

1. Start your new beauty regime straight away-do not delay! Makeup alone or the world's best makeup artist can only do so much, you need your skin to be hydrated and the texture smooth for makeup to look its best! Invest in good skin care, it may cost a bit more but will last you longer than pharmacy/supermarket brands. Also have a couple of facials in the run up to the wedding.

Some of my favourite products:

Eve Lom- great for sensitive and dehydrated skin, the philosophy of this skin care is about simple and natural ingredients with the emphasis on cleansing, available in Harvey Nichols or at Therapie Dublin.

Estee Lauder- Advanced night repair serum- this is a MUST HAVE for brides, its clinically proven to reduce fine lines, smooth texture and decrease the appearance of thread veins.

2. Don't over exfoliate, keep this to once a week...
3. Avoid chemical peels at least 3 months before the big day
4. Remember to avoid getting sunburnt in the run up to your big day and don't forget to pass that message onto your bridesmaids too!
5. You want to have that perfect smile right? Arrange to have yours and your partners teeth cleaned the week before the wedding and start using whitening tooth paste 3 months beforehand, you will be glad of it when you look back on your photos and see your smile dazzling!
6. Start working towards that perfect brow shape straight away, your brows will feel like they are taking forever to grow (that's because they do) and find a good brow artist that uses threading as opposed to waxing, with threading they have complete control over creating the perfect shape for your brow...Brows frame your eyes so let them regrow to get that nice full shape!
7. For your makeup trial it can happen before you book and pay your deposit or 2-3 months before the big day when you have confirmed your colour scheme... it's also a good idea to have your hair and makeup trial on the same day. For the makeup trial I ask my brides to bring with them pictures of their dresses, bridesmaid dresses, hairstyles, flowers, invitations, anything really that will allow me to build an overall picture of the styling for the big day, thus allowing me to create a makeup look to compliment this... remember you want to look like yourself on your big day, just a more perfected you!
8. If you plan on wearing false tan, have it applied two days before the wedding to firstly allow the tan smell to evaporate but most importantly so that if there is any patchy areas you can top them up yourself or return to the salon. Remember do not scrub off your tan when showering 12 hours after having it applied as this WILL cause patchy areas to occur. Also avoid getting it on your face as it can cause dry patches, break outs, black heads and it is harder to match up the foundation...I will always match your foundation to the rest of your body by mixing 2-3 shades together to get that perfect match. Don't forget to tell your bridesmaids this!
9. Don't forget to make sure your tan reaches behind your ears, neck etc...
10. When having tan applied or using sunbeds, just remember that your partner will be paler than you, you don't want to be a bronzed goddess up at the altar with the snow white groom so either go paler with your colour or encourage him to get a bit of a farmers tan!
11. Whichever shade of nail polish you get your nails painted in, it's always a good idea to buy a bottle of the same colour so if you have any wee chips or smudges before the big day you can touch it up and not have the panic and drama on the day...

12. Mother of the brides tend to shy away from getting their makeup done out of fear that they will look plastered in makeup, a mother of the brides makeup is always very different to the rest of the bridal party, it will focus on giving her flawless dewy skin with soft bright eyes and a pop of colour to the lips, it is important for your mum to look her best on your big day and especially for the photographs so assure her that the makeup will be applied to suit her needs.

13. I always recommend brides to purchase concealer, powder, blusher, eye pencil, lipstick and lip-gloss for their big day.

Firstly the powder and lip products will keep you fresh looking and shine free all day, the eye pencil can be applied after dinner to the inner tear duct to give a more smokey eye for the evening part of the wedding but most importantly after your meet and greet outside the church and some overzealous relations (grannies and aunts especially) you might find that the makeup around your jaw line has been wiped off... alas you have your concealer, powder and blusher to top up with to ensure your makeup stays perfect throughout the rest of the day!

14. Don't forget to get your brides maids to bring a powder and lip-gloss with them on the day so they can top themselves up also.

15. The night before the wedding exfoliate your lips with your tooth brush so they are nice and smooth for that perfect kiss after saying 'I Do'