

## Fresh Makeup Ideas to Kick-Start Your Year

2008 is here and while there are many people resolving to do one thing or another, I'm not on that bandwagon. I am, however, on the bandwagon for doing old things in new ways with your makeup application. You don't have to rush to the store to fill your makeup bag with new products (although this is a favorite hobby of mine) but you can use what you already have in unique and unordinary ways to bring your fabulous self into the new year.

I'm encouraging you to step out of the ordinary box and try something different. Just once. And maybe never again, but maybe just one more time, and then one more time after that, and then, just once more. You now have a great new trick that is easy to do and makes you look better (and slightly different) in an instant.

For example, take your basic eye liner and jazz it up by adding an eye shadow color on top of it to mix into a brand new shade. What I mean is that you take your everyday, sorta blah, brown eyeliner and you immediately press an eye shadow on top of this liner in a metallic bronze or jade green shadow (or other color of your choice). Now you have a new shade that's not the same as your liner color and not really the same color as your eye shadow either, because the two combined have made a new color altogether. You've also just created a liner that has longevity because the cream and powder have adhered and will stay in place.

Try this on the back of your hand just to see what it's all about. Draw a line of eyeliner on the back of your hand, then take a dab of shadow and swipe it right beside the line. Now take that same shadow and swipe it on half of the liner. The color is new, bold and fresh. Don't like that color combo? Try a blue liner, with a grey shadow over top or how about a grey liner with a purple shadow pressed on top. Your color options can be almost endless when you start to play and imagine the color palette you can create.

My next example of old makeup, new tricks is to take the lip liner that you normally use and get crazy! Line your lips and color them in. Fully. Traditional methods tell women to only line the outside of the lips to give them shape and keep your lip color in place. Well, shape is nice but an outline with nothing in the middle is not. Gently sweep the liner from the outside of your lip line towards the inside using the side of your pencil, rather than the tip (unless you have already dulled it slightly for ease of application). Do the same to the lower lip and now use the pencil on the remainder of your lip, blending from the edges to the middle. This will create a uniform, even color and still allow for a smooth and seamless lipstick or gloss application on top.

Allow your lip liner color to act as a base and create a brand new color by adding altering shades of lipstick and gloss as you go. You may also want to intensify the liner shade you love by adding a matching lip color on top. Again, each new combination will create a different look and allows you to mix up your lips from lunch to evening lattes.

If your lips tend to be dry at this time of year and you are fighting the flakes, gently rub your lips with a facecloth or toothbrush to exfoliate and let them soak in the moisture from a hydrating lip balm or lip

moisturizer (petroleum jelly still works wonders). Night time is a great time for your face, as well as your lips, to relax, repair and replace moisture. When you're not fighting the daily elements, your skin has the chance to take in nourishment and get ready to look great for a new day!

While these tricks are not top secret or intensely difficult, they are helpful to bring a touch of new life to your otherwise routine makeup routine. There's nothing wrong and everything right about bringing in the new year with new makeup style.

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