



THE RISE OF 'SKINSCREENS'

SMART SPF

Daily sunscreen is the best anti-ageing trick we have up our sleeves, says dermatologist Dr. Emma Wedgeworth, as "95 per cent of the sun's rays are made up of UVA, which penetrate deep into the skin's layers and, over time, can cause skin cancer and signs of ageing, such as wrinkles." But what if your sunscreen went beyond sunburn prevention and UV protection? What if it actually corrected some of your main skin concerns? That's the appeal of a new raft of smart SPFs, dubbed 'skinscreens'.

These hybrids of skincare and sun care tackle pigmentation, actively stave off wrinkles and shield against the inflammatory effects of pollution, all without muting skin's glow. Take Shiseido's Clear Sunscreen Stick SPF50+, which contains over 50 per cent skincare ingredients. Or Ultra Violette Queen Screen Luminising Sun Serum SPF50+, which boasts skin-brightening vitamin C and the type of pearlescent formula that Instagram eats up. As for dark spots, La Roche-Posay Age Correct SPF50+, contains PhE-resorcinol, a depigmenting ingredient for improved tone.

Meanwhile, city skin that's exposed to a toxic combination of UV rays and pollution is in safe hands with YSL Pure Shots Airthin UV Defender SPF50+, which contains niacinamide to strengthen the skin barrier, helping to keep moisture in and traffic fumes out. Also packing a punch against pollution is Clarins UV Plus 50 (SPF) Anti-Pollution Multi-Protection SPF50 Moisturizing Screen. Formulated with mango leaf extract, which produces antioxidants to shield against environmental damage, it helps to 'switch on' the same defence systems in the skin – in particular, it activates a protein, which produces antioxidants in skin cells. And Dr. Dennis Gross All-Physical Lightweight Wrinkle Defense Broad Spectrum Sunscreen SPF30 additionally contains ferulic acid, a wonder ingredient for protecting collagen to keep skin plump and springy.

Pro Tip: "If you're out in the sun but still want to wear base, keep it light like a BB cream," says Emma. "Every 2-3 hours, use micellar water to cleanse your face, smooth on a teaspoon amount of sunscreen and reapply make-up over the top."

AFTER-SUN SOOTHERS

It's important to replenish your skin's fluids, both internally and topically, after a day in the sun. So besides drinking plenty of water, apply Nuxe Refreshing After-Sun Lotion to damp skin after a shower. To give your face an extra boost of hydration, Niema Beauty's Organic Moroccan Argan Oil is rich in good-for-you fats that replenish skin's delicate barrier.



The BEAUTY

BRONZE AGE

FAUX THE GLOW

Barely-there bronzers that serve up a cloud of warm colour from your cheekbones are having their moment in the sun right now. One highly anticipated launch is the Victoria Beckham Beauty Matte Bronzing Brick. Housing two shades – one lighter shade to add highlights to the higher planes of the face and a darker shade to add warmth and contour – the formula is uncompromisingly matte and meshes effortlessly to the skin. The other is a shade extension to the cult Chanel Les Beiges Healthy Glow Bronzing Cream. The new cream-to-powder Tan Deep Bronze lends darker skin tones a sun-kissed glow in seconds.

Mineral pigments are also having a moment, albeit with a more sophisticated, modern edge. While the idea of natural make-up was always alluring, the reality of its chalky texture wasn't. That issue has been resolved with the inclusion of a few drops of Moroccan Argan Oil in Guerlain's 96 per cent naturally derived Terracotta Bronzer. Hydrating wild pansy flower can be found in Dior Forever Natural Bronze, where the pigments are 95 per cent mineral and the quilted compact 100 per cent chic.

BOTTLED BRONZE

If you're more committed to a faux glow, use self-tans specifically for the face as they are formulated to be lighter in tone. "The face has a tendency to go a little darker, as the skin's pH is higher," says James Reed, tanning expert to Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. His other tip, incidentally, is to sweep an ice cube over cheeks, forehead and nose prior to application to close the pores so they don't get clogged up with self-tan.

For a customised colour, mix 2-3 drops of Clarins Radiance-Plus Golden Glow Booster for Face into moisturiser for a tan that you can dial up or down in intensity. Or try the Tan-Luxe Super Glow Night Repair, where a face oil is supercharged with tanning drops rich in peptides to improve the look of wrinkles.