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The season you marry in can help you decide your wedding's location, the flowers you'll carry and the décor—why not let it inspire your bridal makeup as well? » BY FARAH PRINCE FASHION & BEAUTY

FASHION & BEAUTY

Between Instagram and Pinterest-and a wealth of websites catering to beauty-there's no lack of makeup inspo out there to inform your wedding day look, but where should you start? Instead of focusing on trends like heavy contour or overdrawn lips, try something more general, like the time of year you're getting married. (Pro tip: This will also keep your makeup from being dated down the line.) With the help of beauty expert and celebrity makeup artist Kimara Ahnert (who's worked with A-listers like Gwyneth Paltrow and Catherine Zeta-Jones), we'll show you how to use your wedding season as a base for your bridal beauty look.

Fall

Fall is a transitional time—not as bright and cheerful as summer, but also not as glam as winter. "Darker days mean your makeup will require more definition and color," Ahnert says. "Start wearing bolder eyeliner and more dramatic mascara, fill in your brows (they probably lightened up over the summer) and add a fullcoverage foundation back into your beauty routine." The eyes are the perfect canvas for playing with colors and textures in this season. For a simple way to add drama and dimension, start with a matte base in a neutral hue and add just a touch of gold glitter at the inner corners of your eyes—it's glam but also works for daytime nuptials. For a fun evening look, swap out shimmery black shadow for an unexpected pop of cobalt blue or dark green. To take it up a notch, smudge a dark green, blue or chocolate liner along your waterline. If you opt for darker hues, Ahnert advises to keep the rest of your look minimal-think: fluttery lashes and soft washes of color on the lips and cheeks. You can also build your makeup around an array of colors in the same color family—like monochromatic with shades of red, orange or copper-for an end result that's both autumnal and subtle. Fall skin concerns mirror wintertime woes (low humidity plus lower temperatures mean drier skin), but you shouldn't break out the heavy formulas just yet. Stick to a more personalized approach and switch your products

rose-colored blush works for every season

based on individual concerns, like an illuminating eye cream for dark circles, an exfoliating toner for dull skin or a luxurious night cream for dry spots. HUES TO CHOOSE Gold,

rose gold, copper, camel, chocolate, rust, apple red, hunter green, cobalt, navy, wine

Winter

The festive nature of winter sets the perfect backdrop for an über-romantic wedding and makeup with a particularly luxe feel. Frosty temperatures and festive holidays mean this season lends itself to deeper colors. "Your

makeup should adjust to stand up to the darker décor

colors common during this time of year," Ahnert says. Swap bright reds and pinks for their richer counterparts, like cranberry and raspberry, and switch out neutral eye shadows for smokier hues. You can determine whether warmer or cooler tones work for you by looking at the veins on the inside of your wrist. If your veins are blue, cool tones are more flattering; green ones mean warmer tones will work best for you. Lipsticks, blushes and eye shadows in richer hues tend to have matte finishes because they contain more pigment. For this reason, it's important to use a light touch while applying themyou don't want to end up looking overdone. For instance, if you're considering an intense smoky eye, create balance by sticking to lighter colors on your lips and cheeks. If you want to rock a vampy lip, keep the size and shape of your lips in mind, as darker colors can actually make them appear smaller. If you have a more petite pout, try a berry-hued lipstick with a glossy consistency over a super-dark, matte one. As color palettes shift, the types of products you choose should change with the season as well. "Winter skin is usually paler, so switch to a heavier foundation or powder that will even out your complexion," Ahnert says. To combat the dry winter air and ensure your beauty look lasts the entire day without flaking off, focus on prepping your skin prewedding for a smooth makeup application. "Prepare for your day with a series of hydrating treatments like oxygen facials," Ahnert says. "Using a mask suited to your skin type the night before your wedding will give your skin a boost, which will help your makeup look even better."

HUES TO CHOOSE Brick, ruby, raspberry, eggplant, indigo, emerald, forest green, midnight blue, charcoal, silver **>>**

a sheer highlighter is perfect for spring

Spring

Spring is a time of renewal, when flowers start to bloom and temperatures gradually heat up, so your makeup palette should get lighter and brighter. Use nature to complement your look, like floral-inspired washes of pastels or earthy hues. To put a weddingworthy spin on this more muted array of colors, start with a classic makeup trend, like a dramatic cat eye, and soften it with a light brown liner, or make a smoky eye less severe by pairing nudes with warmer, golden tones. But don't be afraid of more vibrant colors either. "Teal and plum eyeliner and bronze or coral lip gloss are fun alternatives for spring," Ahnert says. Bolder liners are best when paired with neutral makeup everywhere else (think: liquid highlighter over heavy blush). Warmer temperatures mean you won't need a heavy foundation, so switch to a tinted moisturizer and sheer setting powder for a dewy finish. Prep your complexion for the lighter spring air with products aimed to slough away dull skin and clogged pores. Follow up a chemical or physical exfoliator with a hydrating mask to replenish any lost moisture.

bright idea

The key to pulling off more vivid colors is to focus on one or two shades at a time, in varying intensities. For example, if you're rocking a cherry-red lipstick, your eyes and cheeks should have a lighter wash of nude or bronze.



HUES TO CHOOSE Pale pink,

coral, magenta, mauve, periwinkle, plum, champagne, nude, chestnut, dove gray, navy, teal

Summer

Sunny weather makes summer the best time to experiment with more color, especially since weddings during this season tend to incorporate brighter hues too, like bold bridesmaid dresses or tropical florals. The key to wearing more vivid colors is to focus on one or two shades at a time in varying intensities. For example, if you're rocking a cherry-red lipstick, your lids and cheeks should have a lighter wash of nude or bronze. Brighter shades work beautifully with a glowing complexion (as opposed to a matte one), so swap heavier creams for lighter gel formulas. Warmer temperatures also mean you should take extra precautions to make sure your makeup stays put. "Summer brides may need more touch-ups depending on the climate, since high humidity will make skin absorb makeup more quickly," Ahnert says. "To get the most out of your look, use a foundation primer, eye shadow primer and setting spray, and stick to waterresistant mascara." This balmy season is also the perfect time to switch to cream bronzers, blush and highlighters that won't cake or crease when mixed with a little perspiration.

HUES TO CHOOSE Bronze, peach, tangerine, cherry red, scarlet, bubblegum, fuchsia, turquoise, lapis, cocoa, granite

power couples

Give your skin care an extra boost by mixing products that bring out the best in each other.

Antioxidants + sunscreen

Amp up your protection from the sun by applying an antioxidant-rich moisturizer or serum before your sunscreen. Antioxidants protect your skin from cellular damage caused by sun exposure, while sunscreen blocks UV light from penetrating the skin. We call that a skin care double whammy.

Facial oil + night cream

Skin feeling exceptionally dry? Mix a couple drops of your favorite facial oil into a cream-based moisturizer (silicon-based ones will break down) for an ultra-hydrating effect. Stick to using this skin care cocktail at night, as it could cause your makeup to crease during the day.

Hydrating mask + clay mask

If your complexion tends to get oily around your T-zone but is dry everywhere else, cater to all of your skin's needs by multimasking, or using two face masks at once. A hydrating mask will soothe irritated skin, while a clay mask will absorb excess oil and purify any clogged pores.

Vitamin C + retinol

Boost your retinol's antiaging properties with the addition of a vitamin C serum. Vitamin C helps to stabilize retinol, extending its effectiveness. To ensure your skin doesn't get irritated by the combination of these strong ingredients, look for a serum with a lower concentration of vitamin C.