

BEAUTY: PRODUCT REVIEWS

« JUST OUT!

DOVE HAIR OIL

I've never met a hair oil that was so beautiful! Not only does the oil smell delicious and floral, it is actually infused with real flowers that give the hair oil an ethereal look. The oil promises to deliver in 30 minutes what other hair oils take overnight to do. As oil, it met expectations. After washing it off, my hair was noticeably calmer and frizz was reduced. Plus, the lingering scent of hibiscus and argan is delightful. And, this oil can also be used to style your hair.

Both testers, one with short straight hair and one with curls, loved the non-sticky sheen it added to their hair. While it doesn't have a strong hold that styling products are usually known for, it feels and works more like a hair serum. But, if you're worried that using oil as a serum would lead to breakouts, stop. The Dove hair oil is light and didn't clog my acne prone skin. We definitely recommend it.

PRICE ₹185

WHERE All retail stores

STAR RATING



« JUST OUT!



LILAIA, THE PERIDOT

The signature luxury packaging is evident when you catch a glimpse of Bvlgari's new fragrance, Lilaia. From its super feminine name to the obvious peridot reference on its green jewelled cap (also referred to repeatedly in their promotions for the perfume) everything is appealing — but does the scent match up? When you say fruity, I usually run a mile away and the combination of mandarin and orange leaves don't perk my interest. But one spritz of the heady scent and you're sold on its other notes, including the slightly smoked, grassy tobacco-like mate and the Mediterranean mastic plant. It's slightly woody, a little outdoorsy (so the packaging is even more apt) and definitely as regal as its oft-quoted throwback to Orient grandeur. And the best part for me — was that unlike a lot of Bvlgari's lighter scents, this lasts all day!

Price On request

Where Select retail outlets across the city

Rating ****

« JUST OUT!



LINFA AGE PEELING VELVET EFFECT

This mask, from Bottega di Lungavita, is loaded with cucumber juice, lemon, orange blossom, wheat germ oil, rice grains, white clay and shea butter as well as a host of protective and purifying properties. But, the Linfa Age Peeling Velvet Effect Facial Mask (yes, it's quite a mouthful!) looks like any other face mask. Sure, it's very attractively packaged and the strong lemon and shea butter scent makes it seem really tempting, but I wasn't expecting too much. However, just 15 minutes after the mask has worked its magic on your skin (remember to apply it in gentle, circular movements. Scrubbing too hard will leave you with reddened, itchy skin), you're really left with velvet smooth skin. It's perfect for my sensitive skin and is usually all I need for an instant glow before a night out. It's heavy on the pocket, especially because it doesn't last very long — but it's worth a splurge for the effect that it has on your skin.

Price ₹1,450

Where www.bottegadilungavita.in

Rating ****

« JUST OUT! HONEST REVIEWS OF NEW PRODUCTS IN THE MARKET

LAKMÉ ABSOLUTE GLOSS ADDICT

Lakmé's Absolute Gloss Addict range is filled with products that promise to make your lips and skin shine like a runway model. I've had bad experiences with products designed by stylists and meant to give me model-like results so I didn't expect much from the Pink Passion lipstick. Opening and closing the cover makes it smear messily so be careful about putting it in your purse. However, a single stroke of the lipstick and I was sold. The colour is solid without being too bright and the gloss is apparent but not overdone or sticky. It lasts longer than most gloss lipsticks. My only grouse with it is the high price!

Price ₹800

Where Cosmetic stores across the city

Rating ***



MAYBELLINE COLOSSAL KAJAL (TURQUOISE)

I am an avid user of the Maybelline Colossal Kajal and when I learnt that the brand has introduced new, exciting colours, I couldn't resist trying the one in turquoise. The kajal comes in their signature slim yellow tube and has a flash of turquoise at the end of the tube. The texture is extremely soft, so make sure you use the kajal gently without applying too much pressure. If you are looking for a darker shade on your eyes, then you will need more than two swipes to get the intense look. Once applied, the kajal stays on for quite long and is smudge-proof. Overall, I really liked the turquoise kajal, despite its crumbly texture.

Price ₹249

Where Cosmetic stores across the city

Rating ****



« JUST OUT! HONEST REVIEWS OF NEW PRODUCTS IN THE MARKET



AMWAY ATTITUDE COMPACT POWDER

Compact powder is not usually my go-to product. It has a tendency to leave your skin feeling too powdery or too shiny and wears off quickly. Since re-application is not an ideal situation for me, I prefer to steer clear of them. But, since Amway products are usually top-notch, I decided to give the Attitude Compact Powder a try — and boy am I glad that I did! The light shade was perfect for my skin tone, didn't leave it looking too white or too dull and a single swipe of the sponge clears your face of any spots and discolouration almost instantly, brightening your tone. It doesn't have high coverage, which makes it perfect for daily wear but not great for those looking to conceal bumps, lumps or acne. Whatever the weather, my skin felt soft and moisturised all day long. Like most compacts however, it doesn't last very long, so stock up if you're planning on using this every day.

Price ₹699

Where www.amway.in

Rating ****

« JUST OUT!



MAYBELLINE LIP POLISH

I am not a big fan of lip gloss — they are too shiny, dry out your lips and fade quickly. However, the Maybelline Lip Polishes are fashioned like glosses but have the pigmentation of a lipstick and moisturising properties of a lip balm. They make your lips look fuller, give good coverage and do not dry out your lips. I have tried the product on days when I haven't had time to put on lip balm or lipstick and it has done the job for both. It says put for up to 4-5 hours but fades sooner if you eat or drink in between. The doe-foot applicator picks up just the right amount of product and the texture is incredibly creamy. As expected, the lighter colours are sheerer than the darker, brighter shades. This one is fast becoming a product I always have in my bag.

PRICE ₹450

STAR RATING ****

WHERE All retail stores

« NEW LAUNCHES



SPINZ'S NEW FRAGRANCE

Spinz perfumed deodorants by CavinKare has added another deodorant to its range. The Fresh Burst deodorant is a refreshing mixture of fruity and floral notes along with a deep woody finish to give you a burst of freshness. The deodorant is designed to keep you feeling invigorated throughout the day.

Price: ₹85 onwards

Where: Major retail stores

« JUST OUT! HONEST REVIEWS OF NEW PRODUCTS IN THE MARKET

MAYBELLINE COLOR SHOW

Bold, bright eye pencils are the latest trend, with brands introducing long lasting pencils that promise dark, bold colours to dress up your eyes. Maybelline's Color Show range promises the same, with blues, greens and purples. I tried a violet that on application was closer to navy and had a hint of sparkle in it. The retractable pencil is easy to apply and does leave behind a strong line of colour. Its promise of being smudge-proof is delivered and it's long lasting. The colours could have been brighter, since it's supposed to be a colourful range. It gets over quickly with regular use, so I'm not sure if it's value for money, but it's a good eye pencil for a night out since it stays put.

Price ₹325

Where

Available in retail stores across the city

Star Rating ***



« JUST OUT!



AVON FAR AWAY GOLD

If the word Far Away sounds familiar to you, you've probably had as many Avon perfumes in your closet as I've had through the years. So, when I saw the shiny new, gold edition to commemorate the scent's 20th anniversary this year, I was understandably excited. They've kept the gilded shape of the original scent but have added a black tassel and gold charm. The scent however, is much less floral and much more Oriental. When I first sniffed the fragrance, I was a little disappointed. I didn't instantly get the vanilla or peach hit and the ylang-ylang and amber is hidden beneath the strong jasmine that hits you first. However, once worn (and this would differ according to how it smells on you), I was a big fan. My only gripe is that it does not last the night, fading away pretty quickly — which is something I've always thought is a limitation with Avon perfumes. But, I'll still be adding it to my collection of regulars.

Where Available exclusively through personal Avon Representatives

Price ₹1,499 **Rating** ***

CHAMBOR LIGHT & SHEER HIGHLIGHTER

Think versatility and you've got the Chambor highlighter down to the T. It isn't something you can use every day, but when you do, the pump applicator makes it easy to apply. Even though it has a few golden particles in it, you won't look like a disco ball and will look super radiant. You can use it on any part of your body, but when you see how much it costs, you may not want to. The one thing it has going for it is that it looks completely natural — so you're really paying for what you get. I also loved that while you can use it with foundation, you don't have to. Oiliness is out of the question (though it will not do as well under too much sun) and it lasts an entire day. However, it's not easy to carry in your purse, so if you're thinking of a touch up before a party — this won't be something that you're going to be able to carry with you.

Where Beauty and cosmetic stores across the city

Price ₹1,295 for 20ml **Rating** **



« JUST OUT!

ORIFLAME BEAUTY GLOSS BOOSTER

Oriflame's fruity lip glosses promise to coat your lips with a layer of shine. The formula is supposed to be non-sticky, but on application I found that it was a too sticky for me, making my lips feel heavy and greasy all day. The glosses come in fruity flavours such as Pear, Lychee, Peach, Watermelon, Cherry and Grape and smell delicious. It made my lips look ultra shiny and lasted for a longer time than most other lip glosses. It also applies on as a smooth coat, so it makes your lips look luscious and flawless.

PRICE ₹298

WHERE Contact your nearest Oriflame consultant or SMS Oriflame to 5999



« JUST OUT! HONEST REVIEWS OF NEWLY LAUNCHED PRODUCTS

ULTRA GLAZEWEAR LIP GLOSS

This lip gloss range from Avon promises rich colour, but what I was really looking forward to was the lack of stickiness and the promise that it wouldn't bleed or feather. I tried the Citrus Shine (a soft orange that looked gorgeous), Pink Watermelon (a good hint of pink to wear over a lipstick) and Rich Raspberry (which was my favourite; not too bold or too dull) and while the lip gloss did, unfortunately bleed and is not very long-lasting, it leaves your lips feeling soft and moisturised and delivers on its non-sticky promise. The tubes are a bit small for the price, but the colours are gorgeous!

PRICE ₹469 for 6.5g

WHERE Retail outlets across the city

STAR RATING ***



AVON'S IDEAL LUMINOUS CASHMERE ADVANCED FOUNDATION

This foundation makes a lot of tall claims, including blurring imperfections, minimising the appearance of pores and blending in so well, that it is undetectable. While it does blend in well, the shade I tried wasn't a perfect colour match for my skin and so, it did leave behind a greyish cast. It also had particles of glitter in it, which was a major turn-off for me! However, it gives your skin a dewy finish, without looking greasy and also offers medium coverage against discolouration and dark spots. While it may not cover blemishes entirely, the formula is lightweight and is comfortable enough for everyday wear, if you don't mind the glitter, that is.

PRICE ₹699 for 25ml

WHERE Retail outlets across the city

STAR RATING ***



AVON TRUE COLOR EYESHADOW QUAD

I tried the Vibrant Spice and Purple Pop quads from a range that is formulated with True Color Technology. The pigments claim to be colour-rich as well as colour-true. Application of the quads is easy and true to its word, looked almost identical on my eyelids as it did in the quad. The applicator brush is a bit useless though, so I ended up using my fingers, which helped blend the colour better. It fades a little bit as the night wears on, but since the colour is so intense on application, this wasn't a deal breaker. The Vibrant Spice had more colour options but the Purple Pop looked much better on application.

PRICE ₹799 for 5g

WHERE Retail outlets across the city

STAR RATING ***



AVON ULTRA COLOUR LIPSTICK

As far as lipsticks go, I usually prefer them to be pigmented, offering an opaque layer of colour in one swipe. On those counts, Avon's ultra colour lipstick falls short, as the finish is shiny and sheer, without offering too much coverage. However, the lipstick is quite hydrating, thanks to ingredients such as shea butter, vitamin E and omega oil and doesn't make your lips feel cracked, or flaky after application. The colour lasts for about four hours, before it begins to fade away. This is probably due to the sheer formula, but it isn't bad when it's compared with the formula of other lipsticks, making it a decent lipstick to own.

PRICE ₹356 for 3.8g

WHERE Retail outlets across the city

STAR RATING ***

« 5 WAYS TO: CHOOSE THE RIGHT BLUSH

1. AU NATURAL

If you want a little colour but want to look natural, look in the mirror after a workout, run or any other physical activity that gives your cheeks a natural blush. Then, match your blush colour to the colour on your cheeks. Go one step darker and you've got the perfect blush without looking artificial.

2. TONED

Keep your skin tone in mind when you're choosing a blush. Just because you love a particular shade of wine or burgundy, doesn't mean it will look good on you, especially if you have fair skin. Corals and pinks match fairer skin better while deeper shades match deeper skin tones.

3. MATCH IT

Remember not to wear a blush that's so different from your lipstick that you end up resembling a

Choosing a blush that looks great on your skin can be a bit of a challenge. Rhea Dhanbhoora gives you a few tips

clown. For example, if your lipstick colour is a soft pink, don't make up your cheeks in a strong red or wine colour blush and vice versa.

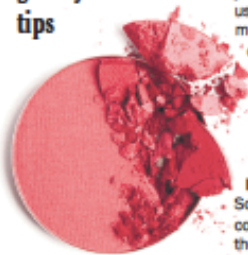
4. A LITTLE TINT

Choose a tinted moisturiser if you want your face to glow. There's usually a lot of moisturiser in these so only opt for them if you don't have very oily skin, want a very subtle tint and not an overly shiny look.

5. CREAMS & POWDERS

So you've picked your colour – but what about the type of blush? Choose a powder based blush for a day look and a cream or gel based blush for a night look. If you have oily skin, it's best to stay away from anything that is too oily, so powder blushes work best. Opt for a glitter based one for a night look.

>> Powder blushes are good for oily skin



« JUST OUT!



GARNIER FRUCTIS SILKY STRAIGHT 24/7

Want silky smooth hair? Then Garnier Fructis has a perfect range for you – the all new silky straight 24/7. Enriched with smoothing power it will help you work on your stubborn fizzy hair and nourishes it to give you soft, smooth, frizz free and shiny hair. It is a three way nourishing process that includes shampoo, conditioner and serum for easy to manage and super silky hair. **PRICE:** The pack in the picture will cost up to ₹528

ORIFLAME TRIPLE CORE LIPSTICK

This Valentine's Day, pamper yourself with Oriflame's beauty triple core lipsticks. It provides you an with ultimate colour effect and nourishes your lips. It is available in delightful shades such as nude, red, ruby and pink. **PRICE:** ₹449

RUSK THICKR MYST

Try Rusk Thicker Myst if you want incredible volume and to improve the texture of your hair. It also protects your hair from harmful ultra violet sunrays. Hydrolysed wheat protein moisturises your hair and helps repair damaged ends. All you need to do is spray liberally over towel-dried hair and styled with blow-dryer as desired giving you hair that will keep up with your busy lifestyle. **PRICE:** ₹1275



« JUST OUT! THE WOMAN'S WORLD TEAM CHECKS OUT ATTITUDE'S VALENTINE RANGE



AMWAY ATTITUDE EYELINER PENCIL: COAL

With several brands offering dark, long-lasting swipes of colour, finding an intense black kajal is easy these days. So, when I got my hands on the Attitude Kajal in Coal, I wondered how much of a difference it was really going to make. I wear contact lenses, so my one grouse with a lot of these waterproof, long-lasting options is that they start to irritate my eyes after a while, making them water, defeating the purpose of the long-lasting kohl. The first thing that had me sold on this kohl was the fact that I didn't have to keep re-applying it and it didn't smudge either. It's thick, smooth, black and soft, so it didn't irritate my eyes. One of the few cons that it has is that it's not retractable, so you have to remember to carry your kajal sharpener if you don't want to be stuck poking your eye out with a blunt tip. And of course, the fact that it's only available with Amway agents makes it a little hard to purchase spontaneously. But, even with its cons, it's on its way to becoming a favourite.

Rating **** **Price** ₹399

Where Available with Amway agents

ATTITUDE INTENSE COLOUR: PEACH FANTASY

I'm a big fan of peach shades, so I had no complaints about the colour of this gorgeous, peachy-coral lipstick. It's bold and creamy, and can be applied easily with a single swipe. It stays on for a long time and doesn't dry out your lips, as it is enriched with vitamin E. However, when you're eating or drinking, it does transfer easily. I prefer non-transfer lipsticks, so it was hard getting used to having lipstick marks on everything I used. This also means that you will have to re-apply the lipstick several times in a day. However, it's easy to dress up or down, so for an evening out or a day at the office, this is a romantic shade that is a value-for-money addition to your makeup kit.

Rating *** **Price** ₹315

Where Available with Amway agents



« JUST OUT! HONEST REVIEWS

LAKMÉ EYECONIC EYE LINER

Lakmé's Eyeconic range promises a smooth line of extremely bold colour that lasts all day. Makeup never lasts long on my skin, wiping off or fading away before half the day is done. So, the longevity of the kohl pencil, even when applied on my waterline, was fantastic. All three colours that I tried (black, blue and green) were extremely dark — lighter shades of blue and green would have made them stand out more because at the end of the day, they're all blackish. The stick doesn't break and it glides on smoothly in a creamy line which doesn't smudge off as easily as most other liners. On your eyelid it will last well into the night, just make sure you have a good makeup remover at hand to rub it off!

PRICE ₹199

STAR RATING ****

WHERE Available in retail stores across the city



LAKMÉ ABSOLUTE EYE SHADOW DUOS

The duo comes in a round container with a transparent lid, which makes it easy to identify the colour if you own multiples. The brush included is absolutely rubbish and gives you streaky application. The colour I tried was the Purple Haze duo, with a light and dark purple shadow. Although they apply smoothly, they aren't pigmented at all. Also, you must apply a white base underneath to make the colour pop, or else, they look quite dull. They have some shimmer that fortunately doesn't show too much on the skin, making it a good choice for a purple smokey eye. However, it is a little expensive.

Price ₹650 for 3.5g

Where Available in retail stores across the city

Star Rating ***



L'OREAL KAJAL MAGIQUE

Suddenly, the market is flooded with twist-up, long-lasting intense, black kajals and L'oreal was quite frankly, a little late to the party. The kajal unfortunately, is nothing to write home about. It isn't as intensely black as the other ones I've tried and loved. It drags a lot on application and doesn't glide on easily. This also makes it difficult to smudge it out a bit. Also, the wear time is around five hours, after which it just evaporates.

Price ₹244 for 60g

Where Available in retail stores across the city

Star Rating **