

THE BEAUTY EXPERT

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JUNE 2012

Your Sexiest Summer EVER

Bronze Skin, Shimmery Makeup, Fun Nails
PLUS: Quick Fixes for Hot-Weather Glitches

ELIZABETH BANKS

Nothing Is Off-Limits—
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Small Boobs, Big Paychecks

Crazy-Easy WEIGHT LOSS

Sneaky Ways to Drop the Pounds

Frizz-Free Hairstyles

1 MINUTE, 1 AMAZING HAIR PRODUCT

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SLEEP BETTER—TONIGHT!

New Ways to Get More Rest



Tip

"Powders do the trick on sparse brows, pencils are best for filling in obvious gaps, and creams are ideal for defining fair brows," says Ramy Gafni.

Brow Rehab

Restoring botched brows can be a major pain in the...arch. We asked top groomers how to get the fullest, shapeliest, most face-flattering results, minus all the growing pains. **By Elizabeth Siegel**

MICHAEL THOMPSON

Grooming Lessons

With a simple raise, a small furrow, or a quick lift and hover, eyebrows convey surprise, frustration, shock, and excitement more effectively (and less annoyingly) than an exclamation point on a tweet. But sometimes, eyebrows can send unintended messages: Too much tweezing can lead to bewildered or timid and retreating arches. Wipe away that worried look (if you can). With a little grooming savvy, the main thing your brows will communicate this season is sex appeal.

Overtweezed Brows

Anyone with a magnifying mirror and tweezers can recklessly prune their brows, but patiently growing them back? That takes real pluck. Here's how to undo the damage.

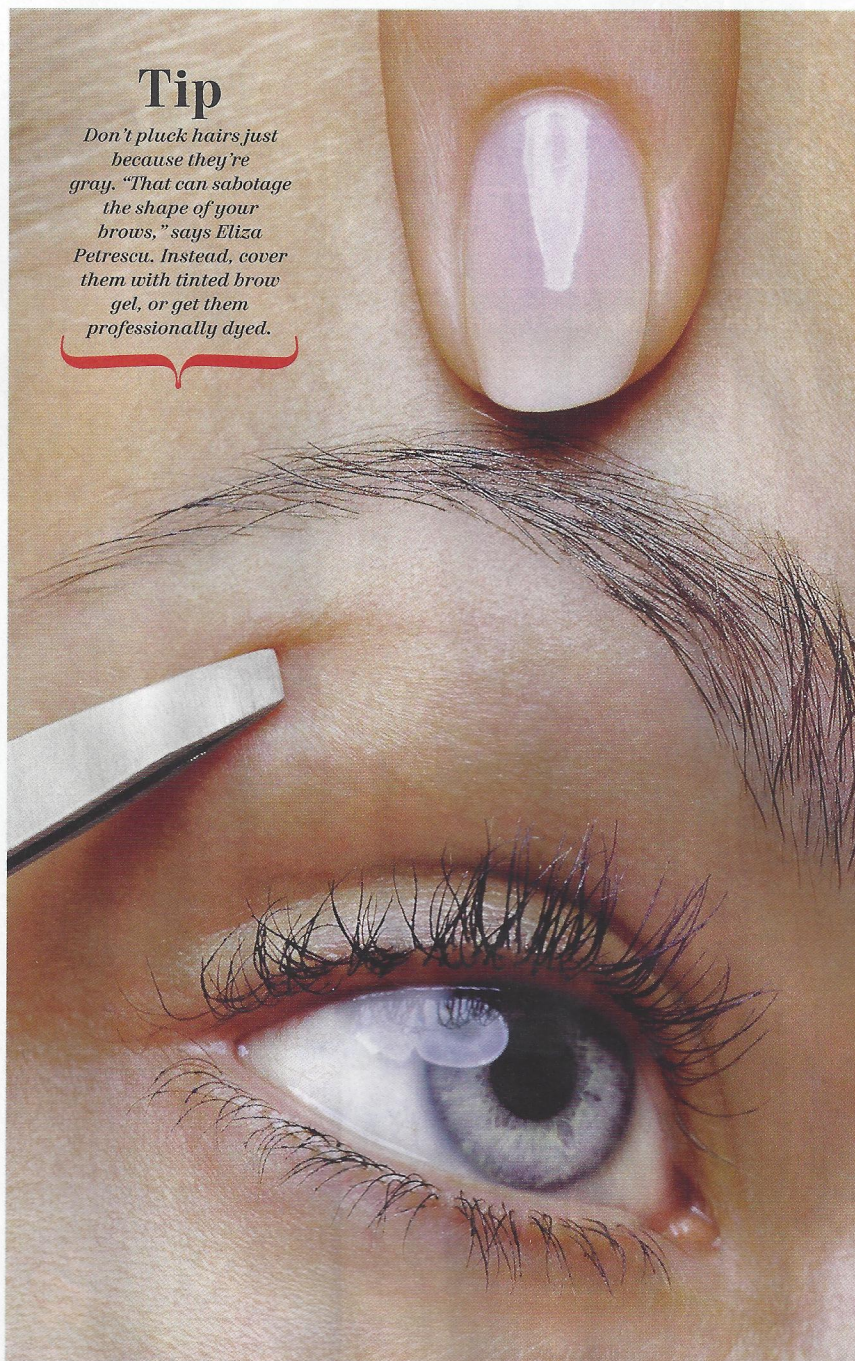
RETIRE THE TWEEZERS. It takes three to four months to see real change, and up to a year for brows to grow back entirely. “The first week is the hardest. It feels like the hairs are mocking you,” says Ramy Gafni, a New York City brow groomer. “But if you leave them alone, those random little hairs will eventually form a full brow.” If a stray is growing at an odd angle, resist the urge to tweeze—trim it instead.

MIND THE GAPS. Fill in sparse areas with a brow pencil (eyeliners are too creamy and heavily pigmented). Go one to two shades lighter than your hair if you're a brunette, or try taupe if you're blonde. “Otherwise you'll look like Joan Crawford,” says Gafni. Use short, angled strokes in the direction of hair growth to beef up bald spots, but stay within your natural brow line. “Never create an arch with makeup,” says Gafni. “Even the right shade can look obvious. Your bone structure should create the arch for you.”

SHAPE UP. Define the arch (the brow's highest point, just beyond the iris as you look ahead) by yanking a few hairs beneath it. “The most common mistake I see is people taking too much off the ends,” says Kristie Streicher, an eyebrow groomer at Warren-Tricomi salons in New York City and Los Angeles. Eyebrows that fall short look tadpole-y and aging, since the ends thin as we get older, she says.

Tip

Don't pluck hairs just because they're gray. “That can sabotage the shape of your brows,” says Eliza Petrescu. Instead, cover them with tinted brow gel, or get them professionally dyed.



DONNA TROPE

Grooming Lessons

Overgrown Brows

Frida Kahlo is the exception, not the rule. "Strong brows need to have shape and separation," says Streicher. "Otherwise they'll overwhelm your face."

DIVIDE AND CONQUER. When hair verges on the dreaded unibrow territory, you need to grab the tweezers. Hold a pencil vertically from the outer edge of your nostril to your eyebrows to determine where each one should start.

MAKE THE CUT. Removing bulk from your brows doesn't always mean pruning them. Nine times out of ten, a trim is all you need. Comb your brows straight up with a spoolie brush, then trim only the longest hairs, staggering the length as you go. "Cut one hair a little longer and one a little shorter, so your eyebrows don't get a crew cut," says Streicher. Follow up with a brow gel to keep hairs in place.

END WELL. "It's a sin to shorten beautiful, long eyebrows," says New York City brow groomer Joey Healy. Unless the tails of your eyebrows dip too far below where the heads begin (which can result in a dragging effect), leave the length alone. Make sure to taper the ends to a clean point for a sharp finish.

Comma Brows

If you raise your eyebrows while tweezing, you're likely removing too much from the arches and ends. The result? Comma brows.

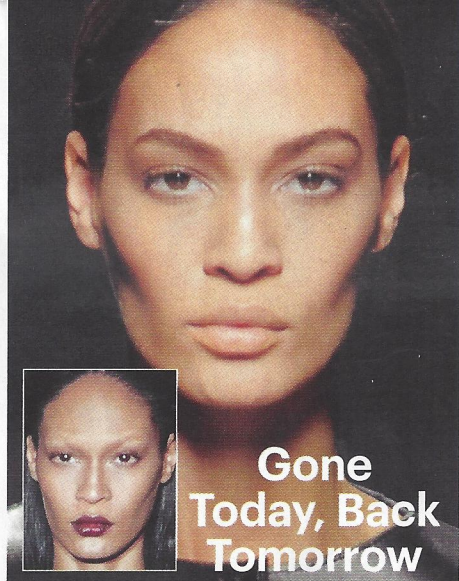
ACHIEVE BALANCE. "Taking weight from the front will actually make the ends appear thicker," says brow expert Eliza Petrescu of Eliza's Eyes salon in New York City. "Your brows will be instantly more natural looking." Lightly fill in with a brow pencil, concentrating color on the sparser tails.

Angry Brows

Brows that look like an upside down V (think Michelle Obama in 2008) can make you seem angry, says Gafni.

AVOID THE POINT. For a friendlier effect, remove a few hairs from the top of the arch. "Forget the old rule that says you should never tweeze above the brow," says Tonya Crooks, owner of Mirror Mirror Beauty Studio in Los Angeles. "If a few hairs are interfering with an ideal shape, they need to go, period."

FOCUS ON THE FRONT. Using a spoolie brush, comb up the inner half of your brows and trim any hairs that extend far past the top. (Those hairs in front can get really long.)



Brows at the Gucci and Versace shows were bleached into oblivion. Hours later, they reappeared on other runways as bold as ever. Here's how.

Mascara: Makeup artist Tom Pecheux uses mascara to tint brows and seal them in place.

Eye Shadow: Makeup artist Lucia Pieroni dips into a powder palette of black, brown, gray, and taupe. "I go slightly darker, but apply lightly so it doesn't look drawn on," she says. Makeup artist Dick Page prefers creams: "They have a pretty pearly finish," he says. He runs a spoolie brush over the shadow, combs it through brows, and fills in holes with a tiny brush.

Beard and Moustache Dye: We spotted bottles of Just For Men backstage at Chloé and Missoni—apply with a cotton swab and leave on for ten minutes max. —SOPHIA PANYCH

Arch Support

When was the last time you saw conspicuously penciled-on brows and thought, That looks great? These clever products and tools will help you get the job done a little more discreetly.



Rubis Switzerland Slanted Tip tweezers. Pointy ones are hard to use, and straight ones aren't good for shaping—they grab too many hairs at once.



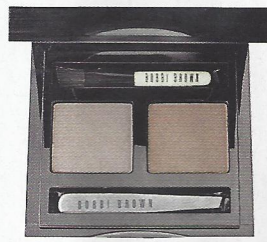
Laura Mercier Brow Definer. If your hair is fine, a gel-cream like this adds thickness.



L'Oréal Paris Stylist. Low-oil pencils like these won't settle into pores or smear.



Ramy When Hairy Met Sealy. A tinted brow gel temporarily covers grays.



Bobbi Brown Brow Kit in Dark. When in doubt, choose taupe, which creates a natural-looking shadow for most blonde and brunette brows.



K. Streicher Beauty Aforé oil. Conditioning oils (this one contains ylang-ylang and argan oils) soften hair and make tweezing less painful. Apply it at night, since it can smudge makeup.

Grooming Lessons

The Fast Track

If you weren't born with lush brows (or were but tweezed them into nothingness), you can fake it with these professional services.

Brow extensions.

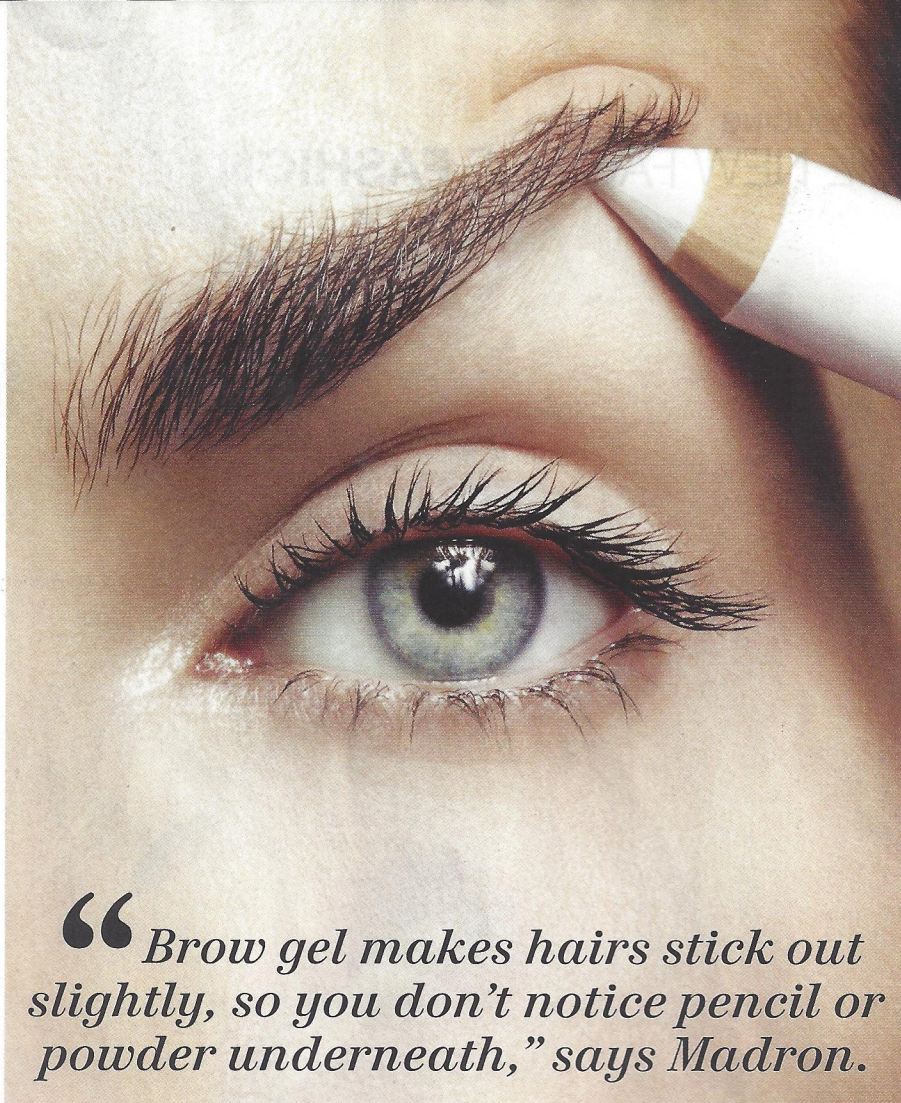
Just like lash extensions but for your brows: Individual hairs are glued on for thickness. One session can cost more than \$300 and only lasts for up to two weeks, so it doesn't make a lot of sense for everyday life (or budgets). For the best results, "bring pictures of brows you admire to your appointment, or better yet, a teenage photo of yourself with full, virgin brows," says Maribeth Madron, an eyebrow expert in New York City.

Brow boot camp.

Think of this as a personal trainer for your eyebrows. Blink London will keep you on a brow rehabilitation program. Their UK-based shop also offers the threading service inside Henri Bendel's New York City flagship.

Brow growers.

Latisse is only FDA-approved for use on the eyelashes, but many dermatologists say it can speed the growth of thin brows. "Some of my patients have had incredible results from using Latisse on their eyebrows," says Francesca Fusco, a dermatologist in New York City. Just note that it's an off-label use, so no one's really sure of the potential for side effects, though Madron has seen it discolor the skin around some of her clients' brows and make their hairs unruly. Doctors say you should stop immediately if you have any redness or irritation.



"Brow gel makes hairs stick out slightly, so you don't notice pencil or powder underneath," says Madron.

Brow enhancers.

Over-the-counter formulas, like Anastasia Beverly Hills Brow Enhancing Serum Advanced, usually contain peptides. "I've had clients who had tweezed away their brows years ago and then got great growth from these," says Madron, who likes RevitaBrow. Even more promising is the off-label use of minoxidil, the chemical in Rogaine that treats hair loss.

Put it on a cotton swab, squeeze off the excess, and wipe it over each brow. Even if you only apply it to your brows, "there's the possibility that it could make hair grow elsewhere on your face, like above your upper lip," says Fusco. If your brows have bald patches, or hair loss is accompanied by flaky, dry, or red skin, see your dermatologist for treatments including topical and injectable steroids.

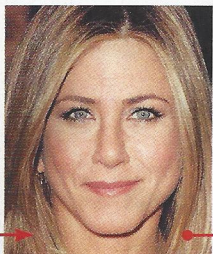
The Brow Factor

Hollywood celebrities come in pretty much just one shape and size. Their eyebrows, however, show a little more variation. Where do your arches fall on the spectrum?

On the Slim Side



LOW ARCH
Malin Akerman

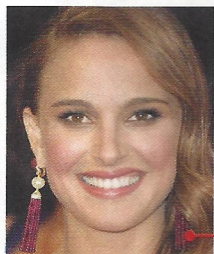


NATURAL ARCH
Jennifer Aniston

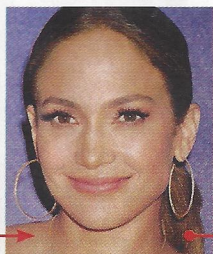


HIGH ARCH
Olivia Wilde

Fuller-Figured



LOW ARCH
Natalie Portman



NATURAL ARCH
Jennifer Lopez



HIGH ARCH
Megan Fox

allure.com: Allure reviews the best brow groomers nationwide at allure.com/salon-spa-reviews.