of claim 1 to 5, comprising two or more blades between the guard and the skin contact element, wherein the angle α_1 between the blade edges and the skin contact plane is greater for the blade adjacent the guard.

8. A razor cartridge as claimed in any of claims 6 or 7, wherein the distance y_1 between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane is substantially the same for each of said two or more blades.

9. A razor cartridge as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising two or more blades between the skin contact element and the cap, wherein the angle α_2 between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane progressively increases from the blade adjacent the skin contact element to the blade adjacent the cap.

10. A razor cartridge as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the distance y_2 between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane progressively increases from the blade adjacent the skin contact element to the blade adjacent the cap.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A razor cartridge (10) comprising:

a) a housing(16);

b) a guard (40) located at a front (18) of the housing (16);

c) a cap (42) located at a rear (20) of the housing (16);

d) a skin contact element (50) disposed in the housing partway between the guard (40) and the cap (42);

e) a skin contact plane (P_s) defined by a plane (P_{1A}) tangential to the guard and the skin contact element and a plane (P_{2A}) tangential to the skin contact element and the cap;

f) one or more blades (12) located between the guard and the skin contact element, each of said blades having a cutting edge (12′) located at a distance (y1) between about 70 μm and 300 μm and an angle (α1) between about 20° and 45° below the skin contact plane;

g) one or more blades (12) located between the skin contact element and the cap, each of said blades having a cutting edge (12′) located at an angle (α2) above or below the skin contact plane, wherein (α2) is lower in magnitude than (α1).

2. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of said one or more blades between the skin contact element and the cap has a cutting edge located at a distance (y2) between about 50 μm below to 500 μm above the skin contact plane.

3. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one blade between the skin contact element and the cap has a cutting edge located at an angle (α2) between about +/−15° relative to the skin contact plane.

4. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a guard to cap plane tangential to the guard and the cap, wherein a top surface (60) of the skin contact element is located between about 50 μm and 500 μm above the guard to cap plane.

5. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plane tangential to the guard and the skin contact element intersects the plane tangential to the skin contact element and the cap at an angle (θ) of between about 145° and 180°.

6. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, the one or more blades comprise two or more blades between the guard and the skin contact element, wherein the angle (α1) between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane progressively decreases from the blade adjacent the guard to the blade adjacent the skin contact element.

7. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, the one or more blades comprise two or more blades between the guard and the skin contact element, wherein the angle (α1) between the blade edges and the skin contact plane is greater for the blade adjacent the guard.

8. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 6, wherein the distance (y1) between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane is substantially the same for each of said two or more blades.

9. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 7, wherein the distance (y1) between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane is substantially the same for each of said two or more blades.

10. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, the one or more blades comprise two or more blades between the skin contact element and the cap, wherein the angle (α2) between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane progressively increases from the blade adjacent the skin contact element to the blade adjacent the cap.

11. A razor cartridge as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distance (y2) between successive blade edges and the skin contact plane progressively increases from the blade adjacent the skin contact element to the blade adjacent the cap.