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GET GORGEOUS SKIN BY TONIGHT!

GOODBYE, DIETS

THE SECRETS TO GETTING THE BODY YOU WANT WITHOUT STARVING

So Cute!
THE HOTTEST
SPRING BAGS

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WHY ARE BOYS LIKE THAT?
AMANDA BYNES
HAS ANSWERS FOR YOU

THE RIGHT STUFF, THE RIGHT WAY



CHOOSE YOUR COLOR Most girls are baffled by which foundation shade best suits them. Some think the tanner, the better (hello, Paris). Pick a too-light shade and you'll look like a geisha. Too dark and you'll look like your face doesn't belong to the rest of your body. So how do you choose from the endless array of options?

Says makeup artist Dana Chasen of NYC Glow Skin Spa, "Your skin has a yellow, pink, olive or dark undertone. Seek out a foundation with that same undertone." Once you've found a few potential shades, swipe a sample of each onto your cheek (not your hand!), near your jawline. Do you see a line between your cheek and neck? If so, pass on that shade. Foundation should blend perfectly with your skin so you can barely see it. A quick check: Grab a hand mirror, and walk outside so you can see the true color in natural lighting.

APPLY IT LIKE A PRO Before putting on makeup, wash your face and hands (icky germs can cause breakouts). Next, apply a light moisturizer—this helps your skin stay hydrated and also lays down a nice base for even foundation application.

These days, liquid makeup blends easily but even great products need application savvy. Start by dabbing a pea-sized amount of foundation onto your forehead, cheeks and chin, then blend, blend, blend. You can use a foundation brush (see sidebox) or your fingers. Start from the top of your face, and gently work down and out (no telltale lines around your jaw or hair!). If you're using a long-wearing formula, dab and blend each area immediately—this type of formula sets quickly.

If you're covering up zits or under-eye circles, apply concealer *after* foundation. Use a concealer brush to apply directly on top of the problem area. Be sure to blend the edges into the foundation for a seamless finish. Exceptions to the rule? The only concealer you should apply before foundation is a yellow or green color corrector used to offset ruddy blotches. Gorgeous!

TOOLS OF THE TRADE



A girl only needs four key items for perfect makeup application:

A FOUNDATION BRUSH Every makeup pro we talked to uses a brush to apply liquid foundation. "Brushes are the key to makeup going on evenly in hard-to-get areas, like the nose and jawline," says Leslie Lightfoot, makeup artist for Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen. Look for a quality tapered-end brush (we like Sephora Foundation Brush, \$24, sephora.com). The bristles should feel soft over your face. Say no to scratchy tools!

SPONGE WEDGES Use a dampened one to buff away sharp edges, mistakes or foundation build-up (Sephora Sponge Wedges, \$6, sephora.com). *Don't* use them to apply the foundation, says Lightfoot: "Sponges end up putting too much on. Less is more."

FACE POWDER Great for reducing shine. Used alone, it allows for natural-looking coverage. Our translucent powder pick? Body & Soul Face Powder (\$30, bodyandsoul.com).

FINISHING SPRAY Nervous about sweating it off at your Valentine's Day dance? A finishing spray—a fine mist to set makeup in place—is your savior. Try Model in a Bottle (\$18, modelinabottle.com).

PICK YOUR PERFECT FORMULA!

Magic in a bottle...or a mousse...or a compact...



Liquid Foundation

Great for beginners! Mistakes can be sponged away. **Best for** matching skin color. Lotsa shades! **Don't use** if you need extra coverage. **We like** Wet 'n' Wild Ultimate Cover Smooth Foundation (\$3, drugstores).



Mousse

Great for a light feel and powdery finish. **Best for** solid application control. **Don't use** too much of it! A little goes a long way. **We like** Maybelline Dream Matte Mousse (\$8, drugstores).



Wet-to-Dry

Great for oily skin. It's moist with a slightly matte finish. **Best for** a satiny-smooth look. **Don't use** with powder. It will result in a cake-y effect. **We like** Smashbox Conversion Cream to Powder Foundation (\$30, sephora.com).



Foundation Powder

Great for coverage with a silky feel. **Best for** combating shine. **Don't use** on dry skin. The powder accentuates flakiness. **We like** Clinique Perfectly Real Compact Makeup (\$22.50, department stores).



Stick Foundation

Great for a wide array of shades and coverage. **Best for** spot-on application and touch-ups. **Don't use** all over your face. Too heavy! **We like** Stila Perfecting Stick Foundation (\$30, stilacosmetics.com).