

ALL ABOUT BROWS

We may hate leaving the house without a pretty face, but many of us don't feel there's enough time to primp before that round of errands and trip to the yoga studio. A simple step to give you a put-together look when you're feeling everything but is to make sure your brows are in check. A well-balanced brow frames the eyes and gives the face definition – and let's face it, you can't leave home without them!

Brow Basics

Your lifestyle as well as facial shape defines the brows that best suit your unique features. Done properly, they bring balance and symmetry to your face.

Shape: Understanding your face shape is the first step in determining the right shape for your brows. For example, square and diamond shaped faces need brows that balance their cheekbones and jaw lines. A round face should seek out a loftier arch to create the illusion of length, while a longer face can use a flatter brow to give roundness.

Shade: Whether you dye your brows or are searching for the right filling agent, the general rule is to go a hue close to or slightly darker than your natural hair color. Blondes can stretch to a dark blonde, brunettes a dark or chestnut brown, black should opt for a soft black, red heads an auburn or dark blonde hue while the silver-haired can try a soft gray, dark brown or even black depending on their shade of gray.

Grooming

When working with a brow specialist or esthetician to shape your brows, discuss your personal style and find images in magazines that help express the look you want to create. Plan to have your brows waxed every three weeks to maintain your shape and invest in a set of high quality tweezers to remove strays that emerge between appointments. Just keep in mind that a slightly thicker peak is better than brows that are barely there, so avoid over tweezing.

One trick is to stick to just removing the hairs beneath your brow line so you don't ruin your arch. If you find yourself in an over-tweezed situation, your esthetician can recommend brow gels, powder or stencils that can fill in the shape while you wait for regrowth.

Day vs Night

A well arched and defined brow may deliver drama for fashionistas, but that intense of a statement may be too much for your typical daytime look. Choose your tools wisely. During the day, focus on creating a perfectly groomed brow with a powder like Brow Cakes and a tapered brow brush to fill in your shape. In a pinch, a smidge of hair paste or wax to hold unruly brows in place. When you're ready for more intensity, use a deep pencil along the bottom of your brow line or Wonder Brow Gel to create a gorgeous shape that matches your attitude.

Mario Tricoci sources:

- Elaine Sauer, Corporate Spa Director

For more information on this topic or to get in touch with a Mario Tricoci expert, contact Christie Zielinski at czielinski@cushmanamberg.com or 312-263-2500.