

## The Blushing Bride: Beauty Do's and Don'ts

No sooner than the ring is placed on the finger does the bride's mind hit overdrive. She begins scrolling through endless images on Pinterest and Instagram, filling her camera roll with screenshots of dress, hair, floral and place setting inspiration. Perhaps, though, one of the most important areas of the wedding preparations will be your bridal makeup. Not many brides want to take on the task of glamming themselves on the Big Day, when their thoughts are consumed with vows, guest lists and more.

In my ten years of beauty industry experience, I have seen the good, the bad and the ugly of wedding day makeup experiences. To ensure that your day is as magical and as stress-free as you've hoped for, I've compiled a list of Do's and Don'ts that I've shared with my bridal clientele throughout the years.

- Do
- Set aside time to have a bridal trial 3-4 months before your wedding date. Be prepared with magazine tears or photos of colors/styles that pique your interest, but be open to custom suggestions from your makeup artist! 3-4 months gives you time to test foundation formulas and colors for durability and wear ability. You want to be sure you LOVE the look and may want to experiment with different variations of the makeup look you've chosen.
- Don't
- Do not experiment with facial or body treatments right before the big day. During the makeup trial, one of my bridal clients inquired about getting a facial and waxing done for the first time ever, the night before her wedding. I advised against it. She showed up on her wedding day with an allergic reaction from products used during the facial, as well as burns from the wax.
- Do
- Snap a few selfies to see if you like how the makeup translates on camera. Takes notes and call/email your makeup artist with any concerns or observations, so that there can be adjustments made before your wedding day.
- Don't
- Hold your tongue! Don't be afraid to speak up if you don't like what your makeup artist has done. It is your day. Remember, memories AND photos lasts FOREVER!
- Do
- Have fun exploring a complimentary color selection! Many brides want to coordinate their makeup and wedding colors. Lilac in the wedding does not mean you have to be on the search for the uber perfect lilac shadow and gloss! Try a champagne colored shadow, winged liner and a coral lip. You'll shine even brighter with the pop of coral against a lilac backdrop! Talk to your makeup artist about which color options best compliment your wedding colors!
- Don't
- Let friends and family talk you into picking colors that aren't YOU! If you don't like red lips or everyone's favorite, the smoky eye, it's OKAY! The beauty of makeup artistry is in its versatility and variety! Working together with your artist will allow you to still feel beautiful and glam, but still feel like yourself.
- Do
- Reserve a special room for yourself, where you can relax in a peaceful environment and actually enjoy your moment of glam and pampering. I was the makeup artist for my best friend's wedding. As a little backstory, my BFF is the ultimate superwoman. She works in the beauty industry as well, along with being a super involved mom! I was amazed at how she buzzed about the room helping her bridesmaids primp their hair, get her daughters dressed and check (then double check) on all reception details. I began to notice her getting a bit stressed and thought she needed a moment to just "be." With her permission, I asked everyone to leave the room, except for the photographers, so that she could take a moment to simply enjoy being the bride.

With the proper planning and communication, the bridal makeup experience should be less intimidating and more fun. Who doesn't like to feel extra glamorous and beautiful? Your wedding day is the experience of a lifetime and your bridal makeup is the icing on the wedding cake, so indulge and enjoy it!