

Your Personal Spring Fling

At last, spring has arrived. And along with it, notions of.... flings? Spring flings are what I'm talking about but it's probably not the kind you're thinking of. I'm picturing a woman, rummaging through her makeup bag and flinging old lipsticks, smelly foundations and dated eye shadows over her shoulder. A cleaning of sorts, really.

But if this flinging woman was to toss her lipstick, it would only seem right that she update it with something fresh and current. And if that smelly foundation got poured down the drain, she has no choice but to replace it, right? But with what? What spring trends can we take from the pages of the latest fashion magazines or runway shows and bring into our own daily lives?

Let me start by saying that no matter the age, skin type or race that you are, good skin is always "in". Taking proper care of your skin does not have to be difficult or lengthy. It should be a simple, but daily, cleanse & moisturize routine. Now more than ever, our skin must become a superhero throughout the day – fighting the elements such as sun exposure, pollutants in the air and the dirt that invisibly floats around. At night, your skin recharges itself and has a chance to repair the damage. Assisting your skin by cleansing it at the end of the day and applying a moisturizer makes you a superhero sidekick and gets you ready for your makeup application!

When it comes to new makeup collections, I'll be honest. There's not very much that I consider new. Like fashion, makeup "looks" come around more than once and what you see is just a new version of the old stuff. There are different combinations of colors or a varied shade, but rarely am I struck by something unique. So I look for inspiration around me and this spring I've found it in the tropics. Just imagine clear turquoise water as far as the eye can see, sugar-fine sand in shades of bronze and coral of every color. Now let's talk about how to transfer this stunning image to your face.

With healthy skin and a natural glow, you can add to your look by using a shade of sandy bronze on the eyes. Choose the intensity of color based on your skin tone and look for a shade that has a slight sheen to it. Cover the eyelid area with eyeshadow and use what is leftover on your brush to accentuate the lower lashes. Using a powder shadow rather than a pencil on the lower lids will help create a soft effect that gives definition but does not look too harsh.

While turquoise is an amazing color, I would not recommend that it be applied on the entire eye. Having said that, it is an amazing accent color! Starting from the outside of your eye, use a turquoise eye pencil in a kohl or cream formula to blend along your upper lashline. This will beautifully offset the bronze eyeshadow color you've applied and help make your eyes stand out. Follow up with a coat or two of mascara, zig-zagging your way from the base to the tip of the lashes.

A pale, beige lip would look phenomenal with the eyes I just described. There are some people, however, who have too much natural color in their lips to pull this off. If that is the case, it truly is an easy fix. Use a touch of foundation or concealer on your lips first to "erase" the color in them. You can then use a soft pink or light beige lip liner to define them. Fill them in with a matching shade of lipstick or gloss.

If lips are your thing and eyes are not, there are many vibrant shades making their spring debut. Coral and peach tones are everywhere on lips, cheeks, and nails and are a great and different way to brighten the face. Look for tones that have a pink, rather than orange base in them and consider yourself ready for spring!