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Bridal hair and make-up: Where to start?

Creating the right look on your wedding day is paramount, you want to ensure your polished to perfection. It is essential for any bride to be that you make time to research your wedding day look and, budget permitting that you enlist the services of a professional hair and make up artist to help you create it.

Tigerlily Weddings offer our clients a Make up and Hair stylist Supplier Search service. We have built a network of reputable hair and make up professionals ensuring our clients can achieve their desired look for their wedding day.

We caught up with gifted make up artists Esme Winterflood to discuss her make up and hair tips for brides to be.

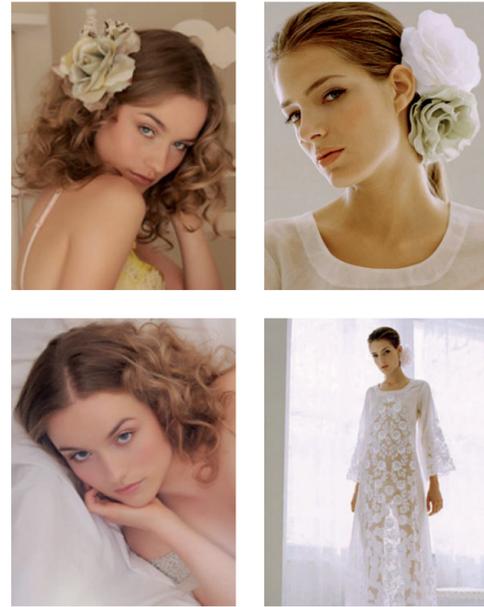
So you've got all the magazines and have started to get an idea about the sort of look you want for your wedding. Hair and makeup are a different priority for everyone, but at the end of the day everyone wants to look back at their wedding pictures and be pleased with how they looked. The most important thing to get out of your hair stylist and makeup artist is that you feel comfortable with the products they use and how they interpret and translate them to you.

I started doing hair and makeup for editorial and commercial shoots, then added 'Bridal' to my services. The

industry is in perpetual flux, being inspired by new trends and techniques. These days it's important to offer a range of services to clients and so I trained in semi-permanent eyelash extensions which are a great option for brides as they eliminate the need for mascara. Semi-permanent makeup is a specialised technique which is becoming very popular. When you go to buy a new mascara or lip, most of us end up spending more than we've bargained for, so having semi-permanent makeup or eyelashes almost eliminates this expenditure and you can spend an extra half an hour in bed in the morning!

When it comes to looking your best for your wedding day, don't be afraid to try a few things and it might take a few lipsticks or hair styles for everything to come together.

Your makeup artist should be up to date with new products in their kit and although most women use the same makeup day in day out, you can be inspired by emerging trends. Bronze tones will make an appearance in Spring/Summer '09 with gold, coffee and honey tones to play around with (have a snoop in Bobbi Brown and MAC). If you have the right complexion, try berry tones for your lips- keeping the eyes natural. And don't forget your lashes, as a good set will finish off your look. Consider semi-permanent Xtreme Eyelash Extensions as they last



for the full cycle of your lashes, or ask your makeup artist if s/he can provide you with some falsies for the day. If you want to stay 'au naturel' then make sure you're wearing waterproof – Dior do a great one called 'Blackout'.

Most makeup artists these days will also offer hairstyling as it's almost a pre-requisite to have a broad range of skills. The competition out there is pretty fierce so most successful hair and makeup artists will be able to come up with some great bridal styles. For hair accessories go for pretty and decorative (think crochet and lace) which will be the key things to look for in Spring/Summer '09. And be creative, you don't have to stick to just 'hair' accessories. Clothes pins/adornments can be altered easily in to a hair piece with a few grips. I find these days most brides want fairly natural styles and the new take on relaxed styles will be fluffy, Grecian and feminine. If you have in mind something more structured and glamorous you might be best employing a hairdresser who will have a range of hair extensions and pieces on hand that will transform your normal hair into the dream locks you want for your big day.

So make sure you have your beauty essentials bought for the wedding day as you'll need to touch up, and that bridesmaid has a small bottle of hairspray in her handbag just in case! Then get a glass of champagne and enjoy your day.

Tigerlily's Top Tips

Make up

1. If you have a limited beauty make-up budget and will not be using the services of a professional make-up artist for your wedding day, ensure you visit beauty counters to test products and colours to create your wedding day look, many of the leading brands offer make-up consultations and some will give you testers to trial. Once you have decided on your products lots of the leading brands artists will teach you how to use the products and brushes to create your wedding look. My favourite make-up brands for creating a flawless wedding look are Bobbi Brown and Laura Mercier, also on the Bobbi Brown website they have lots of interesting tips on products and "how to" videos while on Laura Mercier they have an 'ask an artist' section for those beauty dilemmas.

www.bobbibrown.co.uk
www.lauramercier.com

2. If you are considering accentuating your eyes or having a glamorous look on your wedding day and you do not want to explore the semi-permanent eyelashes option then false eyelashes are the way forward.

The Rolls Royce of false eyelashes on the market are made by Shu Uemura. They have a varied selection of top quality lashes. My favourites are false eyelashes 'Luxe' – inspired by the mink false eyelashes custom-ordered by celebrities. This synthetic version features a criss-crossed design to provide the most voluminous lashes and are available in black and brown. Also their false eyelashes 'Smoky Layers', are fantastic; these lashes have layers of thin black lashes adding volume to your lash line, creating a sultry eye look reminiscent of old Hollywood glamour. Lashes start from £11.00 and the adhesive is sold separately at £11.00 you can buy all products online from www.spacenk.co.uk.

Demi Wispies InvisiBand Lashes in black from Ardell are reusable and easy to apply, InvisiBand Lashes are comfortable to wear and made of 100% human hair. The lashes have an invisible band that connects the hair strands to form a strip. They are knotted and feathered by hand for perfect uniformity and an absolutely natural look. You can get these lashes and adhesive from www.lookfantastic.com for a total cost of around £8.90.

3. Eyebrow shaping and eyelash tinting can really emphasise your eyes and balance the features of your face. Many beauty salons offer waxing or threading services for eyebrows, if you are thinking of managing your own eyebrow shaping and pencilling then the following products are must-haves for your make-up bag.

Tweezerman Tweezers cost around £16.00 and are raved about by many beauty professionals. I feel that using pencils on eyebrows if not blended properly can sometimes look uneven and hard. Benefit have a great product called Brow Zings that come in three colours (light, medium and dark) and is a brow discipline kit which gives you all of the necessary products in one neat compact. www.benefit.co.uk

4. Tigerlily Product Choices

Foundation

Mac Mineralize is a fluid foundation that blends and has natural light-reflecting properties of micro-minerals with a smooth satin finish available in 18 shades. This foundation provides a low-to-medium buildable coverage and has a slight luminous look that helps make your skin appear radiant and healthy and is suitable for normal-dry skins £18.60. www.maccosmetics.co.uk

The Laura Mercier Stick Foundation is a creamy foundation that glides on effortlessly offering an even application for a luxurious, flawless finish. It is designed for quick and easy use and gives a medium, buildable coverage. The product is an oil-free, water-resistant foundation that moisturises and hydrates the skin. www.spacenk.co.uk £30.00.

Lip gloss

Mac Lip glass from £9.30 this lip-gloss gives the ultimate shine.

For lip-plumping check out Sexy Mother Pucker by Soap and Glory this lip-gloss has an extreme plumping action. This product is fab and available in various colours – I love the peach colour – you can buy it at www.boots.com £7.83.

Blushers

Bobbi Brown's Shimmer Brick comes in four colours (pink, rose, beige and bronze) the shimmering colours give you a lovely glow. The Shimmer Brick also has a highlighter that you can use to highlight your brow bone from £26.00

Nars Blush in Orgasm from £18.50 for lovely pinky rosey cheeks www.narscosmetics.co.uk

Benefit Hoola, Georgia, or Dandelion beautiful blushers with a brush included great value for £22.50 – have a look at www.benefit.co.uk

Eye shadow

Bobbi Brown's Basics' Eye Palette is ideal as a starter set for a make-up novice, the slim palette features four eye shadows that flatter all complexions: an all over base shade, two shades for the lower lid and crease, and a liner shade. Includes a dual-ended Mini Eye Shadow/Eye Liner Brush for easy application from £31.00.

Big Beautiful Eyes by Benefit is an eye contour kit that has everything you need to define contour and enhance your eyes. It has an illustrated step by step make up guide to turn an amateur in to a make-up pro. £17.50.

Eyeliners

Laura Mercier black extreme eye pencil from £15.00
Benefit Badgirl kohl pencil can be used for dark smokey eyes and is great to make your make-up more dramatic for the evening part of your reception £12.50

Gel liner Bobbi Brown. This eyeliner offers the precision of liquid liner and the ease of a gel-based formula £13.21

Brighteners & Highlighters

Mac Strobe Crème from £19.00
www.maccosmetics.co.uk

Clarins Beauty flash balm £18.95
www.ukclarins.com

Yves Saint Laurent Touch éclat £22.50
www.yvessaintlaurent.co.uk

Mascara

Lancôme Oscillation Power mascara
www.lacome.co.uk from £27.00 also available in water proof

Masterpiece Mascara, Max Factor £8.95

For long lashes try Get Bent Lash by Benefit £14.50

Enjoy
Penelope