

RIGHT LOOK, RIGHT AGE
GIFT GUIDE
The perfect presents for beauty lovers of every age, plus how to pick a winning perfume
pages 6, 7 & 10

DRESSING UP
LUXE LEATHER
Putting this glossy high-fashion material to work
page 11

THE
Kit
BEAUTY & FASHION

PUTTING ON THE GLITZ

Glitter and glamour: As we gear up for the holiday season outfits aren't the only things dazzling. Inspired by the 1970s, eyes, lips and cheeks are shimmering, with a side of sultriness
page 4

PHOTO: COURTESY OF CHRISTIAN DIOR

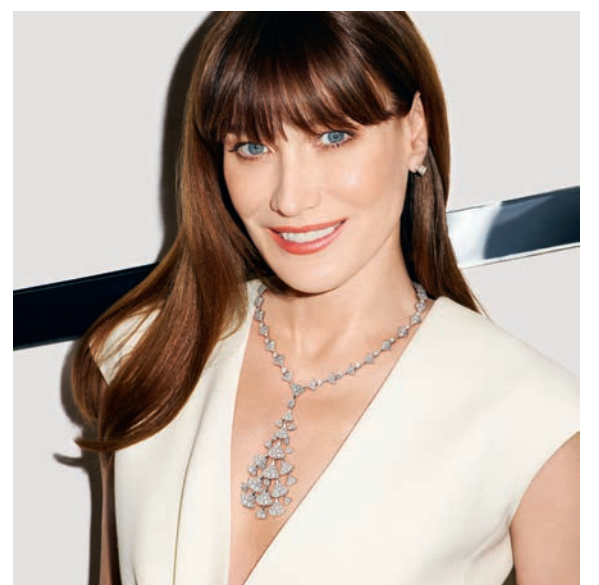
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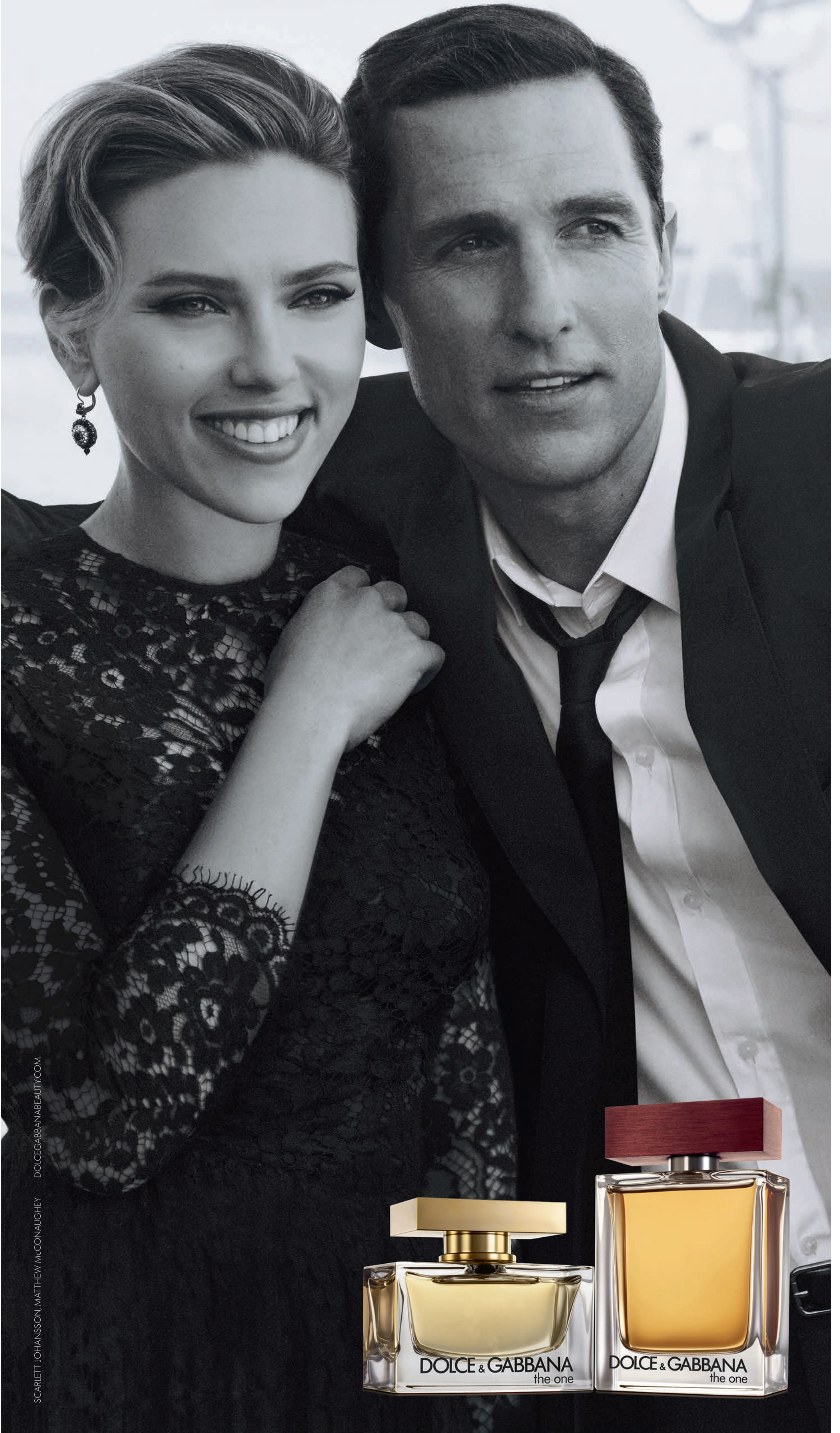
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THE MONTH'S BEST

Doll face

Tap into holiday delight with a whimsical lip-and-cheek stain

The festive season brings out the giddy child in many of us. Tapping into this annual capacity for delight is the Body Shop's Lip and Cheek Doll: a Nutcracker toy, matryoshka doll and Louise Brooks look-alike all rolled into one roly-poly bottle. It holds an equally appealing cherry-tinted gel with the faintest hint of sparkle, an instant prettifier if you're rushing to get ready for a holiday party. Dabbed onto lips and apples of the cheeks (blend it quickly with fingertips for a sheer wash), it gives a flush of colour that makes every face a little more winsome, youthful—doll-like, even. —Rani Sheen. *Photography by Adrian Armstrong*

THE BODY SHOP LIP AND CHEEK DOLL IN FROST BITTEN BLUSH, \$15, THEBODYSHOP.COM

TWEET OF THE WEEK

“Forget Day To Night, I’m more interested in perfecting that Night To Day outfit.”

@alexa_chung, Oct. 31

BEAUTY MATH

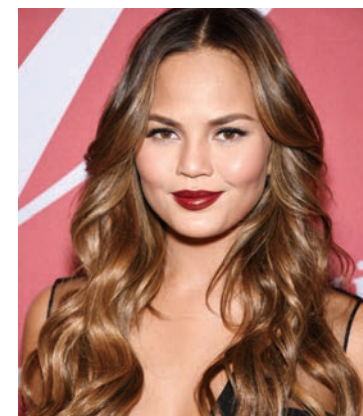
Lustrous waves and a satin-finish wine lip add up to an alluring look we love



A SHINE-ENHANCING SPRAY LIKE REDKEN SHINE FLASH 02 GLISTENING MIST, \$20, SALONS



A MOISTURE-RICH LIPSTICK LIKE DIOR ROUGE DIOR COUTURE COLOUR VOLUPTUOUS CARE LIPSTICK IN PIED-DE-POULE, \$37, SEPHORA.CA



Model Chrissy Teigen made a strong beauty statement at the 31st Annual Fashion Gala International Night of Stars event in New York. To get her look, use a lip brush to apply a full-pigment, satin-finish wine lipstick. Enhance highlights by misting tumbling waves with a lightweight shine-boosting spray—ensure a light and even application by choosing an aerosol rather than pump spray. —Natasha Bruno

TALKING POINT



EARRING PROBLEM?

It's there, at the bottom of every jewellery box: one solo, beautiful earring you just couldn't get rid of, even after losing the other on the dance floor or between the sheets. Dig that dangler out 'cause this season anything goes earwise, especially if it splashes a posh look with a hit of punk. Taylor Swift did the single-earring thing on *InStyle*'s November cover, while model Elyse Taylor blinged out December's *Brides* magazine with a diamond cuff curving around the top of her ear. Meanwhile, over at StyleMint, the Olsen twins are offering delicate chains connecting little ear cuffs to sparkling studs, for \$40 or less. We're partial to “ear jackets,” where the back of the earring is bolder than the front, like the Mise en Dior resin pearl earrings worn by J-Law and Rihanna. —Denise Balkissoon



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CÉLINE



RODARTE

ONE TREND, TWO WAYS

DO THE TWIST

From tight knots to loose tucks, a twirl of the hair puts a new twist on understated elegance.

1. Slick coil at Céline

Staying true to the clean lines of the clothes, hairstylist Guido Palau blow-dried hair straight and worked in a moulding paste for texture and grip, then gathered it into a sleek low ponytail. He rolled the tail until it twisted over itself and secured it with an elastic, leaving the ends loose, creating a modern chignon that was sculptural yet simple.

2. Bohemian turn at Rodarte

For loose, healthy-looking waves, hairstylist Odile Gilbert misted on conditioning spray before braiding hair into two plaits, blowing them dry and shaking them loose. She then took a large piece from the side, twisted it toward the back of the head and secured it above the ear with pins and an oversized clip made by the designers. —Natasha Bruno



ORBE ROUGH LUXURY SOFT MOLDING PASTE, \$39, SPACENK.COM, JOHN FRIEDA FRIZZ EASE DAILY NOURISHMENT LEAVE-IN CONDITIONER, \$11, DRUGSTORES



Lea T

Transgender model and Gucci muse Lea T signed her first beauty campaign as the face of Redken's Chromatics colour line.

Natasha Archer

The secret wardrobe weapon behind Kate Middleton's new style, former PA Natasha Archer has been hired as the duchess's stylist.

Margot Robbie

She may have won big at *Harper's Bazaar* Women of the Year awards, but she suffered a wardrobe malfunction on her way home.

Kendall Jenner

Despite rumours of her own set of wings, Victoria's Secret announced its show's lineup, and it looks like Kendall is not on it.

John Galliano

Creative director at Maison Martin Margiela lost a wrongful dismissal case and was ordered to pay his namesake label and Dior €1 each.

STYLE THERMOSTAT

Night fever

Shimmering skin, jewel-toned eyes, high-shine lips and mixed-metallic nails belong at your next holiday party as much as they did on *Donna Summer* at Studio 54

BY RANI SHEEN. PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVIS FACTOR.
MAKEUP BY LORI TAYLOR DAVIS



MICHAEL KORS COAT, \$895,
MICHAEL KORS. CAROLE
TANENBAUM VINTAGE
COLLECTION EARRINGS,
PRICE UPON REQUEST,
CAROLETANENBAUM.COM.

MIXED METALS

The unexpected pairing of gold and silver on both eyes and nails is the perfect balance of festive and cool. The global pro lead makeup artist for Smashbox Cosmetics, Lori Taylor Davis, used two metallic liquid liners to draw along the top and bottom lids, over a base of neutral taupe shadow. This manicure is easier than it looks: Paint the entire nail in silver polish, let it dry, then paint the same shape overtop with gold, starting a few millimetres from the base of the nail.

Tip: Don't worry if it's not perfect; metallics won't show wobbly lines the way dark colours do.

LAURA MERCIER CAVIAR STICK EYE COLOUR IN GILDED GOLD, \$34, HOLT RENFREW. SONIA KASHUK THE METALLICS EYESHADOW QUAD, \$14, TARGET. PACIFICA 7-FREE NAIL POLISH IN HEART OF GOLD, \$9, WELL.CA. COVERGIRL OUTLAST STAY BRILLIANT NAIL GLOSS IN SHOWSTOPPER, \$9, COVERGIRL.CA



HIGH-GLEAM SKIN

To achieve a luminescent, subtly contoured complexion, Taylor Davis used BB cream to even out skin tone and added a little concealer where necessary. She blended a slightly darker contouring cream in the hollows of the cheeks for definition, and added sheen by dabbing highlighter on the forehead and cheekbones. **Tip:** Prep the skin for this look by applying a luminizing primer on the high points of the face (the tops of the cheekbones, the bridge of the nose and the browbones).

CLARINS INSTANT LIGHT RADIANCE BOOSTING COMPLEXION BASE, \$37, CLARINS.COM. SMASHBOX STEP-BY-STEP CONTOUR KIT, \$52, SEPHORA.CA. SHU UEMURA BRAVE BEAUTY RADIANT STICK IN LIGHT PINK, \$55, HOLT RENFREW, SHUUEMURA.CA



MICHAEL MICHAEL KORS
BLOUSE WITH CHAIN,
\$125, MICHAEL KORS.



LEFT: WINNERS BLOUSE, \$30, WINNERS. CAROLE TANENBAUM VINTAGE COLLECTION EARRINGS, PRICE UPON REQUEST, CAROLETANENBAUM.COM. RIGHT: BROSE GOWN, \$1,900, MARIKABROSE.COM. BANANA REPUBLIC EARRINGS, \$50, BANANAREPUBLIC.CA

WINGED SHADOW

If you're hoping to make eyes at someone across the room, this is the look you need. Switch out a standard smoky eye for shimmering emerald or khaki shadow applied in a winged shape with a small, fluffy eyeshadow brush. **Tip:** Concentrate the colour on the outer wing, leaving the centre of the eye a little lighter for dimension.

BOBBI BROWN LIP COLOR IN MALT SHIMMER, \$30, BOBBIBROWN.CA. THE BODY SHOP ALL-IN-ONE INSTABLUR EYE PRIMER, \$15, THEBODYSHOP.COM. SMASHBOX ON THE ROCKS PHOTO OP EYE SHADOW PALETTE, \$43, SHOPPERS DRUG MART.



Rani Sheen is *The Kit's* beauty editor. Follow her on Twitter at @ranisheen

DEEP BERRY

High-shine burgundy lips were made for the dance floor (and not the dinner party, as they are best left undisturbed). Cover the entire lip with lip pencil, apply lipstick with a lip brush and add gloss in the centre of the lower lip; or go for a lower-fuss version with just a swipe of burgundy lip lacquer. Matching lips to nails is a retro trick that feels fresh again.

Tip: To get this ultra-glossy finish on nails, manicurist Leeanne Colley advises looking for a "high-shine" or "extra shiny" topcoat rather than one that says "quick dry."

NARS VELVET LIP LINER IN BELLE MARE, \$28, HUDSON'S BAY. JOE FRESH NAIL POLISH IN BLACK CHERRY, \$4, JOE FRESH. SMASHBOX BE LEGENDARY LONG WEAR LIP LACQUER IN AFTER DARK, \$28, SEPHORA.CA



BROSE BLOUSE, \$745, MARIKABROSE.COM. CAROLE TANENBAUM VINTAGE COLLECTION RING, PRICE UPON REQUEST, CAROLETANENBAUM.COM.



MAKEUP MASTER CLASS FROM NOV. 19 CHECK OUT HOW TO CREATE THESE LOOKS AT THEKIT.CA/GUIDES

LIP LOCK

Lipstick on your teeth: It's happened to the best of us. Here's how to make sure it stays put

BY JANINE FALCON

Smile and the whole world smiles with you—unless you're at a wish holiday fête with a lipstick brush's worth of Nars Schiap smeared across your incisors. Then the world winces, and pretends not to notice. The more parties in your calendar, the more room for error. If you're lucky, a real friend will catch your eye and make frantic wiping gestures in front of her bared teeth. Otherwise, you'll figure it out yourself halfway into the evening when you've recently visited the restroom.

This season's seventies-inspired saturated glossy lips (see above) pose the biggest

hazard. "Red, glossy lips leave a bit of carnage," says Gordon Espinet, senior vice president of makeup artistry for M.A.C. "I've seen people who use red lipstick and then our Pro Longwear Lipgloss, and then they smile a lot and they're very animated, and it's everywhere."

Stains and matte formulas are more transfer-resistant options, especially if you're an energetic personality. (If you want a shiny effect, apply a clear gloss overtop.) "You get those stone-faced people who put on the glossiest red and that thing stays for 12 hours," says Espinet. "But if you're not that girl, don't do it!"

Before accepting defeat, consider that pro application tricks can help keep your lipstick where it belongs. Covergirl makeup artist Veronica Chu, who's rarely seen without a fiery orange or electric lilac lip, makes her bright mouth last with a little concealer and

pressed powder as a base. "Choose one that isn't too creamy; you want more of a matte finish," she says. "If your lips are naturally dry, skip concealer and start with powder."

Makeup artist Diana Carreiro suggests using a lip brush rather than the bullet to avoid product overload. As well, "applying it to a closed mouth prevents you from getting too close to the teeth. Fill lips in first with pencil or stain that matches your lipstick so you don't leave a bare gap on the inner lip."

After your first layer of colour, press lips with an oil-blotting paper instead of tissue, which will lift off pigment as well as oil, Carreiro explains.

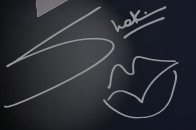
While popping your index finger into your mouth and pulling it between closed lips is a tried-and-true party trick for removing excess colour, let's be frank: It's icky, especially during cold and flu season. Wrapping your finger in a tissue is a more hygienic bet.

The risks are many when it comes to a glamorous mouth: Misbehaving lacquer may find an ally in your wineglass, and not just in the form of unsightly smears on the rim. "I was enjoying a beverage at a party when a friend said, 'You have lipstick on the bridge of your nose!'" says Chu. "I didn't realize that after each sip, I'd been turning my glass, and the colour had transferred from the edge to my nose. Ever since then I use a straw."



TATCHA ABURAT-ORIGAMI JAPANESE BEAUTY PAPERS, \$13, SEPHORA.CA. AVEDA ENVIRO-METAL RETRACTABLE LIP BRUSH, \$22, AVEDA.CA

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RIGHT LOOK, RIGHT AGE

Holiday MVPs

(most victorious presents)

Don't clog up your beauty-loving friends' vanities with same-old gift sets. Here, an expertly curated list (by category and age) of standout, stand-alone presents that say, "I know you. Well." These indulgences are so good they practically wrap themselves

BY RANI SHEEN. PHOTOGRAPHY: GEOFFREY ROSS



20s

1. FOR THE MAKEUP JUNKIE**Sixties shades**

Hours of bathroom-mirror fun will follow the unwrapping of this sherbet-coloured shadow palette. Retro pastels are chic in winter worn with just a groomed brow and neutral lip; a flick of black liquid liner takes the look to New Year's Eve.

ESSENCE ALL ABOUT CANDIES EYESHADOW, \$5, SHOPPERS DRUG MART

2. FOR THE SKIN-CARE CONNOISSEUR**Starter serum**

This ornate, retro-inspired bottle is a great incentive to start taking serums seriously. What's inside protects against free radicals (vitamins A and C) and boosts collagen (gotu kola plant extract). She'll thank you in years to come.

BENEFIT INSTANT COMEBACK FACIAL SERUM, \$55, BENEFITCOSMETICS.COM

3. FOR THE HOME-SPA ENTHUSIAST**Bikini BFF**

This at-home laser-hair-removal gadget designed for the underarms and bikini line can permanently remove dark hair on pale skin. Starting a regimen in the 20s could save decades of wax appointments.

TRIA BEAUTY HAIR REMOVAL LASER PRECISION, \$345, TRIABEAUTY.CA

4. FOR THE FRAGRANCE FIEND**Defining scent**

Verbena, an aromatic herb grown in Provence, uplifts and energizes in this tart, herbaceous spray. It's a perfect early signature scent.

L'OCCITANE VERBENA FRISSON EAU DE TOILETTE, \$56, LOCCITANE.CA

5. FOR THE BLOWOUT BUFF**Fresh hair**

You're not just giving her a dry shampoo, you're giving her a bad-hair-day lifesaver—tossed in a gym bag or overnight tote, this spray will instantly revive day-two strands. It also delivers a volume boost, sweet scent and holiday-appropriate shimmer to freshly washed hair.

CAKE BEAUTY SATIN SUGAR DRY SHAMPOO + BRILLIANCE FINISHING SPRAY, \$25, MURALE

30s

6. FOR THE HOME-SPA ENTHUSIAST**Grown-up glow**

The perfect party partner, this shows how glitter should be done: the tiniest sparkles sparingly dispersed in a velvety-finish, ultra-lightweight body lotion, packaged in a sophisticated black-and-gold tube. With no greasiness and almost no scent, it won't interfere with her outfit—or her perfume.

SONIA KASHUK DECADENCE SHIMMERING BODY SOUFFLÉ, \$11, TARGET

7. FOR THE MAKEUP JUNKIE**Lash extender**

At first glance, mascara may not seem gift-worthy. But this one gives false-lash length in one coat with a double-bristle wand that amps up volume without sacrificing definition. It also strengthens with keratin. And did we mention it comes in a black-studded case from a cutting-edge French fashion house? Nuff said.

GIVENCHY NOIR COUTURE VOLUME MASCARA IN BLACK TAFFETA, \$35, SEPHORA.CA

8. FOR THE BLOWOUT BUFF**Hollywood hair**

This subtle shimmer spray adds an effortless touch of glamour to any look: messy bun, sleek chignon or bohemian waves. Spray on loose, dry hair before styling (rather than a close-up shellacking on the final do). Tuck this in a stocking or bundle with a blowout gift certificate.

JOICO GOLD DUST SHIMMER FINISHING SPRAY, \$7, JOICO.COM

9. FOR THE SKIN-CARE CONNOISSEUR**Just the tonic**

Stuff her stocking with the latest radiance trend: a drinkable beauty supplement. It's packed with hyaluronic acid and antioxidant-rich resveratrol (one teaspoon is said to contain as many polyphenols as 26,000 red grapes), and it'll last longer than a facial.

FOUNTAIN BEAUTY SUPPLEMENTS THE BEAUTY MOLECULE, \$35, FOUNTAINBEAUTY.COM

10. FOR THE FRAGRANCE FIEND**Badass bottle**

You don't need a set of miniatures when one scent can hit it out of the park: Sensuous oud wood, juicy plum and jasmine notes give a hint of mystery for a big night out. As the studded detail on the bottle implies, this is a bolder, darker take on the floral-woody Modern Muse.

ESTÉE LAUDER MODERN MUSE CHIC, \$90, ESTÉE LAUDER.CA



40s

11. FOR THE HOME-SPA ENTHUSIAST**Happy hands**

This apothecary-like hand and body cream is a treat from New Zealand, with a fresh botanical scent that conjures a walk in the woods. With skin-softening organic avocado and meadow-foam-seed oils, it leaves skin smooth and hydrated but without greasy residue, so it won't interfere with important festive jobs like opening bottles.

ANTIPODES JUBILATION ULTRA NOURISHING HAND & BODY CREAM, \$36, ANTIPODES.NATURE.US

12. FOR THE MAKEUP JUNKIE**Orange pop**

Is there a more energizing makeup statement than the pop of a bright orange-red lip on an otherwise minimally made-up face? This chubby pencil provides saturated colour in an on-trend velvety finish.

FLOWER LIP SUEDE VELVET LIP CHUBBY IN FLORAL CORAL, \$8, WALMART

13. FOR THE SKIN-CARE CONNOISSEUR**Caviar dreams**

It will certainly be the most wonderful—and indulgent—time of the year for the recipient of this ultra-luxurious serum. Fatty acid-rich caviar extract encapsulated in micro pearls made of algae is freed upon each pump to help lift, brighten and firm tired skin.

LA PRAIRIE SKIN CAVIAR LIQUID LIFT, \$355, HOLT RENFREW

14. FOR THE FRAGRANCE FIEND**One better**

The collector's edition of this floral-oriental scent comes in a Dolce-red-lacquered flask that will charm both existing fans and newbies. Inside is a blend of citrusy bergamot and fruity peach, grounded by rich musk, amber and vanilla. If she gets a single scent, she'll want this to be the one.

DOLCE & GABBANA THE ONE COLLECTOR'S EDITION, \$127, HUDSON'S BAY

15. FOR THE BLOWOUT BUFF**Top tool**

A pro-level ceramic straightener is a worthy tool upgrade: It requires fewer passes to achieve sleek straightness or beachy waves, so it's less damaging to hair. And its coral and fuchsia cladding will look cooler on her counter.

GHD BIRD OF PARADISE CORAL STYLER, \$282, SEPHORA.CA



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60s

21. FOR THE HOME-SPA ENTHUSIAST**Bathing beauty**

Forget Cleopatra's milk; add unparalleled luxury to her bath with this creamy scrub scented with coconut, almond and sandalwood. Jojoba beads and vanilla seeds smooth dry skin, while shea butter and rice protein condition parched limbs.

LAURA MERCIER AMBRE VANILLE BODY SCRUB, \$60, HOLT RENFREW

22. FOR THE BLOWOUT BUFF**Swishy strands**

Give the gift of glossy, soft hair with this buttery, oil-rich mask. Deep moisture is especially important for grey hair, and argan, corn germ and camellia oils give a good drenching.

KERASTASE MASK ELIXIR ULTIME, \$59, KERASTASE.CA

23. FOR THE MAKEUP JUNKIE**Wunder balm**

This one-shade-suits-all sheer pink balm is a must-have at every age. It provides a hint of colour and contains smoothing sunflower extract to hydrate and blur fine lines around the mouth. Bonus: its elegant gold lid doubles as a mirror.

AERIN ROSE LIP BALM, \$34, ESTÉE LAUDER.CA

24. FOR THE FRAGRANCE FIEND**A love story**

Tap into her sense of romance by making a gift of Chloé's Love Story, a clean floral fragrance based on sensual orange blossom. Add a DVD of your favourite romcom and curl up on the couch together.

CHLOÉ LOVE STORY, \$100, SEPHORA.COM

25. FOR THE SKIN-CARE CONNOISSEUR**Brightening boost**

Delivering an instant golden glow, this serum hydrates dry, dull complexions in a flash. It also boosts the skin's natural radiance over the long term by helping sluggish skin cells regenerate faster.

L'ORÉAL PARIS AGE PERFECT CELL RENEWAL GOLDEN SERUM, \$36, SHOPPERS DRUG MART



50s

16. FOR THE BLOWOUT BUFF**Sea spa**

Make her shower experience both more decadent and productive with a nourishing hair mask. Infused with algae and sea kelp, this one deeply conditions dried-out lengths and transports with thoughts of the deep blue.

OGX QUENCHED SEA MINERAL MOISTURE MOISTURE SURGE DEEP TREATMENT, \$10, WALMART

17. FOR THE HOME-SPA ENTHUSIAST**Winter warmth**

Diptyque is the Rolls-Royce of candles and with good reason: It offers sensory escapism in one sniff. The glass jar of this limited-edition version is illustrated by French artist collective Qubo Gas, but it's the cozy,

woody scent calling to mind a log fire, roasted chestnuts and the feeling of being in a remote wintry forest that will really wow.

DIPTYQUE SCENTED CANDLE IN HIVER, \$41, HOLT RENFREW

18. FOR THE FRAGRANCE FIEND**Addictive amber**

Add this bijou scent to her lineup and she'll be hooked. New-York-based Nest Fine Fragrances are an olfactory reimagining of 18th-century British artist Mary Deane's works. This petite rollerball contains a hypnotic blend of amber, patchouli and night-blooming jasmine. She's unlikely to let it leave her purse.

NEST FINE FRAGRANCES MIDNIGHT FLEUR EAU DE PARFUM ROLLERBALL, \$30, SEPHORA.CA

19. FOR THE MAKEUP JUNKIE**The moon & stars**

This "celestial beauty" compact lives up to its name with a stunning astrological illustration. Created by Japanese makeup brand Clé de Peau Beauté in collaboration with British fashion line and digital-print experts Swash London, it's made for restaurant touch-ups.

CLÉ DE PEAU BEAUTÉ POWDRE COMPACT BEAUTÉ CÉLESTE LIMITED EDITION, \$70, HOLT RENFREW

20. FOR THE SKIN-CARE CONNOISSEUR**Beauty sleep**

This high-tech unscented serum from a 60-year-old Canadian skin-care company is packed with peptides to boost flagging collagen and elastin. Also in its arsenal: botanical myrtle extract, beech buds and shiitake mushroom, all promising to make aging skin smoother and firmer, while she dreams.

ELIZABETH GRANT BIOCOLLASIS COMPLEX CELL VITALITY SUPREME RENEWAL NIGHT SERUM, \$100, ELIZABETHGRANT.COM

WEEKEND UPDATE

SHEER DELIGHT

This trend is all about beautiful (read tasteful) silhouettes that showcase transparent fabrics and reveal interesting prints, textures and colours. Scandalous cleavage and scathingly high hemlines need not apply

BY VANESSA TAYLOR



1 LIZZY CAPLAN



2 ABIGAIL SPENCER



3 HOLLAND RODEN



4 JAMIE CHUNG



5 TARYN MANNING



6 JESSICA STAM

1. Vitamin D

A sunny hue is always welcome, especially at a winter cocktail party. Lizzy Caplan's bright yellow shift dress gives the illusion of being strapless and the sheer overlay (in the same hue) adds coverage without bulk.

2. On point

There are plenty of creative options with a little black dress. One of our favourites is a patterned mesh that looks beautiful against the skin as well as over fabric. Let the soft pattern be the focal point, like Abigail Spencer does.

3. Buttoned up

The basic (and sometimes boring) shirt-dress is instantly revived with a few sheer panels and a blush colour. The transparent fabric extends the hemline and creates a demure collar detail on Holland Roden.

4. Flash dance

Jamie Chung opts for an edgier take with strategically placed panels. While exposing this amount of skin isn't for everyone, a few choice details like the longer hemline, scaled-back accessories and low-key beauty look, keep the look classy.

5. Pastels, please

Pretty pastels like this lilac on Taryn Manning get a seasonal update when teamed with a black base. The cropped top and clever dark tummy-protecting lining are super flattering, and the sheer floral lace up top keeps the overall look light.

6. Fringe benefits

Jessica Stam overhauls the standard black mini dress with this sheer graphic neckline and longer hemline. We love the subtle bohemian nod with the fringe embellishment as an alternative to lace or netting.

The It item

Sheer lace detail at the midsection updates a classic royal blue shift and breaks up the dress to look like separates. The key to this look is making sure you're showcasing only one body part—so stick with a higher neckline and pay attention to the hemline length.

BCBGMAXAZRIA DRESS, \$344, BCBG.COM



ONE-MINUTE MIRACLE

Dear Waxon

Loofah Scrub: I don't invite just anyone into my shower; but once I got through your thin layer of soap to the loofah below I could tell that you would be good to me. Going against the grain while scrubbing the skin on my legs, you really know how to help a girl achieve smooth skin and a close shave; plus, your fresh fruity smell perks me up every morning. That's why you're welcome in my shower any day. Love, Michelle Bilodeau

WAXON LOOFAH SCRUBS IN POMTINI AND LEMON-RAZZ, \$10, WAXON.CA

SKIN CARE

Treatment terrors

Too timid to take the plunge with peels, lasers or needles? You're not alone. This is your guide to the safest entry-level treatments that produce major results, no nail biting required

BY JILL DUNN

When creases deepen or dark spots sprout, tinkering with Botox, peels, lasers and more is tempting (admit it, you've Googled). When Christina Pomeroy, 47, first considered getting on the Botox bandwagon, Fear of Frozen Face pre-empted her syringe session. "I made the appointment but at the very last second, I completely chickened out," she says. "I was afraid it would change my face or that it would require downtime and look obvious."

Pomeroy is not alone in her anxiety. "The biggest worry for any non-invasive procedure is that results will not look natural," says Dr. Mark Lupin, a Victoria, B.C.-based dermatologist and owner of Cosmedica Laser. Your comfort level comes down to one thing: trust between you and your physician. Make sure to ask for a consultation and ensure you're on the same page. "The biggest misconception is that one treatment fixes everything," adds Lupin. "Having reasonable expectations is key."

Five years after her cancelled appointment, Pomeroy reconsidered. "You get to a certain age with a furrowed brow and you look angry all the time—I didn't like it. Plus, I had a friend who was doing it who just said, 'It's so not a big deal.'" Pomeroy took a leap of faith with Dr. Julia Carroll at Toronto's Compass Dermatology. "She assured me that she wasn't going to go overboard—that was ultimately what made me follow through." The result: "As they say, Botox is kind of the gateway to all of this. Friends think I look more fresh-faced—not 'done.'"

Pomeroy tops up her Botox a few times per year; has tried a "vampire facelift"—an injection of her own blood and platelets ("I was nervous about it, but hated the lines under my eyes—the results are amazing!"); and is a recent convert to the smoothing micro laser peel. "I barely wear makeup now. I'm a walking billboard for that one," she says. "So many of my friends have since done it."

Skin smoother

Microdermabrasion: perfect for needle-phobics

Fear factor: None to mild. Think of microdermabrasion as a thorough exfoliation.

What to expect: Medical-grade mineral crystals in a hand-held vacuum-like wand skim the skin to remove dirt, oil and debris painlessly.

Newbie know-how: The best results are about three days after treatment.

Downtime: You might experience light flaking for a few days.

Cost: \$75-\$200 per treatment.

Glow getter

Chemical peels are a hyper-fast way to get glowing.

Fear factor: Mild. Peels sound intimidating, but they're one of the best options for newbies, as a professional can completely customize the intensity and solution, using lactic, glycolic or other types of acids of varying strength to smooth skin and minimize pores.

What to expect: Once the peel solution is applied to the face and neck, skin may tingle. It should never burn.

Newbie know-how: The pro should never leave the room while the peel is active. Peels heighten photo-sensitivity, so wear SPF 60 for several weeks after a treatment.

Downtime: None to a few days, depending on intensity.

Cost: \$100 and up, based on peel type.

Frown reducer

Take baby steps with Botox—and competitors like Dysport and Xeomin—considered the gold standard to temporarily paralyze facial muscles so creases disappear.

Fear factor: Moderate. The needle is scary and it requires a skilled hand. "There are enough potential adverse events, especially where injections are near larger blood vessels, nerves, arteries that share collateral circulation with vessels that supply the eye, that injectables should be limited to specialist physicians," says Dr. Lozinski.

What to expect: Most dermatologists will ice the area, use the tiniest



"I made the appointment but at the very last second, I completely chickened out. I was afraid it would change my face or that it would require downtime and look obvious."

needles available and massage injection sites to reduce discomfort. "Botox is much less intimidating [when applied] in one single area for dynamic lines, like the forehead or between the eyebrows," says Dr. Ala Lozinski, a dermatologist based in Stoney Creek, Ont. "It's always better to get to know and love Botox in one of these classic sites, before moving on to advanced treatment."

Newbie know-how: This is very much an art form. Do your research—ask to see photos of a doctor's work—and go to a dermatologist or physician (no Botox parties to save a few bucks!).

Wrinkle filler

"Lunchtime" procedures using injectables such as Restylane or Juvederm plump up trouble-spot lines quickly and efficiently.

Fear factor: Moderate. You have to be OK with needles and trust that your doctor won't overdo it.

What to expect: A doctor numbs the area and then inserts the needle around the mouth, temples and cheeks—wherever needs plumping.

Newbie know-how: These hyaluronic acid fillers can also be used to add volume to sagging areas and subtly reshape the face. "Re-volumizing these areas can be quite gratifying when done by an expert," says Dr. Lozinski. As well, "studies have

shown that ongoing use of fillers actually stimulates some collagen production in treated areas, so in theory, there is ultimately more benefit from filler than the volume." **Downtime:** None, but you may see bruising at the injection site. **Cost:** \$500 and up.

Texture transformer

Laser is a must for dramatic improvement of scarring, blotchiness, pores and lines (not deep-set wrinkles). Pros recommend the Sciton Micro-Laser Peel for newbies because they can adjust the settings, ramping it up as they get more comfortable.

Fear factor: Moderate to high. You'll be red afterwards, and skin can feel warm or mildly swollen.

What to expect: A numbing cream is applied to skin to minimize discomfort. Safety glasses cover the eyes and for 15 to 30 minutes (depending on size of area treated), a technician will glide a laser hand piece above the skin as a computer-guided scanner moves the laser beam around the treatment area. It feels like a rubber band snapping against the skin.

Newbie know-how: This laser can be combined with other treatments like the pro-fractional laser to get even better results.

Downtime: This is referred to as the "weekend peel," as skin will be red and tender for three to five days. **Cost:** \$450 per treatment.

FRAGRANCE

Good spirits

Manhattans and martinis—decadent new niche scents are leaving us shaken, stirred and smelling fantastic

BY DEBORAH FULSANG

Perfumers have been dipping into the liquor cabinet lately, crafting fragrances that sound like they belong on a cocktail bar as much as a dressing table. This trend clinks glasses with the revival of cocktail hour and a recent fascination with mixology, along with our hedonistic tendency to overconsume.

Consider the pair of debut scents from J.Crew—No. 57 and No. 31—made by niche perfumer Carlos Huber of Arquiste: They take 1940s libations made with whiskey and vermouth as inspiration. The perfumer, a preservationist architect by training, was inspired by the artistic scene of 1940s New York: specifically, Peggy Guggenheim's groundbreaking *Exhibition by 31 Women*, the first all-female modern art show in the United States. Take a whiff and you're there: opening night, 1943, with Ms. Guggenheim sipping her manhattans, Frieda Kahlo her reposado.

No. 57 is a rich, woody fragrance; notes of whiskey swirl with cedarwood, oakwood, cinnamon and vanilla. No. 31 channels the cocktails of the exhibition's guests, redolent with notes of red vermouth and eau de vie, along with Bulgarian rose, patchouli and oak moss.

"There is a low threshold for patience and tradition, for what's normal," says Huber, when asked about the appeal of these unusual alcoholic notes. "Younger people are more open to scents that are not necessarily pretty."

Whiskey is also the starting point of Tralala by Penhaligon's, a new scent that mixes the amber spirit top note with sparkling aldehydes, green notes and dark, delicious resins, woods, incense and musk.

As trendy as dark spirits are, there's room for lighter fare in the liquor cabinet and on the dressing table. "Gin is very chic. It's very aromatic," says Huber, who has romanced that

spirit in The Architects Club, his new fragrance for his own brand. The sultry scent begins with the frankness of juniper distillation, before evolving to something dusty and smoky with vanilla, tobacco and wood. "It's a bar, but not just any bar. It's a very flush, leather- and velvet-lined bar."

The latest from 215-year-old British fragrance house Atkinsons is Lavender on the Rocks, a sparkling lavender-infused gin cocktail. (It's the follow-up



SCENT-SATIONAL

READ OUR Q&A WITH CARLOS HUBER, THE NOSE BEHIND J. CREW'S NEW FRAGRANCE THEKIT.CA/BEAUTY/CARLOS-HUBER/

to the brand's deliciously boozy 24 Old Bond Street, a cologne with a single-malt Lagavulin heart.) "You find geranium, basil, rose and two types of distillation, which gives on one side the essence and the other the absolute," which highlights the scientific similarities between fine spirits and fine perfumes, says Bridgitte Wormser, vice president of creation and marketing. "When you're doing distillation with whiskey or gin, or this kind of alcohol [used in fragrance], it's to get more aromatic facets, to get the best of the best," she says. "It's the same process."

This trend is just starting to heat up, so what's next on the cocktail menu? "Have you ever had the Champagne with strawberries at the Hotel Plaza Athénée in Paris?" she answers, without missing a beat.

Champagne, single-malt scotch, gin martinis—perhaps these alcohol-loving leanings are simply an evolution of perfumery's gourmand trend from dessert to after-dinner drinks. "You're just moving the cursor from sweet notes to more adult indulgences that are forbidden," says Denyse Beaulieu, author of *The Perfume Lover*. The latest By Kilian fragrance, Smoke for the Soul, part of its Addictive State of Mind lineup, takes this one step further with notes of "psychotropic tobacco."

Sugar, caffeine, booze—all indulgences we're encouraged to restrict in their usual forms. A spritz of Lagavulin, Veuve or craft-distilled gin is non-addictive and calorie free and won't cause a hangover. Pour me another.

FROM LEFT: ATKINSONS LAVENDER ON THE ROCKS, \$240; HOLT RENFREW. BY KILIAN SMOKE FOR THE SOUL, \$325; HOLT RENFREW. PENHALIGON'S TRALALA, \$220; ETIKET.CA. ARQUISTE FOR J.CREW NO. 31 AND NO. 57, \$92 EACH. JCREW.COM FOR STORES



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FRAGRANCE

Popularity contest

Buying perfume as a holiday gift is tricky, so take a cue from the hive mind and consider the bestselling scents of the year. From the drugstore to the specialty boutique, the stats don't lie: If crowds love it, chances are your loved one will too

BY RANI SHEEN



THE NICHE BOUTIQUE

Escentric Molecules Molecule 01

"This is our number-1-selling fragrance by far. It has a cult following among both men and women. It is different on everyone, and sometimes you smell it on yourself and sometimes you don't. But others do. And the response can be interesting—strangers actually stop to ask you what you are wearing. I have had customers tell me that, and I have experienced it myself." —Simon Tooley, president, Etiket, Montreal

THE BEAUTY EMPORIUM

Tokyo Milk Let Them Eat Cake No. 11

"People love the smell of coconut and vanilla because it is always comforting and reminds them of delicious treats. The scent is sweet but not overwhelmingly sugary. Plus, the packaging is beautiful." —Kendra Lovick, co-owner, BeautyMark, Vancouver

THE DEPARTMENT STORE

Chanel Chance Eau de Toilette,

"Chanel Chance is our bestselling ladies' fragrance (followed by Thierry Mugler

Angel). You can never go wrong giving a gift of Chanel—it's luxurious, timeless, feminine and aspirational." —Heather Josey, fragrance buyer, Hudson's Bay

THE LUXURY RETAILER

Creed Aventus

"Aventus launched exclusively at Holt's in 2010 and, four years later, continues to be treasured among perfume aficionados. Inspired by the strength and success of Napoleon, it is a timeless unisex scent that resonates with our clients." —Wayne Peterson, divisional vice-president of cosmetics, Holt Renfrew

THE DRUGSTORE

Guess For Women

"Guess for Women not only has strong brand recognition and is affordable, it also has a floral and fresh scent that women are looking for." —Nicole Burgess, director, beauty, Rexall



Rani Sheen is *The Kit's* beauty editor. Follow her on Twitter at @ranisheen



ESCENTRIC MOLECULES MOLECULE 01, \$150, ETIKET.CA. TOKYO MILK LET THEM EAT CAKE NO. 11, \$33, BEAUTYMARK.CA. CHANEL CHANCE EAU DE TOILETTE, \$82 FOR 50ML, THEBAY.COM. CREED AVENTUS, \$385, HOLT RENFREW. GUESS FOR WOMEN, \$20, REXALL



SPOTLIGHT ON

SUPER SERUMS

Make room on your shelf for a new one-size-fits-all approach to skin care

Great party makeup starts with great skin. And beauty brands want to get you there faster with a new class of skin-care product: the "super serum." These contain powerful ingredients in high doses to treat multiple imperfections at once, no matter your damage.

"It's always better to use active ingredients in combination that treat the whole biological pathway, rather than just one single dose, very high, of one active ingredient targeting one specific biological item," says Muriel Pujos, head of scientific communication for Philosophy and the brains behind No Reason to Hide (\$72, sephora.ca). A serum that promises both long-term and short-term benefits, it targets rough texture and darkened pores with exfoliating salicylic acid, and soothes blotchiness and redness with chamomile extract. It also takes aim at dark spots and acne scars at every step of their life cycle: A marine extract works to neutralize the ominous early "pigment-creating signals," while vitamin B₃ (also known as concentrated niacinamide) lightens the blotches once they've made their appearance on skin.

You could call these serums superpowered anti-agers. But we'll just call them the only "one-size-fits-all" worth trying.

—Christine Loureiro

Magic potions

Three more elixirs that work multiple anti-aging angles to get skin cells turning over like they're still in high school

What's your damage: wrinkles, sun spots, sagging, uneven tone? This serum claims to decipher them and sends in collagen-kick-starting peptides, antioxidant vitamin C and cell-renewing glucosamine to fix what needs fixing.

CLINIQUE SMART CUSTOM-REPAIR SERUM, \$69, CLINIQUE.COM



A low dose of retinol (the ultimate anti-ager) is teamed with skin-cell-regenerating plant stem cells and exfoliating lactic acid to provide a multi-pronged support system for aging skin.

MIRACLE 10 PLATINUM NIGHT REPAIR, \$225, MIRACLE10.COM



Encapsulated retinol delivered evenly and continuously plus barrier-strengthening ceramides and peptides come at "the eight clinical signs of aging": fine lines, wrinkles, dullness, dehydration, age spots, uneven texture, uneven skin tone and enlarged pores.

JOUVIANCE RESTRICTIVES RD, \$55, AT SHOPPERS DRUG MART



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PRESS PLAY

BRIGHT-EYE BASICS

Watch editor-in-chief Christine Loureiro fake eight hours' sleep in three easy steps



LID ILLUMINATOR

Apply a shimmery eyeshadow stick in the centre of each lid to bring sparkle to your eyes and look not just rested but energized.



LOWER LIGHT

Add a dot below the eye, in the centre, to catch the light and make the eyes appear wider.

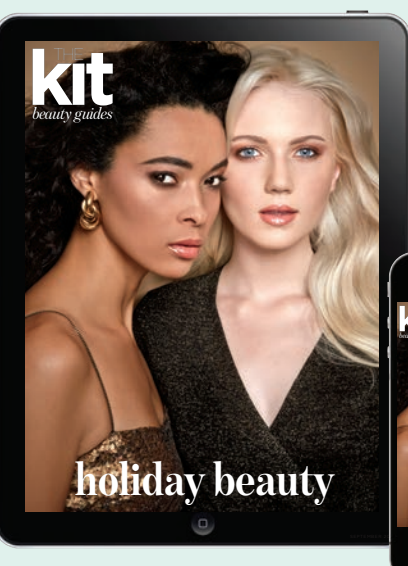


FLATTERING SHIMMER

Silver works on cool skin tones, while champagne or rose gold highlights warm and dark complexes.

REVITAL-EYES

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HOLIDAY BEAUTY GUIDE, OUT NOV. 19!

GLITZ & GLAM

With the holidays on the horizon, the new issue is packed with everything you need to wow the crowd. From fabulous gift ideas to fresh cat-eye looks and the coolest way to wear glitter, these tips and tricks will have you dazzling, without a piece of tinsel in sight.

Download the app from the Apple newsstand or read it at thekit.ca/guides



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