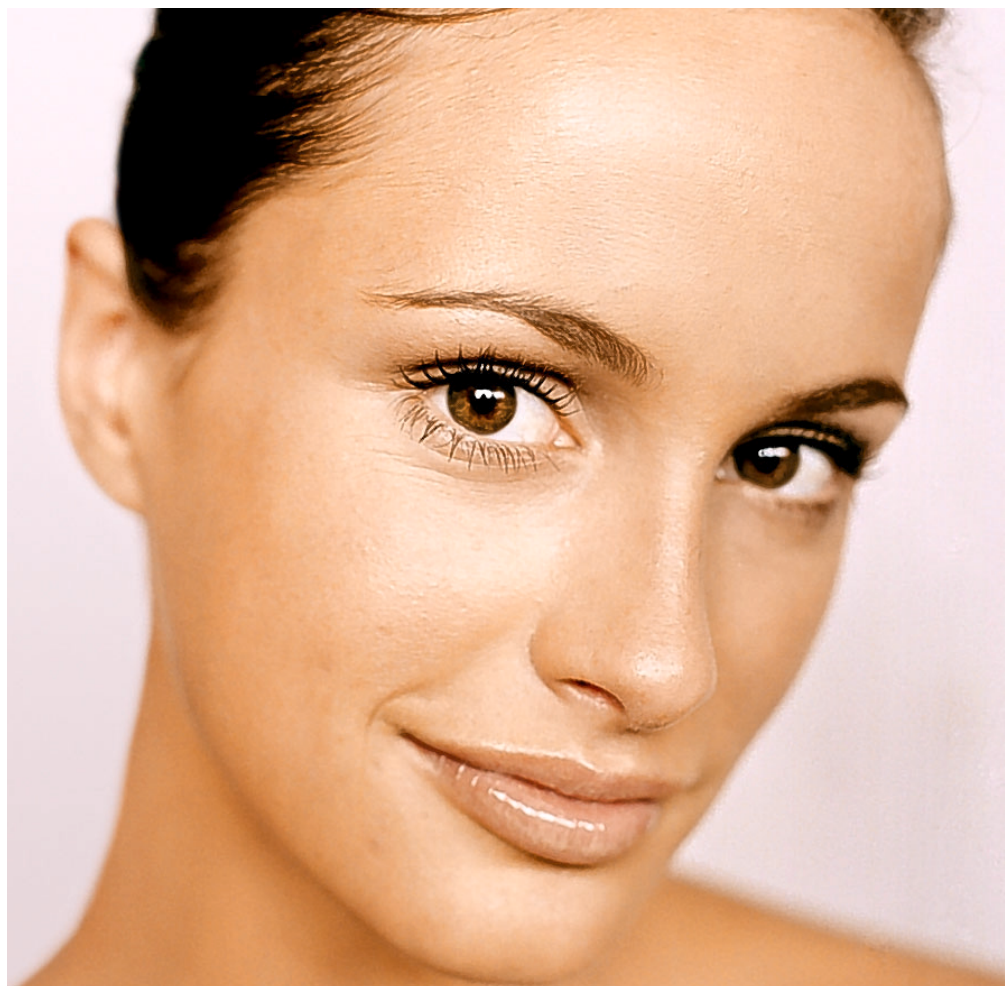


BEAUTY CONFIDENTIAL

Foundation special



Picture: SCOPE BEAUTY

10 OF THE BEST

Bobbi Brown Luminous Moisturising Foundation, £25.45, www.bobbibrown.co.uk



SUPER moisturising foundation with anti-ageing benefits. Goes on evenly, with a finish that is not overly made-up.

Chanel Vitalumiere, £23, 020 7493 3836

ONE of the best foundations around — goes on like a tinted moisturiser yet gives a more substantial coverage.

BareMinerals Foundation, £17.50, 0870 850 6655

MADE from pure, micronised minerals, it works wonders, leaving skin radiant. Has the appearance of powder, but feels like a cream.

Daniel Sandler Super Mineral Make-up, £21, www.beautique.com

FOUNDATION, sunscreen and antioxidant all in one, its light-diffusing mineral



pigments help diminish the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles.

Prescriptives Flawless Skin SPF 15, £28.87, 0870 034 2566

LIGHTWEIGHT, long-wearing foundation that provides a natural-looking medium to full coverage, achieving a flawless finish while working to protect your skin.

Elizabeth Arden Pure Finish Mineral Foundation SPF 20, £22, nationwide

INFUSED with minerals, rich with antioxidants and natural skin smoothers. Comes in a unique grinder compact — simply turn to release a fresh layer of microlight powder.



Omorovicza Complexion Enhancer SPF 15, £72, 020 7734 1234

PROVIDES SPF 15 protection while the gentle tint conceals imperfections, giving the complexion an



even, matte finish while helping to ward off premature ageing. Expensive, but worth every penny.

Revlon Custom Creations, £9.99, www.boots.com

FIVE shades in one bottle ensures the right shade of foundation all year round. Turn the dial to the colour you require and the uniquely designed bottle custom-mixes it for you.



Clarins Super Restorative Foundation, £30.34, 0800 036 3558

A VELVETY fluid foundation that gives your complexion the look and feel of flawless younger skin. Pigment technology manipulates light to lift and smooth features and add radiance.



Creme de la Mer SPF 18 Fluid Tint, £50, 0870 0342566

BLENDS beautifully, gives great coverage and has the added bonus of a high SPF.



have, custom blending could be the answer. Last month, I went to a Prescriptives counter to try it myself. This is where a trained 'custom blend ambassador' analyses your skin and, rather like a decorator studying a paint chart, comes up with a cocktail of colours that ends up in what they say is your perfect foundation.

This service isn't new — it's been going for 15 years and costs £44 — but the idea is that once you've had it done, you'll never have to search for the right shade again.

When you run out of your bespoke bottle, you can call the counter direct and they'll mix up your special blend for you.

I had high hopes. Andrew Stevens, the blend

ambassador at Selfridges in London, mixed up what he said was the perfect tone for my skin. It looked good under the harsh store lights, but as the day wore on and I caught sight of my face in mirrors, I felt it was a bit too pale.

Foundation is the ultimate beauty fake-it — get it right and you'll have flawless skin, no matter how tired or old you feel. And the secret is to look as if you're not wearing any at all.

FOUNDATION RULES: THE EXPERTS SAY

WHEN you choose foundation, there are only three things that matter: the right

shade, the correct texture for your skin and making sure you apply it properly, in the proper light.

1 *Celebrity make-up artist Cassie Lomas, who works with Bourjois, says:* The best way to

choose the right shade is by dabbing a little on your chin or cheek. It's important to do this in natural light. You'll know if you have the right shade because it should look invisible against your skin.'

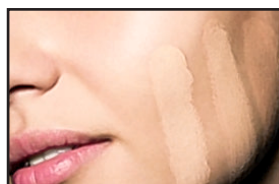
2 *Paul Herrington, head of artistry for Bobbi Brown UK & Ireland, says:* 'When choosing foundation, one of the most important rules is that the shade blends exactly into the natural colour of your skin (never use a foundation to add colour).'

'When the foundation is a good match, it will last longer as you'll need to use it only in areas to even out the skin tone.'

3 *Barbara Daly, a make-up guru with 30 years in the beauty business, says:* 'Use whatever you like to apply foundation — fingers, damp sponge, brush. Then you can control the coverage by blending it in with your fingers. Apply it to the middle T-zone of your face and blend outwards. By the time it reaches your hairline, it should disappear to nothing. Keep the focus central and don't feel you have to wear foundation all over your face.'

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO THE PERFECT BASE

BOBBI BROWN'S five steps for flawless foundation application



1. Test each shade on your cheek to choose a colour. Blend in. The correct colour will look like your natural skin tone.



2. Check the colour to be sure it matches the forehead.



3. Apply a small amount of foundation around the nose, using a sponge.



4. Blend upwards into the hairline. Apply all over; or to the parts that need it. Use fingers to blend it in fully.



5. Use a blemish stick after the foundation to cover spots or imperfections.

Bobbi Brown Makeup Manual, £20, www.bobbibrown.co.uk

GUIDE TO... AIRBRUSHED-LOOKING SKIN

by LUCY MINES

Mac face and body foundation, £22.51, www.maccosmetics.co.uk



A WATER-RESISTANT foundation, it provides sheer, natural-looking coverage in an easy-to-blend formula. Containing several emollients, it helps to moisturise and condition, delivering professional-looking results so you'll be ready for your close-up.

NuBo Voile, £39.15, www.harrods.com

FAST becoming an absolute essential, this is a deliciously scented clear gel formula. When applied over moisturiser, it dries to an almost-powder finish, diminishing the appearance of imperfections to leave a radiant, soft-focus look. Hyaluronic acid gives a long-lasting, plumping action. Available in three shades, it's a real must-have.



Bliss Best of Skintentions, £25, www.blisslondon.co.uk

GIVE skin a boost with this once-a-day super-moisturiser. It shields against burning UVB and age-inducing UVA rays while delivering a daily dose of phytonutrients from Caribbean tonka beans to give a luminous finish worthy of any red carpet A-lister.



Rodial Glamtox Peel, £68.51, www.rodial.co.uk

TO ENSURE glamorous, radiant skin, you need to slough away dead cells that can build up and leave skin looking dull and uneven. Rodial's Glamtox Peel is a clay mask designed to help brighten your complexion in just ten minutes. It refines, tones and softens fine lines, even after the first use.

