

# THE KIT

» TORONTO STAR «

11.23.2023

Time to put on a show—for “big gift” energy, we turned to a beloved cast of characters with a distinct sense of style: The Muppets!



THE LUXE & LOOPY

# GIFT GUIDE

Let's go **waka waka** this holiday

By Sarah Daniel | Styling by Jess Anderson



## WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

This bag feels like something dreamt up by an avid reader and it was: Dior's creative director, Maria Grazia Chiuri, conceived it. Chiuri's runway collections are often inspired by books, and her Paris office features floor-to-ceiling shelves of tomes on everything from gender studies to philosophy. Since debuting in the Spring 2018 collection, the Dior Book Bag has claimed its spot on the bestseller list and been reinvented many times. This season's version features a pink flora and fauna motif, the house's classic Toile de Jouy pattern reimagined by Italian contemporary artist Pietro Ruffo to include wild animals like a prowling Indian tiger and a majestic elephant. And while handbags are generally unkind to books—fresh paperbacks get dinged after a day of bumping up against keys, hand cream and sunglasses—this one's structured interior helps keep contents safely stored. Plus, it's roomy enough to hold the day's essentials, whether that's a vintage copy of Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* (a Chiuri fave) or a pair of drumsticks, if you're Animal.

DIOR BAG, \$4,500, DIOR.COM



# Van Cleef & Arpels

Haute Joaillerie, place Vendôme since 1906



TORONTO • 100 Bloor Street W  
vancleefarpels.com • 877-VAN-CLEEF



This plush faux-fur bucket hat from Canadian brand Freed & Freed is an instant statement maker. It'll not only keep heads warm but will also make heads turn.

FREED AND FREED HAT, \$105,  
FREEDANDFREED.COM



These quirky linen coasters featuring seaside creatures will kick cocktail hour (or coffee o'clock) up a notch for any foodies on your list.

MISETTE COASTERS, \$168,  
MISSETTETABLE.COM



Don't let cold-weather season bring you down. Wrap yourself in this extremely cozy and extremely fabulous fuzzy coat. There, much better.

GUCCI COAT, \$12,700, GUCCI  
BOUTIQUES



Feeling wild at heart? Follow the feeling with a pair of shoes that will add pizzazz to any holiday look, including denim and a Christmas sweater.

CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN SHOES, \$1,375,  
CHRISTIANLOUBOUTIN.COM

WILD CHILD



CREATIVE LEAP

It's not easy being Jonathan Anderson. As the creative director for two red-hot luxury brands—his namesake JW Anderson, based in London, and Madrid-based house Loewe—he has two different teams, in two different countries. He has said time spent on the Eurostar between the two helps him compartmentalize. Perhaps it also sparks creativity; we can imagine him gazing out the window at the English countryside zipping by and coming up with the idea for this JW Anderson collab with Wellipets. Anderson wore the beloved rubber rain boots as a child; so did Princes Harry and William, who were photographed wearing them walking through puddles at polo matches with their mother. The adult clog version, with a hand-painted frog face and a cushioned insole made of Italian suede leather, will delight kids of all ages, too. (Emily Ratajkowski was spotted wearing them on a walk with her son.) And if Kermit green isn't your shade, they're also available in blue and rubber ducky yellow.

JW ANDERSON X WELLIPETS CLOGS, \$690, JWANDERSON.COM



DRAMA QUEEN

Wearing a lavish bracelet calls for making animated hand gestures: say, grandly waving to your ex across the room at a party, giving jazz hands rather than emoji applause on a Zoom call, or maybe a karate chop to make an important point. (Hi-ya!) This 18-karat white gold one features nearly 70 round diamonds, and like Miss Piggy, will say “Moi” to anyone who loves subtle statement jewellery. This piece is from storied jeweller Van Cleef & Arpels's Bouton d'or collection, inspired by the iconic paillette motif of the late 1930s. It's giving a sequin vibe—they were big at the time—without the feathered boa. While the brand's origin story was fuelled by the romance between Estelle Arpels and Alfred Van Cleef, don't let that hold you back if your relationship status is complicated. Just gift it to yourself.

VAN CLEEF & ARPELS BRACELET, PRICE UPON REQUEST, VANCLEEFARPELS.COM

RIBBIT RIBBIT



Transform a room into a sanctuary with this hand-crafted glass diffuser—there are only 300 in the world—from luxury Parisian fragrance house Diptyque.



RUPI KAUR TRILOGY BOXED SET: MILK AND HONEY, THE SUN AND HER FLOWERS, AND HOME BODY, \$60, INDIGO.CA



If you travel, travel well. This sleek woven leather passport holder keeps documents and cards organized and also looks like it belongs in first class.



Pearls, like lace, have been reinvented in recent years. No longer simply a symbol of traditional elegance, they can be subversive, chic, cool.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KAZNIECZUK. STYLING: JESS ANDERSON



Skip basic black shades and opt for statement-making chrome Loewe sunglasses. It honestly doesn't get chicer than these street style-fave silhouettes.



Immerse yourself in the world of Barbie (in case the movie wasn't enough) with this glorious coffee table book that explores 65 years of the world's most popular doll.



A classic flap bag in this season's hot silver hue—complete with a star-shaped coin purse—takes the spirit of generous gift-giving into the stratosphere.



Say “cheers” to the holidays with this beautiful hand-blown glass coupe set—perfect for the season's seemingly infinite celebratory bubbly.

KISSY KISSY

# N°5





CURTAIN TIME

Whether you're a watch collector or not, the Venn diagram overlaps when it comes to our collective desire to make the most of the time we have. That's something even the most cantankerous of grandfathers—yes, even Statler and Waldorf—would likely shout from the rooftops, or a theatre balcony. Famously, Humphrey Bogart was a fan of Swiss-based Longines—he reportedly wore his own timepiece on the set of *Casablanca*, and today, screen stars like Jennifer Lawrence—a Longines ambassador—are wearing watches on the red carpet or to run errands, doing their part to keep the stealth wealth trend going, even as AI makes all things analogue feel endangered (or extra exclusive). These pieces from the Master Collection, which embody the nearly two-centuries-old watchmaking company's craftsmanship, are both a perfect gateway purchase for newbie watch wearers and a worthy acquisition for collectors. Telling time via a twist of the wrist feels a lot more glamorous than tapping a screen.

LONGINES WATCHES, \$4,800 EACH, LONGINES.COM

POWER PLAYERS



We're calling it: 2024 will mark the return of the fountain pen: elegant, old-school, embodying an age of whiskey bars and three-piece suits. Welcome back, old sport.

SMYTHSON FOUNTAIN PEN, \$1,700, SMYTHSON.COM



Ball caps may be as ubiquitous as espresso martinis, but good ball caps? They remain few and far between. This one—a true classic—hits the mark in all the right ways.

POLO RALPH LAUREN HAT, \$60, RALPHLAUREN.COM



Give new meaning to the term "cuffing season" with these sterling silver cuff links. They look great, sure, but it's the act of putting them on (or watching someone do that) that really seals the deal.

TIFFANY & CO. CUFF LINKS, \$725, TIFFANY.CA



Any desert island essential list should include a perfect striped item (and an Augustinus Bader serum). This sweater from the cult New York brand would make our cut.

KHAITE SWEATER, \$2,126, FARFETCH.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL KAZIMIERCZUK, STYLING: JESS ANDERSON

TREASURE TROVE

At Yorkville Village, Toronto's luxury shopping destination, you'll find beautiful gifts for everyone on your list—and for yourself



COSY UP

Shop these extra-soft ribbed accessories for a good cause: proceeds from sales benefit SickKids Foundation.

SENTALER RIBBED SCARF IN BABY ALPACA WOOL, \$325, GLOVES, \$225, AND HAT, \$225, [SENTALER.CA](#)



CHAMPAGNE DREAMS

Make the whole place shimmer with an ensemble that's as sparkly as a flute of bubbly.

JUDITH & CHARLES MILA SKIRT CHAMPAGNE, \$450, POESY TOP CHAMPAGNE, \$450, [JUDITHANDCHARLES.COM](#)



SKIN SAVIOURS

Show your wintry skin some TLC, just in time for the holidays (and all the party pics).

RADFORD STUDIO BUTTER, \$75, CLEAN \$37 FOR 125ML OR \$23 FOR 47ML, AND BOOST, \$95, [RADFORDSTUDIO](#)



FRENCH STYLE

Borrow inspiration from the Parisiennes for a vibe that's perennially chic.

TARA JARMON VASCANO JACKET, \$880, TARA JARMON BELLA PEARL NECKLACE, \$240, [COPINEPARIS.COM](#)



ALL THE TRIMMINGS

Festive parties call for extra embellishments, like a feather-trimmed frock and a pearl-dotted clutch.

LAPOINTE SATIN SHIFT DRESS, \$2,195, CULT CAIA CLUTCH, \$725, [TNTFASHION.CA](#)



WITH THE BAND

Elevate any hairstyle the effortless way: just slip on a stylish designer headband.

LUXE HAIR ACCESSORIES HEADBANDS, FROM \$45 TO \$295, [LUXEHAIRACCESSORIES.MOBI](#)



HOME SWEET HOME

Deck your halls and other spaces with luxe candles and other elegant decor touches.

ORTIGIA SICILIA TIN PLATES, \$149.95, TRUDON 163 CANDLE HOLIDAY CLASSIC, \$195, ASSOULINE TRAVEL FROM HOME SCENTED CANDLE, \$119.95 EACH, ASSOULINE BOOK, \$140, [TEATROVERDE.COM](#)



RELAXED FIT

Make the most of your holiday downtime in this cute and cuddly sweatshirt.

HEIDI HO-2 SOUTH PARADE SWEATSHIRT, \$142, [HO2.CA](#)



WARM FRONT

Get geared up for frosty days and nights with a merino wool polo and a heat-retaining jacket.

PATRICK ASSARAF BUTTON DOWN POLO, \$350, AND STINE GOYA SEQUIN ZIGGY MICRO BAG, \$310, [ANDREWSCO.COM](#)



DRESSED TO IMPRESS

Make a fashion statement with a bold pop of colour or perfectly chosen bauble.

MASKA IMPERIAL BOMBER GOLD JACKET, \$318, NECKLACE, \$169, BABYLON COLLECTION PINK BLOUSE, \$850, [MASKAMODE.COM](#)



WORTHY INVESTMENTS

Choose the made-to-last, finer things in life and you'll cherish them forever.

LORO PIANA PARKSVILLE CREWNECK SWEATER IN BABY CASHMERE, \$2,475, BRUNELLO CUCINELLI GRAINED CALFSKIN BI-FOLD PASSPORT HOLDER, \$795, BRUNELLO CUCINELLI X OLIVER PEOPLES CESARINO, \$675, [VIACAVOUR.CA](#)



IN THE BAG

Complete your look with a cool twist on the classic tote, or a sequined, soirée-ready accessory.

NAGHEDI ST BARTHS MEDIUM OCEAN, \$350, AND STINE GOYA SEQUIN ZIGGY MICRO BAG, \$310, [ANDREWSCO.COM](#)

# STEP INTO THE '80s

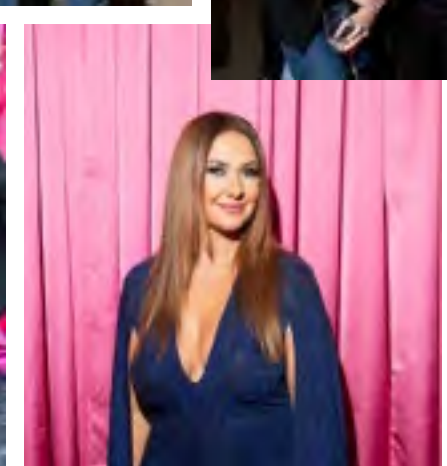
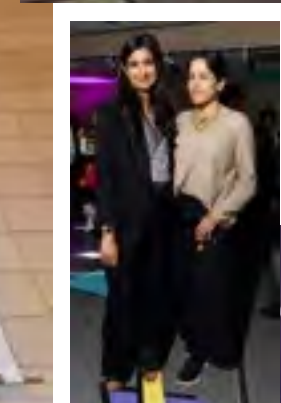
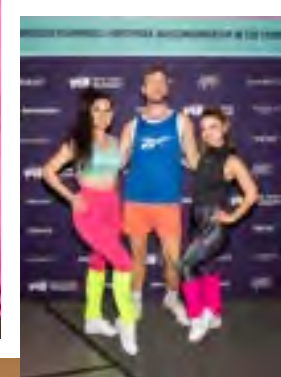
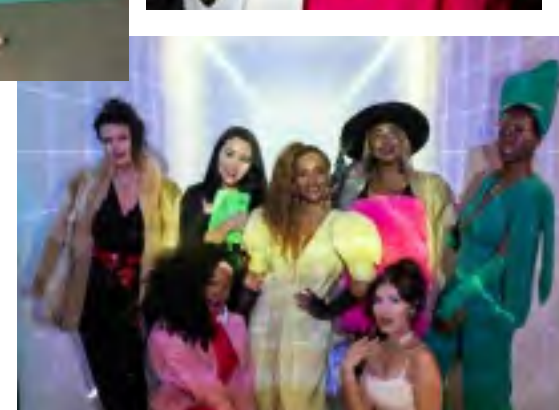
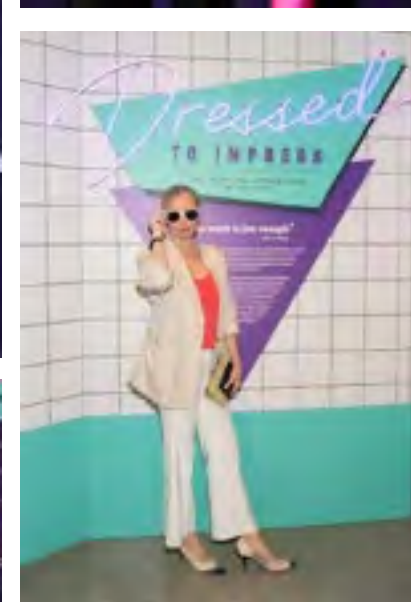
A look inside  
the Bata Shoe  
Museum's new  
exhibition  
*Dressed to Impress*

On Oct. 31, we skipped the trick-or-treating to visit the Bata Shoe Museum in celebration of the opening of its new exhibition *Dressed to Impress: Footwear and Consumerism in the 1980s*. A 1980s costume party, this wasn't just any night at the museum. Guests arrived dressed up in their best retro fashions (think: shoulder pads, sequins and some very big hair) to dance their hearts out to the era's top pop, rock and hip-hop jams. There were air-guitar players, there were break-dancers, there were vintage arcade games. But above all that, there were shoes.

The first show curated by Nishi Bassi, curator and exhibitions manager of the museum, "Dressed to Impress" highlights the most influential 1980s footwear styles and innovations, examining how the decade came to inform today's consumer habits. From Air Jordans and the Reebok Freestyle Hi to Gucci loafers and power pumps galore, all of the 1980s heavy hitters are on display, showcasing the decade's signature more-is-more aesthetic through bright colours, sharp silhouettes and high-status name brands. To complete the throwback vibe, the museum has transformed its gallery space into a 1980s-inspired shopping mall, complete with a vintage movie theatre and a soundtrack of Muzak. It's a total step back in time that we can't wait to revisit.

Exhibition opening highlights. On view until March 16, 2025

Photography by Ryan Emberley



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CASK CURATION SERIES  
THE SHERRY EDITION



# THE KIT

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All  
aglow

Beauty gifting, let's go! 'Tis the season to embrace the sensorial pleasures of skincare, luxuriate in a new fragrance, dream in technicolour with makeup. Ready?

*Photography by Michael Kazimierczuk*



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THE KIT X LEVI'S®

# THE GIFT OF ICONIC STYLE

This holiday season, Levi's® has a must-buy for everyone on your list



The holidays are almost upon us, and that means the chance to give a truly memorable gift. But the pressure is on: How do you find a special something that no one would want to return (or, gasp, re-gift)? We say go for picks that are perennially stylish, and it simply doesn't get more iconic than Levi's®. While the brand is synonymous with timeless denim, it's also a true one-stop shop for all your gifting needs. (Plus, you might be inspired to scoop something up for yourself.)

## GREATEST HITS

Levi's® 501s® turned 150 years old earlier this year—proof that true icons never go out of style. Worn by everyone from James Dean and Patti Smith to Hailey Bieber and Kendall Jenner, this classic pair of jeans has been a building block of great outfits for generations. Next, round out any wardrobe's hero pieces with a perfectly cut jean jacket (Canadian tuxedo, anyone?) and a western shirt, the ultimate layering essential, especially for the denim-on-denim trend we're seeing everywhere.

From the stitching to the pointed patch pockets, this button-down is a great way to dip your toe into the western trend, without committing to cowboy boots.

LEVI'S® DONOVAN WESTERN SHIRT, \$98, [LEVI.COM](http://LEVI.COM)



With its straight-leg silhouette, flattering back-pocket placement and classic blue wash, these 501s® can be dressed up for a night out, or dressed down with sneakers for daytime.

LEVI'S® 501® ORIGINAL FIT WOMEN'S JEANS, \$118, [LEVI.COM](http://LEVI.COM)

## CLASSICS, REMIXED

While there will always be a place in our wardrobes—and gifting lists—for the timeless staples, sometimes you want to shake things up and riff on the classics. In this category, denim serves as the ultimate blank canvas for embellishment, a reinvented silhouette or a fresh, trend-forward approach. Opt for a bold neckline here, or a cropped hem there, and you've got the perfect gift for anyone who's always pushing the style envelope, experimenting with the latest trends and playing with proportions.

A chic little mini dress cut from indigo denim might just be the most stylish find of the season.

LEVI'S® VEDA DENIM DRESS, \$118, [LEVI.COM](http://LEVI.COM)



Thanks to the resurgence of quilting and arts-and-crafts details on the runways, a pair of patchwork denim 501s® feel of-the-moment.

LEVI'S® 501® '90S FREE-HAND FOLK WOMEN'S JEANS, \$138, [LEVI.COM](http://LEVI.COM)

## FEELING NOSTALGIC

A brand like Levi's® has helped shape fashion trends for decades, so it's no surprise that retro-inspired looks are among the best bets. From throwback silhouettes (hello, bell bottoms) to earthy palettes and textures evoking the '70s, you simply can't go wrong with a piece inspired by the chic past. Plus, going retro is a great way to gift something on-trend that can still be worn—and loved—for years to come. Because if we know anything about styles of the past, it's that they always come back around.

When it comes to dreamy retro outerwear: the sherpa trucker jacket once again steps up to the plate. The pleated front adds interest, while the lining keeps things toasty.

LEVI'S® TYPE I PLAID SHERPA TRUCKER JACKET, \$168, [LEVI.COM](http://LEVI.COM)



A certified hit, the Ribcage range from Levi's® takes the waist-defining silhouette to literal new heights.

LEVI'S® RIBCAGE BELL WOMEN'S JEANS, \$128, [LEVI.COM](http://LEVI.COM)

Style icon Paul Newman's EDC famously included a Rolex Daytona given to him by his wife, Joanne Woodward.



## THE FOUNTAIN PEN

German engineering has fought back against the phone's efforts to make the pen obsolete by creating the perfect writing experience: This pen writes its own ticket. Equipped with a 14-carat rhodium-plated gold nib that offers a dreamy ink flow, an ink window and differential piston-filling mechanism, the M605 is a mess-free wonder. Pick your signature ink (\$26) from Toronto's Ferris Wheel Press.

PELIKAN SPECIAL EDITION M605 PEN, \$795, [TAKENOTESTORE.CA](http://TAKENOTESTORE.CA)



## THE WATCH

Launched in 1921, the Historiques stood out for two reasons: First, its caliber is offset by 45 degrees, meaning drivers could read the time without taking their hands off the wheel. And second, the crown sits on one of the corners of the watch's square case, making it a most unique timepiece.

VACHERON CONSTANTIN HISTORIQUE AMERICAN 1921, \$54,500, [VACHERON-CONSTANTIN.COM](http://VACHERON-CONSTANTIN.COM)



## THE PHONE

No matter how you feel about screen time, your smartphone is probably the item you'd feel the most lost without. The new iPhone 15 Pro Max is leaps ahead of its last iteration, boasting greater durability with its ceramic shield front, USB compatibility, an insane camera, a powerful new chip and all-day battery life. It's also titanium, so it's lighter and therefore easier on the pockets of your fancy fit.

IPHONE 15 PRO MAX, FROM \$899, [APPLE.COM](http://APPLE.COM)



## THE CARD HOLDER

Cabinetmaker Louis Moreau Sr. and welder Martin Biennais started Maison Moreau in 1882 after Napoleon commissioned some stunning travel trunks. Today, the company's fashion wares include this perfect five-sleeve card holder in monogrammed calf-skin leather.

MOREAU 4CC LEATHER CARD HOLDER, \$295, [BHEMMINGS.COM](http://BHEMMINGS.COM)



## THE SUNGLASSES

Founded in 2014 by Jerome Jacques Marie Mage, JMM has already achieved a sort of cult status thanks to its gorgeous limited-edition, handmade pieces and clever collaborations with the likes of Jeff Goldblum, Alanui and the Velvet Underground. The Quentin, with its structured frame and hatchet-shaped front pins, celebrates the immortal Johnny Cash and is inspired by the eyewear worn by an inmate photographed while attending the Man In Black's famous 1969 concert at San Quentin State Prison.

JACQUES MARIE MAGE QUENTIN SUNGLASSES, \$1295, [SPECTACLE.QUEENSTREET.TORONTO](http://SPECTACLE.QUEENSTREET.TORONTO)



## THE LIGHTER

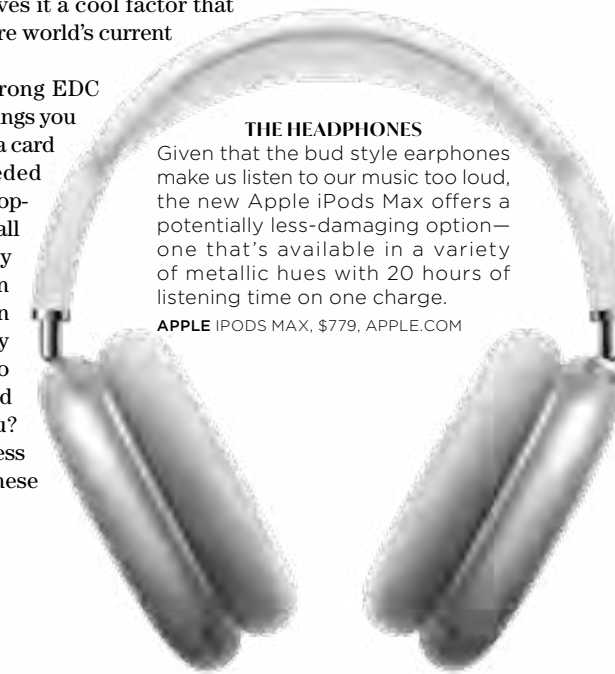
There's something special about designs that have lasted over time. The Santos de Cartier Lighter is a thing of beauty that looks better as it patinas with age. This one has an Art Deco touch that will look slick lighting cigarettes, candles or a fire should you, in true #EDC fashion, find yourself stuck in the woods overnight.

CARTIER LIGHTER, \$1,560, [CARTIER.BOUTIQUE](http://CARTIER.BOUTIQUE)

## THE HEADPHONES

Given that the bud style earphones make us listen to our music too loud, the new Apple iPods Max offers a potentially less-damaging option—one that's available in a variety of metallic hues with 20 hours of listening time on one charge.

APPLE IPODS MAX, \$779, [APPLE.COM](http://APPLE.COM)



## THE POCKET KNIFE

Chris Reeve, world-renowned knife-maker, rose to fame when he invented the frame lock knife, which keeps the blade from closing on your fingers. With premium materials and finishing—sandblasted titanium handles and a ceramic ball interface—his most advanced model, the Inkosi, makes breaking down Amazon boxes more hobby than chore.

CHRIS REEVE KNIFE, \$595 (SMALL), [THUNDERBIRDEAR.CA](http://THUNDERBIRDEAR.CA)



## THE BAG

Bottega is having a moment, which makes this cross-body bag the trendiest pick on this list. That said, the Italian house has been producing its signature handwoven "intrecciato" pieces since the 1960s and deserves the recognition it's getting. Now that handbags have been getting mad love on the runway, this small Cassette bag is the perfect place for keeping all your #EDC items stored safely in one place.

BOTTEGA VENETTA SMALL CASSETTE BAG, \$3,010, [BOTTEGAVENTA.COM](http://BOTTEGAVENTA.COM)

THE KIT X LONGINES

## DEEP DIVE



LONGINES LEGEND DIVER - L3.764.4.906

Dive watches have always been popular amongst the world's top timepiece collectors and novices alike. But why? Most dive watches will never explore the dark depths of the ocean that they are built to withstand—they are more likely to be dropped in a pool or splashed on a beach. Yet, their enduring popularity is proof of concept. Why are they so coveted?

By definition, dive watches need to be water-resistant. The new Longines Legend Diver, with a 39 mm case, is water-resistant up to 30 bar, which is 300 meters. For context, Lake Ontario, at its deepest point, reaches just under 250 meters. Because of this extreme function, dive watches are engineered to perfection and solidly built.

Divers also require the time to be legible underwater, and therefore dive watches typically have a clean dial design. Available in either black or blue lacquer, the Legend Diver's face features elongated hour markers and raised numerals. Its rhodium-plated, polished arrow-hands are coated in Super-LumiNova, which illuminate the dial after light exposure for increased visibility.

Solidly built? Check. Easy to read? Check. Clean Design? Check. Diver or not, take the plunge.



LONGINES LEGEND DIVER - L3.764.4.500

SHOP THE LONGINES LEGEND DIVER AT [LONGINES.CA](http://LONGINES.CA)

Content supplied by Longines

# Through the looking glass

The season's most swoon-worthy beauty gifts are pure festive joy

By Sarah Daniel



For most of us, beauty is an everyday concern. Each morning—at the sink or at a vanity—we delicately apply our serums, blot our lipstick, spritz a cloud of fragrance on the way out the door. Life moves quickly, and a beauty routine can feel, at worst, like work and, at best, like a blur. This holiday, we propose investing in a product (or two) so wonderful that it will take you outside the daily reality of carpools, meetings and meal plans and make you pause and think, “Oh, this is *wonderful*.” Because you are wonderful and you deserve a daily reminder of that fact. We believe these five products have the power to give you that.



YVES SAINT LAURENT LIBRE ABSOLU PLATINE EAU DE PARFUM, \$250 (90 ML), SEPHORA.CA

## PLATINUM LEVEL

Often, the first perfume someone wore was received as a present. When it comes to love languages, fragrances primarily fall under the gift category, but they also come with words of affirmation. YSL describes its latest scent, Libre L’Absolu Platine, as the perfume of a strong, bold and free woman. We know plenty of those. If you know one, gift it to them and don’t forget to pass on the compliment. The fragrance will be a hit among the floral-obsessed, particularly lavender, because the juice has a heavy helping of the purple bloom, featuring two different varieties, complemented with warm orange blossom from Morocco. The bottle is a stunner, with its shining platinum exterior, a complement to the Libre eau de parfum that came before it, dressed in gold.

## GLASS WEAR

The Chanel No. 5 bottle was as innovative as the scent inside—it was the debut of the interlocking Cs—a piece of beauty history currently on display in a buzzy exhibit at London’s Victoria & Albert Museum. The glass—yes, glass!—vessel of the new Chanel 31 Le Rouge Lipstick has a story, too. The clear case was designed to mimic the Art Deco mirror-lined staircase in Chanel’s storied rue Cambon flagship in Paris, a feat achieved by mining more than a century of experience making perfume bottles. As with all Chanel cosmetics, the sound the tube makes when you open and close it is inspired by luxury cars: the cap clicking back into place is nearly inaudible, like closing the door of a Jaguar. The formula is satiny and soft, enriched with gardenia oil, and lends a bold coat or the merest wisp of colour depending on how firmly you press it to your lips. Applying such a luxurious lipstick feels like a glimmer, the term coined by psychologists for small moments of joy in daily life. And because the glass case is refillable, it’s a gift that keeps on a glimmering.



CHANEL 31 LE ROUGE LIPSTICK IN ROUGE COROMANDEL, \$205, CHANEL.COM



## TABLE VINE

Part of red-hot fashion house Loewe’s new home collection, this elegant wax candlestick is a conversation piece. It’s infused with the earthy scent of a tomato plant’s fragrant leaves—a distinctly different smell from the actual fruit/vegetable—for a savoury departure from the seasonal spread of pine tree and baked good scents. But the striking scarlet hue, reminiscent of the fiery Loewe leather corset and flight suit Rihanna wore for this year’s Super Bowl halftime show, makes it a festive table topper. If you can bear to burn it, the wax melts down free of a vessel (unless you pair it with the brand’s terracotta base, sold separately), making for a dramatic end-of-night tableau as well as baked-in sustainability, with nothing to throw away. Gift it to the person who bottles their own homemade pasta sauce and burns their creative candle at both ends.



DS&DURGA ROADTRIP HITS AUTO FRAGRANCE DISCOVERY SET, \$60, ETIKET.CA

## RUNNING ON FUMES

Cult perfumer D.S. & Durga’s set of next-level car fragrance tags will help discerning road trip lovers capture a big rig’s worth of olfactive snapshots. Like a playlist for the nose, each of the five tarot-like cards are scented differently, with their own origin story from perfumer David Seth Moltz, who founded the brand with his wife, Kavi Ahuja Moltz. Take ‘85 Diesel, inspired by the smell of leather seats and burning fuel in David’s childhood neighbour’s Mercedes Benz, or the eucalyptus-rich Big Sur After Rain, a popular stop along the scenic Pacific Coast Highway. After all, scent memories are some of the most powerful ones we can make. (Detour ahead: Thank your amygdala and the hippocampus, the areas where emotion and memory live in the brain.) The cards can be hung on a rearview mirror, but they’ll smell just as lovely in a closet or tucked in a drawer.



HERMÈS OMBRES D’HERMÈS EYE SHADOW QUARTET \$140, TRAIT D’HERMÈS REVITALIZING CARE MASCARA, \$88, HERMES.COM

## EYES OPEN

After launching its makeup collection with a line of staggeringly beautiful lipsticks three years ago, Hermès has expanded its collection to the eyes, with excellent, non-flaking mascara in classic black as well as burgundy and emerald, and quad eyeshadow palettes in an array of colour combinations. The shadows are cosmetic versions of the textures and colours found in the Hermès silk archives, which house tens of thousands of scarves. Reviewing the library was a crash course in the brand’s history for Hermès Beauty’s new creative director, Gregoris Pyrypylis, who made eye makeup his first big project. The circle and square-shaped eyeshadow pans conjure Bauhaus, and pop out to make room for replacements, so the compact can live on like a Birkin bag.

# Beauty queens



This holiday, consider the gift of an A-list glow. But which celeb beauty brands are actually worth putting on your list? Here, we break down the best efforts of the rich and famous

By Melissa Fejtek

As someone who experienced adolescence in the early aughts, I’ll be the first to admit that I love a celebrity-owned beauty line. In 2002, when JLo launched Glow—a skin-like fragrance housed in curvy frosted glass—and I practically begged my mother to buy me a bottle. She eventually caved, and I was thrilled to own such a grown-up scent. Two years later, Briney Spears dropped Curious, and you couldn’t walk past a group of teenage girls without inhaling its unmistakable fruity notes. Ads for Jessica Simpson’s edible bodycare line, Dessert Beauty, were splashed across every tween glossy in North America, and those bubblegum pink images remain seared into my memory to this day. To no one’s surprise, these celebrity-endorsed beauty lines were wildly successful. They were girly, and they were glorious.

Now, it seems like every famous person on the planet has their own beauty brand (et tu, Brad?). And while the market is definitely oversaturated, I’m here to argue that we’ve reached the golden era of celebrity lifestyle products. We’ve evolved past the cloyingly sweet fragrances and cosmetic lines that just have celeb names stamped on them to move product. Now, we have access to a range of makeup, skincare and beauty lines that often truly reflect the celebrities repping them and have genuine thought and research put into their creation. And while there will always be a few duds in the mix—Jared Leto’s hair and skincare brand, 29 Palms, recently folded, less than a year after its high-profile launch—quite a few are worth your attention and your money. Here, the best of the best celebrity beauty lines.



## RHODE BY HAILEY BIEBER

Few celeb beauty lines have received as much hype as Hailey Bieber’s Rhode Beauty—and it’s warranted. From glazed donut skin to strawberry girl makeup and cinnamon cookie butter hair, Bieber has been the face of virtually every internet-led beauty trend this year. With Rhode’s pared-back skincare range, which also includes several flavoured lip tints, the brand leans into the star’s “clean girl” aesthetic, making her signature dewy glow feel both aspirational and attainable. Marketing genius? Yes. But do the products hold up? Also yes.

**THE STAR PRODUCT:** While the Peptide Lip Treatment is excellent and has received plenty of buzz thanks to a viral collaboration with Krispy Kreme, it’s Rhode’s Peptide Glazing Fluid that hits it out of the park. Made with peptides, marula oil and niacinamide, this lightweight gel-serum illuminates and hydrates skin and can also be mixed with foundation for an extra juicy complexion.

RHODE PEPTIDE GLAZING FLUID, \$44, RHODESKIN.COM



## FENTY BEAUTY BY RIHANNA

In 2017 Rihanna all but broke the internet with the launch of Fenty Beauty and its 40-shade foundation range. Several cosmetic brands took note and quickly followed suit, creating a domino effect that led to more inclusive complexion makeup across the board. But Fenty Beauty didn’t stop there: The brand has created not just one but several bestselling launches, including its long-wear Stunna Lip Paint, a Barbados cherry-infused Fenty Skin range including a refillable SPF, and even a Fenty Beauty fragrance that sold out a day after its release.

**THE STAR PRODUCT:** Leave it to Rihanna to create a lip gloss that “actually” flatters everyone. The Gloss Bomb Universal Lip Luminizer in the OG rose-peach shade Fenty Glow makes lips look shiny and plump with just enough shimmer to catch the light but not feel over-the-top. Now in several shades including rich brown Hot Choclit and clear Glass Slipper.

FENTY BEAUTY GLOSS BOMB UNIVERSAL LIP LUMINIZER, \$29, SEPHORA.COM



## KEYS SOULCARE BY ALICIA KEYS

Developed in partnership with dermatologists, Alicia Keys’s line, Keys Soulcare, with its accompanying mantras, combines self-care, self-love and skincare like none other. With a range of sumptuous products that emphasize the beauty of the ritual—including a melting body butter, fragrant toning “aura mist” and sage-and-oat-milk-scented candle—the singer infuses a feeling of relaxation and wellness into every product. “I think Keys Soulcare really does help cultivate the concept of self-love, just reading the mantras, having the mindset that you take some time to really do something good for you,” Keys told us in 2021.

**THE STAR PRODUCT:** Though the products mentioned above are great picks, the Daily Moisturizer Broad Spectrum SPF 30 is exceptional. It’s a lightweight SPF with ingredients like squalane and niacinamide to hydrate and brighten. Plus, every bottle includes a tiny affirmation to be recited while applying the product.

KEYS SOULCARE DAILY MOISTURIZER BROAD SPECTRUM SPF 30, \$51, SEPHORA.COM



**ARIANA GRANDE BY ARIANA GRANDE** Celebrity beauty may have branched out beyond fragrance launches, but that doesn’t mean that great celeb scents aren’t still being produced. Not to be confused with Ariana Grande’s makeup line, R.E.M. Beauty, the singer’s self-named fragrance label includes dozens of affordably priced and sweetly scented perfumes, body mists, lotions and scrubs.

**THE STAR PRODUCT:** The most talked-about scent in Ariana Grande’s fragrance range is undoubtedly Cloud, which was launched in 2018 and is still getting plenty of buzz thanks to its similarity to a certain luxury perfume. It may be slightly sweeter than Baccarat Rouge 540, but the warm musky notes are as cozy as a cashmere sweater.

ARIANA GRANDE CLOUD EAU DE PARFUM SPRAY, \$82, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA



## HAUS LABS BY LADY GAGA

Haus Laboratories initially started out as a fragrance venture with beauty conglomerate Coty, turning out releases like Lady Gaga’s Fame and Eau de Gaga. Then, in 2019 Gaga partnered with Amazon to re-launch the brand. But it was in 2022 that Haus Labs finally hit its stride, relaunching with Sephora. The vegan and cruelty-free cosmetics line focuses on high-tech formulas like a shine-enhancing lip stain and gel-to-powder highlighter, and they deliver.

**THE STAR PRODUCT:** Gaga’s Triclon Skin Tech Medium Coverage Foundation is the definition of a makeup-skincare hybrid, with over 20 ingredients like fermented arnica, ginseng and chamomile to calm the skin and reduce redness. Plus it’s available in 51 shades

HAUS LABS BY LADY GAGA TRICLONE SKIN TECH MEDIUM COVERAGE FOUNDATION, \$61, SEPHORA.COM



## RARE BEAUTY BY SELENA GOMEZ

Rare Beauty was created by Selena Gomez to encourage conversation around self-love, and the line has been applauded by fans and beauty enthusiasts alike. It was launched alongside the Rare Impact Fund, a mental-health-focused initiative with a goal to raise \$100 million over the next decade, with one per cent of annual sales contributing to the fund.

**THE STAR PRODUCT:** You can’t talk about Rare Beauty without mentioning its Soft Pinch Liquid Blush. Available in matte and dewy formulas, this weightless, easy-to-blend blush was so popular that Gomez recently launched a matching lip oil that’s equally as lovely. Remember: tiny dot is enough to give the entire cheek area a flushed look, so start small.

RARE BEAUTY SOFT PINCH LIQUID BLUSH, \$32, SEPHORA.COM

## THE DAYS OF GIFTING

The only thing more delightful than an Advent calendar? A fancy Advent calendar.



Got a new beauty lover on your list? This 12-day Advent calendar features the tools every newbie needs to start their first collection. **E.L.F. COSMETICS ADVENT CALENDAR, \$60, SHOPPERSDRUGMART.CA**



Nothing says holiday countdown like a box full of Sephora. This one has 11 full-size (!) surprises like festive lipsticks and face jewels. **SEPHORA COLLECTION ADVENT CALENDAR, \$40, SEPHORA.CA**



This year, Swarovski partnered with Disney to celebrate its 100th anniversary, with 22 ornaments inspired Mickey and Minnie et al. **SWAROVSKI X DISNEY 100 ADVENT CALENDAR, \$1,800, SWAROVSKI.CA**



This calendar has all of Diptyque’s hero products, plus some new ones, so we won’t be surprised if you open all 25 doors at once. **DIPTYQUE ADVENT CALENDAR, \$689, HOLTRENFREW.COM**



The Kiehl’s annual advent calendar houses 24 of the brand’s top-selling formulas and a host of travel-friendly essentials. **KIEHL’S ADVENT CALENDAR, \$165, KIEHL’S.CA**

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES



# THE BEST GLOW-UP GIFTS FOR BEAUTY LOVERS

Whether you're shopping for a friend who's always tapped into the next viral sensation, a sibling who loves clean, green beauty, or a hard-to-impress bestie, Sephora is a treasure trove of ideas to celebrate anyone on your list. Given with the intention of helping a loved one share their best self with the world, a well-chosen beauty gift just hits different. Scroll on to find a match for all your nearest and dearest.



## FOR THE HARD-TO-SHOP-FOR FRIEND

You know the type: They're beloved for their unique, stylish flair, but that only leaves you stumped when trying to find them the perfect gift. Problem solved with this curated list of gifts—all available only at Sephora. These gift sets are guaranteed to please anyone who's hard to shop for (in the most charming way).



Sought-after shades and high-performance formulas make for the crème de la crème of lipsticks. The full-size, festively packaged tubes include Powder Kiss Lipsticks in Teddy 2.0 (deep-tone beige) and Stay Curious (pinkish red), and Retro Matte Lipstick in Ruby Woo (vivid blue-red).

**MAC HAIL TO THE CHIC! FULL SIZE LIPSTICK TRIO, \$48**



In a long-awaited release, beauty maven Huda Kattan brings back the '90s smoky eye. Anchored by neutral tones with edgy names, such as Stand Up and Renegade, the gorgeous 18-shade palette mixes powdery matte and intense shimmer finishes.

**HUDA PRETTY GRUNGE EYESHADOW PALETTE, \$94**



Don't be the only girl in the world with outrageously good lashes. This set includes two of Rihanna's Hella Thicc Volumizing Mascaras, so you can keep one for yourself and give one to your BFF. Cruelty-free and free of parabens, its long-wearing formula coats every lash for major volume.

**FENTY BEAUTY BY RIHANNA HELLA THICC THICC FULL-SIZE VOLUMIZING MASCARA DUO, \$34**



This award-winning scent blends Madagascar vanilla bean—one of the most expensive ingredients in the world to harvest—with vanilla orchid, coconut and baobab oil. The gourmand perfume oil, housed in a full-size bottle and a rollerball vial, melts into skin.

**NEST NEW YORK MADAGASCAR VANILLA HOLIDAY SET, \$130**

In this three-step haircare routine, skincare-inspired ingredients like niacinamide, vitamins and plant-based proteins restore bounce and moisture to dry hair. Suitable for all hair types, from straight to curly, this kit is a totally necessary indulgence during the dry winter months.

**KÉRASTASE 3H NUTRITIVE DISCOVERY HOLIDAY KIT FOR DRY HAIR, \$108**



A signature scent and doe eyes are essential to the "French-girl chic" trend. This feminine fragrance blooms with notes of neroli, musk, French lavender essence and orange blossom from Morocco—plus, the 50ml bottle and 10ml mini come with a mini volumizing mascara.

**YSL LIBRE EAU DE PARFUM 50ML 3 PIECE GIFT SET, \$150**

## FOR THE CLEAN-BEAUTY BUFFS

Gifting possibilities abound for that someone special in your life who embraces all things clean and green. Hailing from brands that have earned the Clean at Sephora seal, these products are formulated to the highest standards of clean beauty, and made without unwanted ingredients, such as phthalates, formaldehyde, oxybenzone and more.



This Tatcha skincare set has a full-size of the incredibly popular Dewy Skin Cream, along with the bestselling softening cleanser and plumping serum. But that's not all—it also has a Japanese furoshiki, a beautifully printed cloth for reusable gift wrapping.

**TATCHA PLUMPING DEWY SKIN ESSENTIALS FOR DRY TO COMBINATION SKIN, \$113**



This four-piece kit offers comfort and care for sensitive skin. Teeming with fragrance-free bestsellers and essential ingredients (like calming colloidal oatmeal), it's everything they'll need to cleanse, exfoliate and hydrate.

**FIRST AID BEAUTY HYDRATION WONDERLAND FULL FACE ROUTINE HOLIDAY GIFT SET, \$65**



The star ingredients in this Kiehl's duo, which includes a full-size and a travel-friendly jar, can be filed under "YKYK." The beloved blend of squalane and glacial glycoprotein nurtures skin's moisture barrier for up to 24 hours of hydration, with no greasy feel.

**KIEHL'S SINCE 1851 ULTRA FACE CREAM DUO, \$85**



From everyone's favourite feel-good hairstylist, Jonathan Van Ness, this value-packed set (with two full-size products) holds the keys to the ultimate DIY blowout: nourishing shine drops, a blowout styling milk and an instant recovery serum.

**JVN BRING THE HEAT SET, \$63**

Infused with skincare benefits, such as moisturizing vegan collagen and barrier-boosting prickly pear oil, this lip trio delivers in another big way. The pink and orangey shades each react with a wearer's pH to reveal a custom tint.

**HAUS LABS BY LADY GAGA MINI PHD HYBRID LIP OIL TRIO, \$39**



Designed for effortless blending, these creamy sticks offer a glow-up anyone can accomplish. Find a full-size of Whisper (a best-selling peach pink), plus mini sizes of Come Sunday (a new blush shade) and Cosmic Dancer (the must-have highlighter).

**ILIA COLOR WAYS MULTI-STICK CREAM BLUSH + HIGHLIGHTER SET, \$62**



## FOR THE TRENDSETTERS

Want to surprise someone who's always a step (or three) ahead of the crowd? You're in the right spot. And if you're looking for a breakout star product that's been vetted on social, this list has you covered, too. From game-changing haircare treatments to skincare that brings glow for days, these gifting ideas have a "For You Page" vibe all over them.



Jet setting should never get in the way of hair goals. This duo of carry-on-approved sizes includes a detox shampoo to remove buildup and a leave-in mask to reverse hair damage for maximum repair and long lasting frizz control.

**K18 BIOMIMETIC HAIRSCIENCE DETOX + REPAIR ANYWHERE SET, \$43**



No matter what the skin type, maintaining the optimal level of hydration is a key priority. Packed with polyglutamic acid, plum, and five weights of hyaluronic acid, this duo for skin and lips can help make dehydration and dullness a thing of the past.

**GLOW RECIPE PLUM HYDRATION HEROES KIT, \$59**



These luminous liquids are a serious beauty boost in a bottle. Tinted to flatter a range of skin tones with an eye-catching shimmering finish, all four shades are also loaded with nourishing ingredients, like sunflower seed oil and hyaluronic acid.

**LIVE TINTED SHINE ON HUEGLOW SKIN SET, \$54**

Meet an elite glam squad: This set pairs Shape Tape, the top-selling full-coverage concealer (available in 10 shades), with a limited-edition, plumping Maracuja Juicy Lip Balm in sparkling translucent Sunflower.

**TARTE THE ICONS BEST-SELLERS SET, \$42**



Heady with magnolia, musk, tangerine and Bulgarian rose, this unisex fragrance set is sure to spark a passionate reaction. There's a full-size bottle, accompanied by a twist-up refillable spray that makes it easy to re-up anytime, anywhere.

**FENTY BEAUTY BY RIHANNA FENTY EAU DE PARFUM GIFT SET, \$210**



Tend to skin that's oily or blemish prone with gentle cleansing and exfoliation followed by lightweight hydration. This set of essentials features an exfoliating cleanser, purifying tonic, and award-winning cream, all containing wild rose to reduce the look of pores and reveal smooth, balanced skin.

**TATCHA CLARIFYING + PORE-REFINING ESSENTIALS FOR OILY TO COMBO SKIN, \$113**

## FOR A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA

Though it's a small gesture of gratitude, a mini gift set can inspire maximum happiness. Ideal as stocking stuffers, or as easy presents for co-workers, teachers or holiday hosts, these compact sets are bursting with value. They're designed to showcase a range of the most popular offerings from buzzy brands in skincare, makeup and fragrance, so the element of discovery is also packed in.



This colourful set brings together five flavours of a number one lip treatment. Made to nurture and protect dry lips, each pot contains an ultra-soothing blend of berry fruit complex, coconut oil, murumuru seed butter and vitamin C.

**LANEIGE MIDNIGHT MINIS SET, \$26**



Here's a choose-your-own-adventure for the senses. This collection of four bestselling perfumes takes inspiration from Brazilian summers, and includes one warm gourmand scent, along with three different takes on florals.

**SOL DE JANEIRO CHEIROSA TRAVEL PERFUME SET, \$44**



This foolproof guide to excellent arches covers all the bases: a brow pencil for precision, a lightweight brow gel for definition, and a helpful stencil sheet for expert shaping.

**ANASTASIA BEVERLY HILLS BROW BEGINNERS KIT, \$32**



These two bestsellers from the famed French skincare brand Caudalie create a shortcut to radiant skin. The Vinergetic C+ Instant Detox Mask tightens pores and removes excess oil, while the iconic Beauty Elixir adds a boost of antioxidants in a toning mist.

**CAUDALIE PORES & GLOW DUO MINIS SET, \$27**



Now she can experience the House of Gucci—on the go! Perfectly sized for portability, each of the three vials contains a blockbuster floral fragrance from the trendsetting label, including the new Flora Gorgeous Magnolia EDP.

**GUCCI FLORA GORGEOUS TRAVEL SPRAY PERFUME TRIO SET, \$100**



A must-have for any makeup lover, this set of easy-to-use liquid blush includes three universally flattering shades: the legendary Orgasm (peachy pink with shimmer), the bestselling Dolce Vita (dusty rose) and the new Orgasm Rush (rosy bronze).

**NARS INVITE ONLY MINI AFTERGLOW LIQUID BLUSH SET, \$55**



## The switch to winter air is a shock to our skin.

We're all well aware that the change of seasons can cause our skin to go into a mood—dry, tight and flaky—especially if it's naturally on the dry and sensitive side. While smearing on super-thick creams can make dry skin feel like it's wrapped in a cozy blanket, it might also lead to a not-so-pleasant surprise: clogged pores. But there's another viral technique that may offer deeper hydration while avoiding this hiccup: what beauty TikTok has coined "skin flooding."

"You're layering different types of hydrating ingredients to help restore your skin barrier," says Dr. Renita Ahluwalia, founder of the Canadian Dermatology Centre. This technique, also known as a "moisture sandwich," is key to locking in long-haul hydration. "Your skin is smoother, softer, and it has that glow."

But how does one go about skin flooding? And what types of products are most effective? We put it to the experts.

### When is the best time to try skin flooding?

Well, right now: Skin flooding is a great way to keep your skin hydrated and plump during seasonal shifts. "As the seasons change, our skin barrier changes, and many people are susceptible to something that's known as trans-epidermal water loss," Ahluwalia says. Trans-epidermal water loss happens when dry skin develops tiny tears, causing water to escape and ultimately leading to a dull and irritated complexion. We tend to experience this more in colder months because of the lack of humidity in the air, especially in Canadian climates. "We switch from summer to what feels like winter almost instantly sometimes, which is a shock to our skin," says Ahluwalia.

Skin flooding can also be a lifesaver during various other skin emergencies. "Hydrating the different layers of the skin to protect the skin is something dermatologists have been telling their patients to do long before the term became trendy," says Ahluwalia. If you've gone overboard on potent actives like retinol or exfoliating acids, skin flooding can help restore moisture to the layers of the skin that have been compromised. It's also a great approach if you're experiencing perimenopause or menopause, when the skin's capacity to retain moisture undergoes significant changes.

### How do I go about skin flooding?

The first step is making sure you start with a clean, fresh face. "The last thing you want to do is lock in dirt or irritants into the skin," says Ahluwalia. From there, select your layers according to your skin's needs. "Everyone can start with a lightweight hyaluronic acid serum. Then, how many layers you add and how thick and rich they are depends on your skin type," she says. "As a general rule,

start with the product that has the thinnest consistency and work your way up to the thickest."

According to Maria Christina Bruno, founder of The FIX Facial Bar, skin flooding involves drenching the face with an essence, followed by a hyaluronic acid serum, a layer of light moisturizer or a sheet mask, and sealing it with a final layer of thicker moisturizer—all applied to damp skin. "When you have wet or damp skin, the idea is that your product penetrates better than when you are applying products to dry skin," she says.

This is especially true when using hyaluronic acid, which acts like a sponge for moisture. Bruno says that when you apply hyaluronic acid on dry skin, "essentially it's going to pull hydration either from the air or from skin tissues below." This could mean your complexion ends up looking hydrated on the surface but the layers underneath remain dry. She says starting with damp skin and using a hydrating toner or essence before applying hyaluronic acid is a way to prevent this.

### Is skin flooding okay for oily skin?

It depends. If you're oily or acne-prone, Bruno recommends taking a more minimalist approach. "When you have oily skin, you have overactive sebaceous glands, which can lead to a lot of surface oil on the skin," she says. "If you're going to add tons of layers of extra hydration, it can lead to blocked pores, congestion in the skin and a slippery, shiny face, which might not be ideal." Instead, try a modified version. Bruno recommends skipping the thicker, jelly-like essences and beginning with a spritz of a light toner to prep the skin, followed by a hydrating serum and a single layer of lightweight moisturizer to seal it all in.



IS CLINICAL COPPER FIRMING MIST, \$61, LOSHEN.CA. LANEIGE CREAM SKIN TONER, \$46, SEPHORA.CA. FENTY SKIN FAT WATER, \$46, SEPHORA.CA.

# Water works

Can "skin flooding" solve your dry skin woes this winter? We asked the experts about this buzzy hydration hack

By Melissa Fejtsek



# Masterclass

How Katie Jane Hughes became the most beloved makeup artist on Instagram

By Rani Sheen

When you walk down a Toronto street with the makeup artist and influencer Katie Jane Hughes, people notice. She speaks ebulliently in her Liverpudlian accent, her clothes are exaggerated shapes, her eyeliner is expertly winged. And cool women keep stopping her to exclaim how much they love her.

This is the effect the 40-year-old has on her 881,000 Instagram followers. People love her signature shadow liner, blurred lips and high-gleam skin, but more than that, they genuinely like her.

Hughes has been spending a lot of time in Toronto lately, because she had her first product made at a cosmetic lab in the city. KJH.Brand Hyper Shine High Lite Kit is essentially a deconstructed illuminator: a jar of pearly cream, a tube of non-sticky gloss to mix with it, and a fluffy blush for blending and applying anywhere you want to look like a beam of light is streaming onto your face.

Hughes has been testing the product on her celebrity clients, notably Hailey Bieber for a recent launch event for her brand, Rhode. "I under-painted quite a bit with the highlighter first, then concealer," says Hughes. "I really wanted her skin to shine and glow." The result was a gleam of dreams, as if Bieber had just done a two-hour yoga class on a beach in Thailand. "A lot of that is coming from skincare. Skincare is always going to give you just as much of the glow; highlighter is going to keep it going for the rest of the day."

Of course, Bieber has an especially lovely complexion. "She's got perfect skin. Like, even if she has a blemish, it's practically invisible. It's kind of annoying," laughs Hughes. That day, Bieber shouted out Hughes' product to her 50 million followers, no small bit of awareness-raising from one beauty founder to another.

It's been an interesting journey to this pinnacle point. Hughes grew up in a tiny town outside Liverpool, and her mum was a lounge singer. "Watching her transform from mum at home of four kids to this stage queen was so impactful," says Hughes. "To see how she would come into her own through red lipstick, lots and lots of mascara and probably a bit too much bronzer than what she needed made me realize that, okay, this is a powerful tool here." (Her mum put on a full face again to model in the Hyper Shine campaign.)

At 23, Hughes moved to London, where she worked at the makeup emporium Space.NK and became a backstage nail artist. Six years later, she went to New York City and started from scratch. "It was really important to me to almost suppress the nail career that I had," she says. "I really wanted to be taken seriously as a makeup artist."

When she left her role as an ambassador for the brand Butter London, things took off. Suddenly, she was free to play with

products and looks, and took to posting them on Instagram. Her brightly lit, ultra-close-up photos of her own face adorned with signature looks like baby pink eyeshadow paired with soft-edged bright red lips proved popular, and her following exploded. "I think I was doing something a bit different to what everybody else was doing at the time," she says. "It's not so much new anymore, but keeping the skin really fresh, light, glowy with some editorial features thrown in."

This approach evolved into a passion for showing realistic skin texture: pores, lines and blemishes, which are often blurred or erased by filters. "People would DM me and be like, 'Oh my God, I need pore-filling primer.' I'm like, 'Why, what's wrong with pores?'," Hughes says. "I realized that this is a bit of an epidemic, people need to embrace skin a little bit more. So that encouraged me to hype up the skin texture in my photographs, reminding people that it's okay to have texture on your skin, it's very normal. It's beautiful actually."



KJH.BRAND HYPER SHINE HIGH LITE KIT IN LITE GOLD, \$98, KJHBRAND.COM

## THE KIT

Editor-in-Chief  
Laura deCarufel  
Creative Director  
Elena Vitkovskaya

### Features Director

Rani Sheen

### Production Director

Eden Boleau

### Shopping Editor

Renée Tse

### Art Director

Brianah Daniel

### Direct advertising

Inquiries to:

### General Manager

Eve Bogy

### Operations Director,

Digital Media

Kelly Matthews

### Marketing Specialist

Courteney Palmer

### Collab Specialist

Millicent Hofung



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# THE BEST VACATION FOR YOUR TRAVEL PERSONALITY

For the most fun in the sun, pick a destination that matches your true out-of-office self



What kind of traveller are you? Do you want sun and sand, or culture and cocktails? No matter what your vacation personality, Sunwing Vacations has the all-inclusive getaways to match—and at great prices, too.

As Canada's leading vacation provider, it offers packages to over 700 hotels and resorts across 25 destinations in the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America and the U.S. Need help narrowing down your choices? Read on for the perfect Mexico escape route to suit your travel style this season.

### Your travel personality: Excursion Enthusiast

From rainforest hikes to the adrenaline rush of kite-surfing, you'll go where your energy takes you. Usually eager to ditch beach lounging, the Excursion Enthusiast thrives on endorphin-spiking adventures and isn't afraid to try something new.

### Your top destination: Puerto Vallarta

This Pacific Coast paradise in Mexico has plenty of escapades to keep you moving, including hiking and biking, ziplining and ATVing. Sailing, snorkelling and diving will get you on, in or under the water, while paragliding will give you a bird's-eye view. Resorts here include the perfectly located Velas Vallarta Suite Resort, overlooking the peaks of the Sierra Madre and Banderas Bay.

### Your travel personality: Culture Quester

Keen to explore beyond a resort, you love to seek out authentic local experiences, from cultural traditions to culinary delicacies. The Culture Quester makes a beeeline for the museums and heritage hotspots, arts venues and cooking classes.

### Your top destination: Mazatlán

This coastal town in Mexico has been a popular holiday destination since the 1950s, and its resurgence as a creative hub is linked to the restoration of the 19th-century buildings and plazas of the Old Town. Mazatlán's resorts include the luxury, five-star Riu Emerald Bay and the award-winning El Cid Castilla Beach.

### Your travel personality: Sandy Shore Seeker

You have a special bond with the beach—toes in the sand, sun on your face. The Sandy Shore Seeker is happiest in a private cabana or palm-shaded cove, leaving the lounge chair only for a quick swim or a paddle along the shore.

### Your top destination: Cancun

The million shades of blue at the tip of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula mesmerize all who visit. Cancun is renowned for its ample pristine beaches, and you find resorts like the Royalton CHIC Cancun, An Autograph Collection All-Inclusive Resort, located in the centre of Cancun's bustling Hotel Zone.



# WHY A LUXE HAIRCARE SET IS THE PERFECT GIFT

Discover the art of giving

Make good-hair days a regular thing with a luxury gift set from Kérastase. Whether it's a present for a loved one or a treat for yourself, indulging with luxurious hair products specifically for your personal hair concerns is a positively dreamy way to start your day. With a shampoo, conditioner and hair treatment product, these sets combine the best of Kérastase's leading hair care innovations all in one pretty package. Find the right one below.



KÉRASTASE CHRONOLOGISTE HOLIDAY SET, \$220, KÉRASTASE.CA

### Chronologiste

With so much focus on keeping skin youthful, it's important to remember that our hair can also show signs of aging. With its delicious scent of tea rose, light woods and musk, the Kérastase Chronologiste collection offers anti-aging hair care products to revitalize the hair and the scalp, preserving hair's youthful look. The Chronologiste Bain Régénérant Shampoo is the first step in this hair ritual, a shampoo that contains hyaluronic acid (a skincare super ingredient that has the same plumping and hydrating effect on hair), abyssine and vitamin E to gently remove impurities. To provide even more intense nourishment and shine, the Chronologiste Masque Intense Régénérant gives hair long-lasting frizz-control while infusing it with up to six times more shine, as well as that coveted youthful bounce. Protecting your results is the Chronologiste Thermique Régénérant, the perfect primer for healthy texture.



KÉRASTASE NUTRITIVE HOLIDAY SET, \$175, KÉRASTASE.CA

### Nutritive

There's no better time to treat dry hair than in the winter, when a lack of moisture in the air coupled with extreme temperature changes can dry out strands. Nutritive is designed to care for dry to severely dry hair through replenishing and restoring its delicate surface, leaving you with hair that's supple and soft to the touch. For lightweight results that treat hair without weighing it down, the Nutritive Bain Satin Shampoo is a gentle, protein-rich shampoo that deeply cleanses, restoring thickness and shine while increasing its moisture retention and softness. The detangling Nutritive Lait Vital Conditioner is a powerful formula packed with essential nutrients, lipids and vitamins that feed, smooth and reinforce dry hair. For a final blast of hydration, the leave-in Nutritive Lotion Thermique Sublimatrice is a milky essence that moisturizes the inner hair fibre, giving it more repair, elasticity and nutrition while protecting dry hair from heat styling.



KÉRASTASE CURL MANIFESTO HOLIDAY SET, \$175, KÉRASTASE.CA

### Curl Manifesto

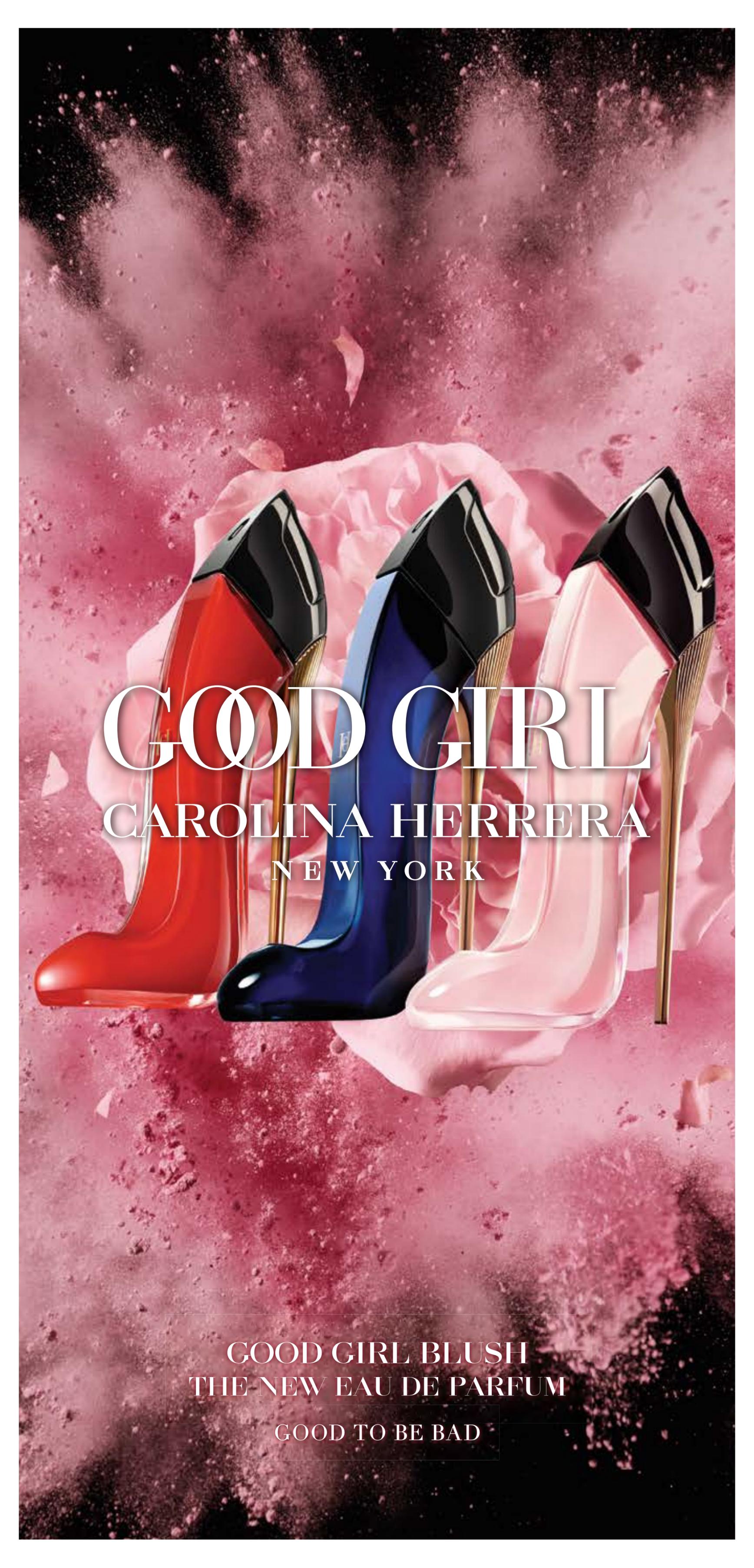
Anyone with curly hair knows that textured hair requires its own special care. With these needs in mind, Kérastase developed the incomparable Curl Manifesto range to include hydrating manuka honey and cementing ceramides to provide curly hair with the perfect combination of hydration, definition and strength for beautiful, healthy-looking and bouncy curls. To care for hair that's curly to coily, the sulfate-free Curl Manifesto Bain Hydratation Douceur Shampoo gently cleanses the scalp, preserving its natural oils and increasing curl definition by 30 per cent. To infuse curls with moisture without the risk of weighing them down, the Curl Manifesto Fondant Hydratation Essentielle Conditioner helps to detangle knots and enhance bounce all while fighting frizz. To keep curls looking their best, the Curl Manifesto Crème De Jour Fondamentale Hair Cream both enhances curls while providing all-day anti frizz control and shielding from humidity.



KÉRASTASE RESISTANCE ARCHITECTE HOLIDAY SET, \$175, KÉRASTASE.CA

### Résistance

It's a sad reality that heat styling and even the weather can damage hair, which is why the Résistance collection was created to rebuild and repair compromised hair—including split ends. Like its name implies, the Résistance Bain Force Architecte Shampoo literally rebuilds hair with a combination of Vita Ciment and Séve de Résurrection, reinforcing its fibre to create strong hair. Followed by the Résistance Ciment Anti-Usure Conditioner, which mimics the function of keratin in the hair, the result is hair that's replenished and ready to withstand the risk of future breakage. To mitigate heat styling on damaged hair, Résistance Ciment Thermique has an immediate effect on hair, reconstructing, reinforcing and resurfacing the hair fiber while also acting as a heat protectant.



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