



# *Bride Beautiful*

*We rounded up tricks of the trade from the city's  
top bridal-beauty experts to keep you looking flawless  
on the one day that all eyes are on you.*

**BY RACHEL CORBETT**

## PERFECT PALETTE

"Make a statement, but look like you," says Upper East Side makeup artist and bridal favorite **Kimara Ahnert**. "Now is not the time to totally change it up and decide to go smoky on the eyes if you never wear that look; don't wear wine if you normally wear pink." In other words, stick to the color palette you normally use. And avoid surprises by scheduling a makeup trial in advance with a reputable makeup artist—"someone who's not going to bump you for a last-minute celebrity booking," Ahnert says.

To ensure that makeup lasts throughout the day—tears and all—use a primer on the eyelids and spray a seal over your entire face after makeup is applied. "Another reason makeup sometimes doesn't last is that the skin isn't well hydrated," says **Alexa Rodulfo**, who perfected the wedding-day makeup of brides Ivanka Trump and Stephanie LaCava. To moisturize, try applying organic coconut oil—Rodulfo likes EFA Gold—to your face and body the night before. Wake up ready to put your best face forward!

\* **Kimara Ahnert Studio:** [kimara.com](http://kimara.com) or 212.452.4252.

\* **Alexa Rodulfo:** [info@alexarodulfo.com](mailto:info@alexarodulfo.com). \* **EFA Gold:** at select health-food and drug stores.



Above: The Kimara Ahnert Studio at 1113 Madison Avenue; eyeshadows from Ahnert's makeup line.

Below: Bette Davis eyes; Trish McEvoy's Lash Curling Mascara.



## THE EYES HAVE IT

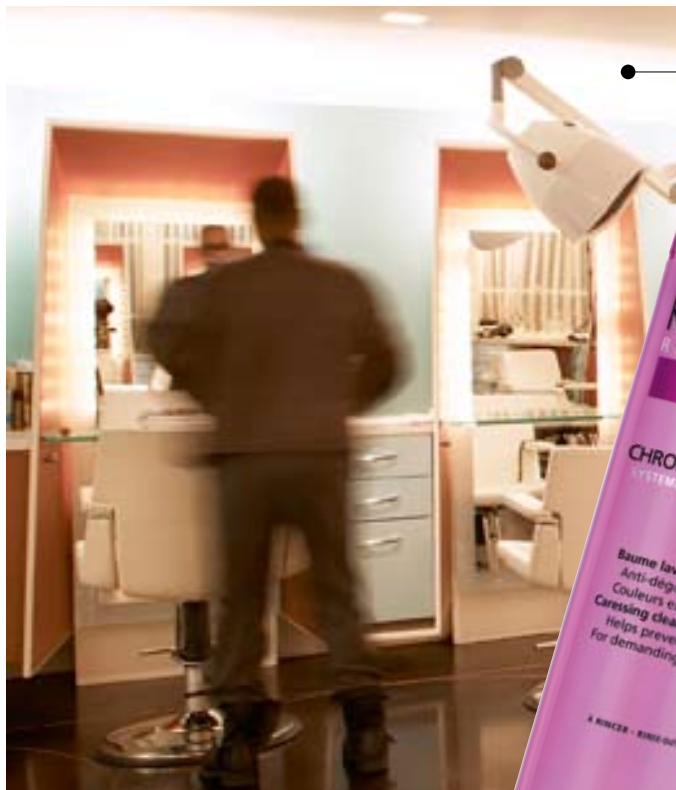
There may be no easier way to amp up the glam-factor than eyelash extensions. The increasingly popular process involves individually gluing false lashes to each natural lash. Get them about three days before the wedding so you can reserve enough time for the appointment—a full set can take up to two hours. "Nothing dresses up a face as much as full, thick lashes," says makeup artist **Trish McEvoy**. "A full lash line remarkably defines and draws attention to the eyes." For brides who find extensions too dramatic, try a curling mascara (preferably waterproof!), like McEvoy's Lash Curling Mascara. Or, for the perfect in-between look, the **Courtney Akai Lash Boutique** offers the fabulous new LashDip treatment, a semi-permanent black coat applied to natural lashes or, for maximum effect, to extensions. "LashDip is great for someone who already has nice lashes, and just doesn't want mascara running on the big day," Akai says.

\* **Courtney Akai:** [courtneyakai.com](http://courtneyakai.com) or 212.867.8469.

\* **Dr. Ronald Sherman/Trish McEvoy Skin Care Center:** [trishmcevoy.com](http://trishmcevoy.com) or 800.431.4306.



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Above: Rita Hazan Salon; Kérastase's low-foam cleansing balm Chroma Sensitive prevents hair color from fading.



## TO DYE FOR

It's your time to shine, but when it comes to hair color, less may be more, says **Sally Hershberger colorist Michael Casey**. Instead of changing color dramatically, "add a few highlights two weeks before the big day to the temples and front of face, which will enhance the photos," he says. Color should be vibrant and rich, but not unrecognizable. Colorist **Rita Hazan** echoes Casey's sentiment: "you want to look like you on your best day, not a version of you."

In order to find the perfect shade of highlight or all-over color, Hazan suggests scheduling a consultation as soon as you pick your date. Be sure to discuss or bring in any hair accessories you plan to wear, as well as the veil, so the colorist can plan accordingly. After that, "you should color the week of the wedding so it's fresh," Hazan says. Try not to wash and condition hair everyday until the wedding to prevent fading.

\* Rita Hazan: [ritahazansalon.com](http://ritahazansalon.com) or 212.586.4343.

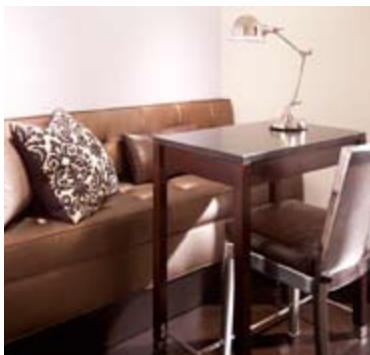
\* Sally Hershberger Downtown: [sallyhershberger.com](http://sallyhershberger.com) or 212.206.8700. \* Kérastase: [kerastase.com](http://kerastase.com).

## NAIL IT

With all eyes undoubtedly drifting toward the diamond, a good manicure is imperative. When you first arrive at the salon, talk to your manicurist about how to best highlight your ring. **Frédéric Fekkai's Joey Flores** suggests asking them to "narrow the shape of your nail a bit—this will elongate your fingers and add elegance to your manicure and your ring." Next, choose a color that is the opposite of your skin tone. Flores recommends beige shades for women with pink undertones and pink shades for women with more yellow tones. Either way, stay away from bright colors that will show off chipping and clash with your bouquet. "You don't want your nails competing, but rather complementing your overall beauty on your big day," Flores says.

To ensure a chip-free manicure that will last through the honeymoon, try Frédéric Fekkai's Jet Set Manicure, a baked on polish that lasts for weeks.

\* Frédéric Fekkai: [fekikai.com](http://fekikai.com) or 212.753.9500. \* Chanel: [chanel.com](http://chanel.com).



Below: Chanel's new Pêche Nacrée and Pearl Drop nail colors are perfectly muted for the big day; a manicure station at Frédéric Fekkai.





*Clockwise from top left:  
Yann Varin Salon on Madison  
Avenue; L'Oréal's Infinium 4  
hairspray is strong enough for  
the ceremony, light enough  
for the reception; stylist Yann  
Varin; a treatment at Haven  
spa, at 150 Mercer Street.*

## SHEAR BEAUTY

Choosing the wedding-day 'do is a huge decision. Start with a cut about three weeks in advance, followed by at least one trial, says Madison Avenue stylist **Yann Varin**. Consider the lines of the dress and the location to find what he calls "*the* look." "Imagine a wedding at a country house or a farm," he says. "There's nothing more romantic and soothing than wearing your hair down in a cascade of curls. On the other hand, for a formal wedding at the Rainbow Room, a tighter and neater look is a better fit."

But, when in doubt, go up, says stylist and salon owner **Eva Scrivo**. "A lot of brides regret not wearing their hair up—they see photos and think they look ordinary. There aren't many occasions for sophisticated, glamorous up-dos." For the best of both worlds, try a gently teased up-do with a light hairspray that can be unpinned after the ceremony for a wavy, relaxed look.

\* *Yann Varin Salon:* [yannvarinsalon.com](http://yannvarinsalon.com) or 212.734.9055.

\* *Eva Scrivo Salon:* [evascrivosalon.com](http://evascrivosalon.com) or 212.677.7315.



## SKIN SAVERS

There may be no better beauty fix than relaxation. To relieve stress—and the havoc it wreaks on your body—indulge in a little pampering at downtown spa institution **Haven**, which features the "Spoil Me" package on its lengthy treatment list. A heavenly half-day of massage, hand and foot treatments, and a facial, it's a lovely gift for bridesmaids too.

For pre-wedding pampering that packs serious results, try the hotly anticipated stem-cell facial, available in its most concentrated form at **Sarah Swanson Skincare**, on Fifth Avenue. "It may sound unusual," Swanson says, "but the impact is immediate. You'll get rejuvenated, glowing skin, topped off by long-term anti-aging benefits."

\* *Haven:* [havensobo.com](http://havensobo.com) or 212.343.3515.

\* *Sarah Swanson Skincare:* [sarahswanson skincare.com](http://sarahswanson skincare.com) or 212.249.7546.