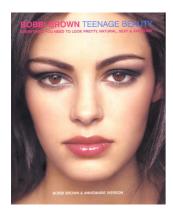
Author Essay



Bobbi Brown

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Bobbi's 10 basic rules of teen beauty

1. Rules do apply.

Knowing what's appropriate with makeup really matters. There's a time and a place for a smudged black eye and it's not in your Monday-morning American history class. Save the drama for the school play or going out. Wait until high school to experiment with anything more than gloss, mascara, blush and concealer. Whether you are thirteen or nineteen, just keep makeup simple and natural for school and everyday hanging with your friends.

2. Finger paint.

It's not cool or modern to be too perfect with makeup. (Lip brushes were created for the over-thirty crowd!) Dabbing on a lip stain with your finger is the way to go. Be loose. Spread it on. Have fun with it. Don't be too glued to the mirror. Express yourself! What's the worst thing that could happen? You'll have to blend a color to tone it down or, if you're really unhappy, wash it off and start over.

3. Skip foundation.

You don't need all-over foundation. And don't be concerned with highly technical serious makeup techniques, like contouring or shadowing. What you really can use: cream or stick foundation for the perfect zit cover-up. Then, just cover up what really bugs you and let your skin show through everywhere else.

4. Sheer genius.

The perfect teen colors are sheer ones that you can see through. I like to use pale shades that look like natural washes of color on the face. Look for natural or soft pastel tones, nothing dark or bright. (P.S. These colors tend to be pretty mistake-proof, too.)

5. It's fine to shine.

I love shimmer shadows and lip gloss for teens - nothing looks more beautiful. The exception: Super shiny faces, which look good in fashion magazines but not on the face in the mirror. Don't try this one at home.

6. Dewey is awesome.

Think cream, not powder. When buying blush or shadow, look for a creamy formula — it looks more natural and goes on more easily.

7. It's only nail polish...

Bright orange? Army green? Metallic blue? Why not? It's inexpensive, easy to change, and fun to look at. The one color to skip (forever)? Black — it's plain ugly.

8. Shop around and mix it up.

Your local dime store's \$1 bin is perfect for glitter and glam but you may want to invest a little more money in your skincare products and concealer.

9. Avoid a makeup war.

As long as you are still a minor, your parents rule and still make the rules and you should try to be respectful of their wishes. But if they are saying, "absolutely no makeup ever," it would be normal for you to want to sneak wearing a little makeup. If you choose to go against the rules, just be smart enough to go for something natural like brown mascara or lip pink gloss. Slipping out of the house in green glitter shadow was never easy for me!

10. Never say never.

Keep an open mind about new ways to wear makeup. Maybe you're not a red lip kind of girl...but what about sheer gloss in just the right red? That might be just gorgeous.