

## THE LOOK

**1. FACE PREP** Your life is changing in leaps and bounds: new husband, new role as a married woman. Right before your wedding, however, is not the time for a brand-new beauty regimen. "If you need to change your skincare routine, begin six months in advance," advises Michelle King, skincare expert for Clinique. If you feel your skin needs a deep cleaning, indulge in a professional facial at least two weeks before the big day—any later and you may suffer breakouts or redness. Schedule any dermatologist appointments several weeks before as well, so your skin will have time to adjust to any new prescribed treatments. In the weeks leading up to the wedding, the best thing you can do for your skin is cleanse, exfoliate and moisturize religiously.

**2. ZIT-ZAPPING 101** A clay mask applied to your T-zone twice a week can help keep oil in check. Since stress exacerbates acne, now is the time to implement a relaxation routine to keep hormones under control. If you do happen to break out right before your wedding, your dermatologist may be willing to obliterate the cyst with a cortisone injection. Or you can just cover it up by dabbing on a small amount of concealer that matches your skin tone. "Pat it on with a fingertip," King says, "but don't rub—or else the oils from your finger will take off what you put on."

**3. TO BRONZE OR NOT TO BRONZE** If you dread the thought of baring your winter-white skin, consider using a self tanner. "It's much healthier than relying on the sun or a tanning bed," says King, plus you'll avoid marching down the aisle with tan lines. To go for the glow, start applying the self tanner two weeks before the wedding, and then repeat every day in small amounts until you achieve the exact intensity of color you want (stop the procedure two days before the event). If all that seems too high maintenance, King suggests a powder bronzer. With a cotton ball or brush, apply the powder where the sun would normally hit your face: your cheekbones, temples, nose and the tip of your chin.

**4. A CLEAN SLATE** Your bridal face should look natural, not made up. "Less is more," says King, "but for this one day you'll probably want to go with a little more." She warns against foundations with SPF, which may give your skin a white cast under a photographer's flash. The most important thing about foundation, she notes, is to "blend, blend, blend" all through the face, neck and even chest, if you're wearing a low-cut dress.

**5. MAKEUP THAT LASTS** Set your makeup with loose translucent powder, and stash some pressed powder for touch-ups. As for lipstick, King says the versions that promise to last for hours may be drying. On the other hand, "you don't want too much shimmer on your lips, which can look funny in photos." Instead, she recommends layering a little gloss over a matte lipstick, for subtle shine. Or you can use this age-old trick: Place one ply of facial tissue over your made-up lips, then dust loose powder over the tissue before applying a second layer of color. Voila! Lips that stay kissable through the last dance. —*Maryann LoRusso*

### 5 tips for picture-perfect wedding-day skin

# LOW

On Nina, all Clinique makeup, including foundation: Gentle Light Makeup (Bare Light) and Gentle Light Pressed Powder (Gentle Glow), eyes: Touch Tint for Eyes (Nude Sparkle) and High Impact Eye Shadow Duo (Whisper and Rose Wine), cheeks: Lip & Cheek Colour (Plum Passion), lips: Quickliner for Lips (Lipblush) and Long Last Soft Matte Lipstick (Rose).

Hair by Carmel Bianco for LINK; Makeup by Pamela Diego for Clinique; Photography by David Gubert