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Five Questions To Ask Before Booking A Makeup Artist

- **Have they completed a makeup-specific course?** Beauty therapy, cosmetology and pharmacy qualifications are not makeup-specific. Most beauty therapy courses are health-focussed, rather than fashion-focussed and only have a couple of days' makeup training. Cosmetology courses teach a little of everything (hair, nails, facials, makeup). Pharmacy courses teach mainly how to sell products. If your bridal makeup is important to you, choose a makeup specialist for your wedding.
- **Can they come to you – are they mobile?** If not, consider whether you'll have to ferry people back and forth from the salon to your getting-ready location, or have to wait around until your entire bridal party is finished before you can leave, potentially wasting time. Also consider travel time, parking, and how to protect your hair/makeup outdoors if wet/windy. Having your 'services' come to your getting-ready location is better for practicality, timing, your comfort, privacy and all-round experience!
- **Is the person who conducts your makeup trial-run the same person who will apply your makeup on the wedding day?** This is important to know mainly in salon-environments with multiple staff.
- **Are you able to read testimonials/reviews from past customers?** Are they recent? Is the makeup seamless/blended from face to neck? Does the makeup look customised or is every look the same?
- **Do they have a good reputation with other industry professionals?** If unsure, ask your currently booked or established suppliers. Your suppliers may have worked with the artist you're considering, and be able to give you insider information on the artist's personality and work ethic. And ask your makeup artist about other potential suppliers on your list for the same reason!

Can I wear just a lip gloss?

Many women wear only gloss day-to-day, preferring them to lipsticks, and I'm sometimes asked by bride-to-be's if they can just wear a gloss for their wedding day. This is a fine plan if you are prepared to carry it near you and top it up every 30 minutes when it inevitably wears and kisses off, but it's not a practical choice on a wedding day. Apart from the annoying tendency for loose strands of hair to get stuck on glossy lips, and it to stick on those who kiss you, some makeup looks appear 'unfinished' without some colour or shine on the lips, and using only a gloss can quickly leave you without both. If you book Lillybeth, your lip coverage will probably start with a skin-tone or matching lip liner, with a shimmer, satin or matte-finish lipstick then applied on top.* You'll even be encouraged to avoid adding gloss on top of your lipstick as it acts as a makeup remover due to its oily nature and will make your lip colour wear off much quicker.

*But you might be the exception!

What do you recommend for skin prep beforehand?

I generally don't recommend facials. [See why in this article on my blog.](#)

If you struggle with acne, black heads, enlarged pores, redness or oiliness: I recommend daily use of a BHA (Beta Hydroxy Acid) exfoliant. BHA exfoliates inside the pore, which no other ingredient can do. However, if dryness, flaky skin, sun damage or pigmentation is your issue: Use an AHA (Alpha Hydroxy Acid) exfoliant instead. When using any exfoliant, be diligent about applying sunscreen daily. If you want the exact products I personally use and recommend, just reply to this email and ask!

In the 7 days before your wedding, don't have any facial treatments, i.e. waxing/threading/facials. If you wax/thread, your foundation will adhere differently on that area and look uneven because it appears lighter where hair and/or skin cells have been removed. So, plucking only. Dermaplaning is not a problem as it affects the whole face evenly. Avoid using new skincare products or having facials in the week before the wedding, as skin irritation and breakouts are common (trust me)!

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