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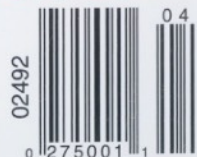
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ELLE BEAUTY



THE 2008
GENIUS
AWARDS



Since there's no Nobel Prize for beauty, ELLE anoints the 25 brightest stars in skin, hair, and makeup. Here, on the following nine pages, are the secrets to their success →

Makeup Genius Dee Dee Dorzee, who created these looks for ELLE, goes through a tube of liquid liner each week. "For the smoothest finish, use a liner that's really fresh," she says.

ELLE BEAUTY GENIUS AWARDS HAIR



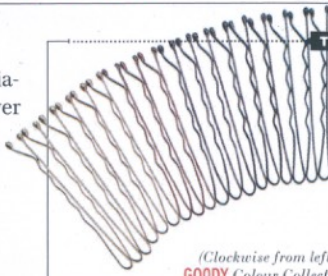
PIÈCE DE RESISTANCE

OSCAR BLANDI

SPECIALTY: How do you make a milkmaid braid ultracool? Have NYC-via-Naples salon owner Blandi drape one over Sienna Miller's crown on the red carpet. "Bellissima!" he says.

SECRET WEAPON: Goody Colour Collection bobby pins "discreetly hold extensions in place," he says.

QUICK FIX: Blandi gently backcombs natural hair ("one to two strokes") before securing pieces. "That way, there's something for them to grab on to," he says. Simple, straight extensions are easiest for beginners "and are great for vamping up everyday styles."



THE KIT



Miller

(Clockwise from left) **GOODY** Colour Collection bobby pins. "A dollop of my **OSCAR BLANDI** *Olio di Jasmine Hair Serum* helps fake uniform shine." **HELENA COLLECTION** braid "looks as if it could be your own."



WAVE RUNNER

REBECCA BACON

SPECIALTY: Surfer-chick curls may be Santa Monica stylist Bacon's trademark, but she admits she couldn't create the classic SoCal style without the right cut. "Too many layers, and the whole look will collapse on itself," Bacon says.

SECRET WEAPON: Bacon blow-dries hair using different-size round brushes to create ringlets that "eventually fall out into a beachy wave," she says.

QUICK FIX: To mimic "saltwater tendrils," Bacon twists sections of hair around the face down to the ends, then sets each with a quick blast of heat.



THE KIT

(Clockwise from left) **IBIZA** round brush. **DAVINES** Momo Moisturizing Anti-Frizz Protective Fluid is "great for defining waves." **REBECCA BACON** Beach Bag Elixir "re-creates a wave-washed texture."



SMOOTH TALKER

KIYAH WRIGHT

SPECIALTY: Jennifer Hudson and Brandy share more than just powerful voices—both are regulars of Wright, a stylist at the L.A. branch of the Warren-Tricomi salon, who takes curly, textured strands to the next level.

SECRET WEAPON: "Kinky hair should be washed weekly with a smoothing formula," Wright says. Her picks? Redken Smooth Down or Extreme Shampoos. "They both remove built-up oil."

QUICK FIX: If hair is extra-frizzy, Wright gets creative. "I love a slicked-back ponytail or tiny braids."



THE KIT



(Clockwise from left) **UNITE EURO THERAPY 7Seconds Condition** is "a must-have for textured hair; it's the best for softening and detangling." **B. THE PRODUCT** Stik "controls flyaways and frizz." **DR. MIRACLE'S** Intensive Healing Oil "soothes scalps that are irritated or inflamed from weaves."



DARK ANGEL

JESSICA GALVAN

SPECIALTY: When L.A. arriviste Victoria Beckham went from platinum blond to deep brunette, she enlisted the help of veteran Beverly Hills salon owner Galvan, joining raven-haired devotees Ali Landry and Emmanuelle Chriqui.

SECRET WEAPON: Galvan prefers that color-corrected brunettes skip the pool altogether, but if you must dip, wear a protective spray in your hair to neutralize chemicals. "Chlorine makes rich brown hair brassy and coppery," she says.

QUICK FIX: "Slick brown hair looks rich and multidimensional," Galvan says. "For a high-gloss finish, grab your iron."



THE KIT



Beckham

(Clockwise from left) "I recommend wearing an **HERMÈS** scarf over your head while you're on the beach or hiking, to keep color from fading." **KÉRASTASE** Vernis Nutri-Sculpt "makes hair superglossy," while **REDKEN** Color Extend Shampoo can "prevent brassiness."

All still lifes: Steven Krause; Blandi: Len Lagrua; Miller: Sgranitz/WireImage.com; Bacon: Drew Carolan; Beckham: Mike Marsland/WireImage.com; remaining images: courtesy of the subjects