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How To Use Eye Shadow Like The Stars

By Marcia Cox

Most people feel they have some basic flaws with their appearance, and the truth is that the stars

are no exception. Beauties like Angelina Jolie and Beyonce Knowles make no secret of their use of various make-up styles to enhance their appearance, and both of these ladies make splendid use of eye shadow. Eye shadow is designed to attract attention to a person's eyes (yes, male movie stars use it too!) and at the same time enhances the appearance of the eyes by detracting attention from or covering up minor flaws. Here are some tips on how to apply eye shadow in order that it fixes some of the flaws you may believe are there.

To maximize the effect of your eye shadow, you will want to make sure that people are aware that you have it on. Some beauty experts suggest "priming" your eyes before applying the shadow. The eye lids are a lighter shade than the skin on the rest of the face, due mainly to their lessened exposure to light over the course of a lifetime. A layer of bone shadow over your lids will even up the coloring with the rest of the face, and any color you apply on top of that will tend to stand out.

Next, experiment with several shades before you decide on the right one for you. A bronze colored eye shadow works for most eyes, and other shades will depend on the color of your own eyes. Blue eyes, for example, will be best complemented with a deeper shade of blue (this will make your own eye color pop out and look extra blue), taupe, violet, or gray. Lighter shades and contrasts work great for brown eyes, while green eyes are bedazzling with the similar shades that are slightly deeper.

Don't be afraid to try a funky look with your eye shadow. Silvery, sparkly colors can look great and will have an undeniably exotic appeal. Try to match your scheme with your eye color or outfit, and make sure you get some good feedback before trying it out in public!

Finally, there are several techniques that can be used in order to correct the minor flaws you may see in the appearance of your eyes. If you think your eyes are too far apart, you can make them appear closer together by emphasizing the inner corner of your eye. Put more shadow on this area and blend it outwards towards the rest of the eye. Eyes that are too close together can gain the impression of distance by darkening the outer edges of your eye and keeping the inner corners light. Again, make sure to blend the colors so that the emphasis is not apparent. If you want your eyes to look bigger, use

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a lighter color of eye shadow.

Eye shadow is a great way to change your appearance with a multi-use product that does not cost too much and whose application can be mastered by most individuals. Keep your eyes noticeable, and you will be noticed!

Marcia Cox is a former makeup artist who maintains a website at:

<http://hotbeautyproducts.com>

Shadow Fun

By Deborah Shelton

Are you looking for fun projects to do, but are short on supplies? The answer is simple: Shadows!

Shadow Tag

Turn an ordinary walk to the mailbox into a lively game of shadow tag. It's played much the same way as regular tag, except that instead of tagging a person, you tag the person's shadow.

Silhouettes

Use the combination of light and shadow to create frameable works of art. Use tacks or tape to hang a sheet of white construction paper or poster board to the wall. Sit or stand next to the paper so that the shadow of your profile shows up when a light (flashlights work well) is shined on you. While you sit very still, have someone trace the outline of your shadow on the paper with a pencil. Once the tracing is complete, cut the silhouette out with a pair of scissors and mount it on a sheet of black paper. Make several silhouettes of your family members and display them together.

Shadow Puppets

Who doesn't love shadow puppets? This is the perfect almost-no-materials-required activity for guaranteed fun. Simply direct light onto a wall (again, flashlights work great) and make shadows with your hands. Try some easy favorites such as a barking dog and a turkey with a droopy, dangly neck. Then invent shadow puppets you've never seen before just by moving and bending your fingers and hands in different positions.

Shadow Town

Imagination is a wonderful thing—especially when there is lots of sunshine around! Make your own shadow town by arranging small boxes, cans, and other small items into a straight line in direct sunlight. Try doing this activity on a concrete driveway or on a large piece of paper or cardboard. Once the objects are lined up and casting a shadow, trace the outline of the shadow with sidewalk chalk to form your city's "skyline." When the skyline is finished, invite your friends to bring their toy cars over to

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play in your shadow town.

Deborah Shelton is a mother, freelance writer, and author of the brand new book, "The Five Minute Parent: Fun & Fast Activities for You and Your Little Ones." Visit Deborah's website for more family-friendly ideas:

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