

A TRIAL ENSURES THAT THERE ARE NO TRIBULATIONS!

By Lyn Reece

A make-up artist is as close to a real-life fairy godmother as you'll ever get. She waves her magic brushes and wow – you're transformed from a tired and stressed out woman into a beauty queen who wouldn't look out of place on the cover of a fashion magazine! What a pity you can't hire her services everyday of your life!

Though your make-up artist is brilliant at what she does, don't be fooled into thinking that your total transformation is the result of the swish of a wand. You may be under the impression that once you've booked her services, you won't be seeing her until the big day, but you'd be wrong. All the hard work is done three to four months before your wedding during the pre-consultation.

Your make-up trial should take approximately an hour and a half and should entail the following:

- A skin analysis should be done so that a possible facial routine can be recommended; since this is done months before your wedding, you'll have enough time to implement it so that you can see the results on the big day.
- A colour consultation is necessary as well as an assessment of your best features. Your make-up artist can then select colours which will accentuate those features that go with the look you are trying to achieve.

Your make-up artist will require a photograph or sketch of your dress, an indication of the colour of the flowers in your bouquet as well as an idea of how you will be wearing your hair. This information will enable her to put your whole make-up look together. She needs to know whether you want to go for a more natural look or whether you're after something a bit more dramatic so that she has a basis from which to develop her approach. Bring a few of your favourite lipsticks with so that your make-up artist can get an idea of which colours you like wearing and whether these can be incorporated on the day.

During the trial session, your make-up artist will take your considerations into account and try to ensure that you're comfortable with each step of the makeover. However, it is important to trust her expertise and listen to her advice; she may make suggestions you might not have considered for everyday make-up and the dazzling effect may surprise you. Also, ensure that you have told your make-up artist what time your make-up needs to be finished so that there aren't any misunderstandings which could make you run late.

Once the trial has been completed and you are both happy with the end result, your make up artist should colour in a sketch of your face and write exactly what has been used as well as the amount that has been used so that the look can be perfectly replicated on the day.