

TOP MAKE UP TIPS FOR YOUR BIG DAY

By Cathy Heaton

Cathy Heaton is a professional make-up artist who prides herself on never letting a bride down. Cathy prefers a classic and natural look for the bride, but will always listen to the bride and help her achieve her desired look.

You'll be hard pressed to meet a woman who loves every aspect of herself and when it comes to her wedding day, a bride will always try to improve on something – even if it is just to tan a little. Make-up artists get to see many different faces: small, round, chiselled, young and old; all of them beautiful. They often have brides asking if they can correct a crooked nose or cover pigmentation. There are techniques which can be employed to correct facial features and skin blemishes, but this is not always necessary. Sometimes less is more and emphasising your better features is a way of taking the focus off the less desirable ones.

Some other problem areas that are often encountered:

- **Eyebrows**
You don't want to get married with caterpillar eyebrows or wild horses galloping across your forehead! Thin, 'barely-there' eyebrows aren't the way to go either, but you need to neaten and shape your eyebrows. A good make-up artist should shape your brows at your trial, after which maintaining them is easy. Shaping your eyebrows can give you an instant face lift. If you have gaps in your eyebrows, your make-up artist will simply fill in the gaps when she colours your brows. It is important to colour in the brow as flash photography tends to whitewash your eyebrows and make you look as though you don't have any.
- **Dark Circles Under the Eyes**
So many women complain of dark circles under their eyes and often use concealer to cover their dark circles – this is a mistake! Not only does it emphasise the problem, but is also ages your face and you will notice when you smile that you have a lot more 'smile lines' around your eyes. Simply use a liquid foundation (a shade lighter if possible) and apply to the skin under the eyes. Blend well and get some rest!
- **Red Skin and Blotches**
This can be caused by environmental factors such as dry weather or wind burn or simply be genetic. Moisturise your skin well and have a hydrating facial two weeks before the wedding. Your make-up artist will use mint green concealer to lessen the redness of your skin. A yellow-based foundation can be applied over the concealer to tone down the redness and achieve a natural, even skintone.
- **I Hate my Nose!**
If you don't like your nose, have a good look in the mirror and decide what you do like about your face. Place more emphasis on those features and your nose will not seem as bad. You can use make-up to manipulate the shape of your nose, but this has to be extremely subtle – it is usually only done for

theatre and not for wedding days when people will be seeing you face to face. Emphasising eyes and cheekbones is an excellent way to take the focus off the nose.

Your wedding day is not about creating a new you, just a more beautiful you! Relax and enjoy your special day so that your memories are happy ones.

Three Important Tips:

1. Blend well! Patchy make-up draws unwanted attention
2. Remember that dark make-up draws in and light make-up brings out – so highlight what you want to emphasise and use shadows to soften features
3. Don't change who you are. If you have freckles on your nose, covering them may change your look completely