

How to combine styling products to get the look you want

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By Melissa Eaton

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Avoid the confusion and get rid of the clutter. Haven't we all bought styling products thinking they will help us create magic with our hair and ended up greatly disappointed? Here are a few "recipes" that will help you achieve the look you are after.

You've got: Thin, fine hair

You want: Thick, full hair

Styling recipe: While your hair is still damp, mix volumizing mousse in your hands, flip your head upside down, and rub throughout your hair beginning with the roots, coming out to the ends. To evenly distribute the mousse, comb your hair with a wide-tooth comb.

You've got: Straight to wavy hair

You want: Curly Hair

Styling recipe: While slightly damp, set your hair into small sections using small, curlers. The smaller the sections, the more volume. Once your hair is dry, use hairspray on each curl and at the roots for added lift.

You've got: Dry, damaged hair

You want: Rich, healthy hair

Styling recipe: After shampooing hair with a moisturizing shampoo, use a deep conditioner for added moisture. Keep on hair for three to five minutes before rinsing. Apply a spray sheen evenly on dry hair, staying away from the roots (in order to avoid buildup on the scalp). Severely dry hair responds better to a gel sheen.

You've got: Curly hair

You want: Straight hair

Styling recipe: When hair is damp, mix a straightening balm in your hands and apply up the hair shaft until almost to the roots (again, steer clear of those roots!) Comb through to evenly distribute, then blow dry hair using a large, round brush. Flat iron for a super straight finish.

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You've got: Kinky, curly hair

You want: Defined curls

Styling recipe: For added definition and hold, mix a leave-in conditioner or a pomade with a styling gel in the palm of your hand. Finger through damp hair section by section, avoiding the roots.

No matter what style you create, steer clear from using hair dryers that are too hot because these will fry hair and damage hair's natural texture. Check the number of watts before using a hair dryer and make sure it's not above 1,600 watts.

Melissa is a professional cosmetologist who is constantly updating her education. For daily updates

including tips, secrets and other information, please visit her blog at <http://bizewomanbeautytips.blogspot.com/> Beauty doesn't have to cost a fortune!

Choosing The Right Hair Dryer

By Jenny Andrews B

We all know that thermal styling can cause damage to your delicate tresses and that by choosing the right styling tools you can reduce that damage considerably. But how do you know which tools are the right ones? I mean, the packaging on most thermal styling tools announces that the dryer or curling iron contained inside is your best option. With all of the manufacturer's touting their products as the best on the market, just how are you supposed to choose your tools wisely?

When it comes to hair dryers, there aren't very many options at the department store but you will find a wide variety of prices there. While many dryers will look different in style and design, most conventional dryers are fundamentally the same no matter how much you pay for them.

If you want to save on hair damage by purchasing a hair dryer at a department store, you should pay attention to how hot the dryer gets since heat causes the most damage. Also, look for a dryer that has heat control settings and a "cool shot" button. If you have naturally curly hair, try to choose a dryer that comes with a diffuser to eliminate frizz. The rest of the frills you can do without.

Aside from the conventional blow dryer found in most department stores, beauty supply stores have started to carry state-of-the-art blow dryers and thermal styling tools that utilize ceramic and negative ionic energy to style hair and keep it healthy. A blow dryer that uses this type of energy dries your hair in half the time using less heat. The construction of the ionic blow dryer also utilizes ceramic heating elements instead of traditional metal ones to infuse moisture and health deep into the hair strand while at the same time drying it.

While the ionic hair dryers are the best for your hair, they come with a hefty price tag: most models cost around \$100. When compared with the fact that you can purchase a conventional hair dryer for about \$10, the cost may not seem worth it for many people. But for those who dry their hair daily and want to keep their hair shiny and healthy, no cost is too high.

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The bottom line to choosing the right hair dryer is this: Choose the least damaging hair dryer that you possibly can while staying within your budget. If you can afford more, it is best spent at the beauty supply than at the department store where you will spend more for looks rather than quality.

Jenny is a hair expert, and the author of an incredible free minicourse, that explains how to find your unique style, how long or short you should have your hair, how to find the right hair color for you, how to find the right salon, and a lot more. Go to

now and get this amazing

hair minicourse - absolutely free



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