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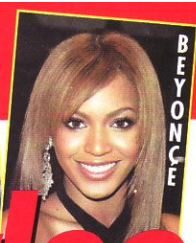


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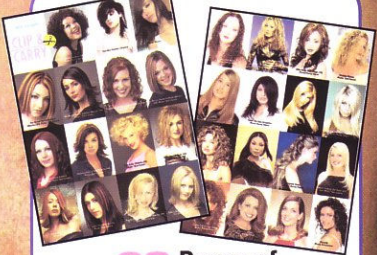


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Style FILE

The best accessories and must-haves for gorgeous hair and skin!



To get beautiful sleek, straight hair, warm two parts Trendline Straightener to one part Trendline Shine Wax in the palm of your hands. Apply evenly to towel-dried hair. Blow-dry until hair is barely damp. Use a large round brush with long, natural bristles and blow-dry down on the hair strands. Maintain the tension in the strands to get the desired smoothness. You can also finish by flat ironing, section by section, for the ultimate look.

GLAMOUR FOR THE GAL-ON-THE-GO



Just like the Hollywood glamour gals strutting down the red carpets, you want a different look for each of your special occasions. Luckily, two of Goldwell's most popular styling products—Trendline Straightener and Trendline Shine Wax—can help you get the star style you crave.

Trendline Straightener is an alcohol-free gel straightener that provides structure and control with silky shine. It also helps control unruly, curly and thick hair into defined waves or ringlets. Trendline Shine Wax is a moldable wax that offers control and brilliant shine. It smoothes all hair textures and seals dry ends for silky finishes. To purchase, log onto www.goldwellusa.com or call 1-888-881-0330.

WIN!
WE HAVE
10 TO
GIVEAWAY, SEE
PAGE 4 FOR
DETAILS.

Phyto's Passport to Beauty

HairBoutique.com has generously donated 10 Phyto travel bags (\$15) to giveaway to 101 readers. Inside you'll find: Phytodefisant (relaxing balm formulated with ferula and sage that

provides the ultimate anti-frizz protection), Phytojoba (shampoo saves dry hair from its brittle state), Phytocitrus (shampoo uses grapefruit and almond to maintain the radiance and health of colored hair), Phytorhum (shampoo formulated with egg yolk and rum helps to strengthen and stimulate lifeless hair), Phyto 7 (daily hydrating cream containing a combination of seven plants to hydrate dry hair).



To define curls, work Trendline Straightener into towel-dried hair to emphasize your curls. Let hair dry naturally. Once it's dry, warm Trendline Shine Wax in your hands. Take one curl at a time and twist and twist it around your finger. Just like a sculptor working with clay, mold your design. Or, for soft, sexy, moveable waves, you can mix equal parts of both products, apply to towel-dried

hair and let your hair dry naturally or blow-dry with a diffuser.



Dress Your Tresses

Add some elegance to your updos with Mei Fa Hairstyx created by Shaune Bazner. This Asian inspired hair accessory was created using delicately shaped lacquered wooden styx and beads made from semi-precious stones, glass and crystal from around the world. Create classic or off-beat styles for every occasion with ease following the instructional booklet sold with each set of Styx. For more information or to purchase, log onto www.meifastudio.com.

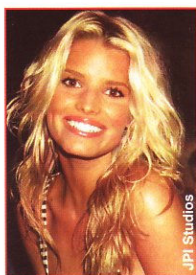
Hold Your Style With Phyto

A passion for both hair and plants motivated then-hairdresser Patrick Ales to create the first PHYTO products in 1970. Since then, the PHYTO labs have grown his vision of developing quality haircare products into a wide array of targeted solutions for all hair types and conditions.

WIN! WE HAVE SIX PHYTOLAQUES TO GIVEAWAY! TO ENTER, SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS.

PHYTOLAQUE Medium Hold Hairspray

Phytolaque is a medium hold botanical non-aerosol spray for all hair types. Botanical ingredients including Indian Wood Oil lets you style your hair without any oiliness, stickiness or added weight, and olive oil helps to protect hair from dehydration or dryness. Spray in a sweeping motion onto hair from a distance of approximately six to eight inches. Phytolaque (\$18.00) is a purse-friendly blue bottle available online at HairBoutique.com, or at spas and salons nationwide.



PHYTOLAQUE Soft Hold Hairspray

Phytolaque Soie is similar to the Phytolaque except that it was specifically designed to provide a soft hold botanical non-aerosol spray for fine, sensitized hair. It is also ideal for chemically processed hair. Unlike the regular Phytolaque formula, the Phytolaque Soie contains special silk amino acids which protect and nourish strands down into the capillary fiber, giving hair the softness and shine of real silk.

Celebrity Stylist Ken Paves uses Phytolaque Soie on Jessica Simpson's fine strands on a regular basis and reports that he gets "great soft hold with amazing shine." Spray in a sweeping motion onto hair from a distance of approximately six to eight inches. Phytolaque Soie (\$18.00) is a purse-friendly red bottle available online at HairBoutique.com, or at spas and salons nationwide.

GOT A SKIN EMERGENCY?

Life is full of little surprises. And most often then not, they are manifested on the skin, usually at the most inopportune time. So what is the secret of remaining gorgeously radiant for every occasion at any time? Dr. Brandt.

Here the skin expert shows how to combat the common skin concerns in your time frame—be it one day, one week or one month—all conveniently in the privacy of your home.

One Day

- To achieve a toned complexion, steam your face in a hot shower or bath until it is very flushed and then apply a towel dipped in ice-cold water. This treatment works to open your pores with the steam to purge any impurities and then close them right away with the cold compress, keeping the steam-induced hydration underneath the dermal layer. This improves the texture of the skin and leaves the face with a rosy, healthy glow.

- For a nourishing and age-defying at-home mask, combine egg whites from two eggs with one half avocado puree. This mixture will provide dramatic lifting for tightening qualities of the egg whites, as well as a rich emollient moisturizer from the vitamin E-rich avocado. The combination of the two gives a perfect balance to the skin leaving it soft, smooth and lifted.

One Week

According to Dr. Brandt "The clock is ticking, but don't despair. There's plenty that you can do in just one week to fix your face."

- For an easy at-home peel that will thoroughly clear the pores, chop p a few grapes and mix in with one package of oatmeal. The combination works to clear and tighten pores and give skin an over-all even look.

- For a quick calming treatment of irritated skin, apply warm milk compresses every other day. The milk's lactic acid will work to calm the skin and add radiance to the complexion in just one week's time.

One Month

Not only will you be able to target existing problems, but you can also plant "skin benefiting seeds" that will continue to improve your complexion for months to come. "A combination of salicylic and glycolic acid creams three times a week, a mask and a scrub, as well as drinking a lot of water, off your a great head start," explains Dr. Brandt.



For radiant skin, try Dr. Brandt's Liquid Loofah (\$55.00); www.drbrandtskincare.com.

Copycat Cutters

Foiling those who covet your style!

By Karen M. Shelton
HairBoutique.com

Recently my email inbox was bombarded with spam messages about protecting myself from identity theft. Hmm... Granted, the scary electronic spam was focused on credit card identity theft, which is a very scary and real danger. However, all that mention of ID thievery got me thinking about another less commonly discussed phenomenon—the hair identity thief.

Huh? Is there such a thing? Absolutely! Lurking in your very midst is a co-worker, acquaintance or random stranger that may some day lust after and then blatantly copy that unique way you customized your saucy shag or captured the absolutely perfect combination of highlights and lowlights for your captivating crop.

Before you report me to your local funny farm, think about it. It has probably happened to you more than once. Maybe you are not consciously aware of it, but nevertheless, you have probably been victimized. Think about the time that went to a lot of trouble to create a hot new look that was a step above the massive sea of bobs and crops only to be instantly copied. So how did it feel? Now you know what I mean.

The first time I became aware of a Tress Taker was in high school. I was obsessed with a cuddly Irish lad who came with the total package of twinkling eyes, the appropriate sprinkling of freckles and the large jovial Irish Catholic family.

I was shaken to the core of my carefully straightened platinum blonde roots when I discovered that the object of my affections only went for ringlet endowed redheads. Not one to let a little barrier like hair color or texture stand in my way, I doctored my hair in the downstairs sink. My hair turned an unusual shade of carrot with random strips of blonde. After I added the required ringlets I looked like a hippie version of Broadway's Annie. Kinda bizarre but definitely unique.

My carrot topped 'do caused shocked stares followed by giggles and ultimately resulted in a ton of new attention from everyone I encountered. Suddenly a lot of guys were hot for me and my new orange crush curls. My Irish hottie was immediately forgotten as I basked in



Elon Salon; Stylist: Jerry Hester;
Makeup: Ron Guarino for Face
Sculpting; Photo: Tom Carson

the glow of my accidental identity shift. But after only one week in the spotlight, I was surprised to discover a classmate arriving at school with a similar shade of hair color as mine. Soon I was surrounded by copycats and my days in an orange glow faded along with my accidental hues.

I later attracted blatant hairstyle copycats when I was the first to stroll into a major party with my first set of Farrah-like wings. Later as my hair painstakingly grew towards my waist I noticed some of my friends suddenly sporting long extensions.

Don't get me wrong. I am not a major hair trendsetter. I have never danced down a catwalk, posed for a major men's magazine or danced nearly naked at a local hotspot. My periods of hair morphing were triggered by boredom and curiosity mixed with flights of fancy and a good hairstylist.

So how do you foil would be hair thieves? Consider the following style robber busting techniques:

1. Always unveil your latest hairstyle creation in a large crowd of friends and acquaintances so that it's publicly recorded that you were the first to sport the sizzling new style. When the first hairstyle thief lifts your look, it will be said that they are copying your style rather than vice versa.
2. Never give out the name of your hair colorist, hair extension expert or hair designer to anyone unless they are completely unaffordable or uber famous. If you must rave about their magnificence, whisper it only to your therapist, priest, minister or rabbi since they are all sworn to secrecy.
3. When asked how to recreate your fabulous look, do what the great chefs do and absentmindedly forget some of the steps. Even better talk fast and mumble a lot.
4. Cheat with wigs and hair extensions to keep everyone guessing. Many celebrities are pros at completely changing their hairstyles in an instant with a range of wigs and pin-on strands.
5. Constantly alter your new look with a dizzying range of haute couture hair accessories to keep everyone guessing. Throwing the hairstyle pirates off balance shows them down, at least temporarily.
6. Hang out at the library and browse old fashion mags from the turn of the century to get new hairstyle inspirations. Remember that what goes around in hair and fashion comes around, over and over. Why not be the first to bring a hot look from the past back?
7. Once the hair pirates lock onto your fabulous new style, change it. That will always put you a curling iron above the crowd.
8. Brag about the celebrity copycats. When your hot style appears on the head of Oprah, Britney or J.Lo, tell all your friends to check out "your" style on the hot celeb. That will get them to thinking that maybe you share your stylist with the rich and famous.
9. Have fun and let your creativity ooze out of every follicle. If you have decided to be a strand style setter, enjoy the challenges, the hard work and the ultimate compliments and admiration for a style well designed.
10. Take lots of photos. Someday, like me, you will want to look back at your glory days of hairstyle pioneering and a picture is worth a thousand words.

Whatever you do, when dealing with hairstyle copycats, always remember to smile sweetly and throw lots of air kisses. Enjoy the spotlight and keep in mind that it constantly moves its focus. And most importantly, don't lose your sense of humor or forget that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.



Elon Salon; Stylist: Flonnie Westbrook; Makeup: Ron Guarino for Face Sculpting; Photo: Tom Carson

Strand Solutions

By Karen M. Shelton
www.hairboutique.com

Ask the Hair Doctor



Maxim's Salon

I just turned 40 and am feeling like age is catching up with me. A lot of my friends are playing with plastic surgery procedures to lose a few years but I don't have the cash to invest in Botox or similar youth serums. I am bored with my bleached platinum blonde big hair look and am willing to consider anything to lose a few years. Can I start with my hair? Any ideas?
—Ana, Montana

Since your tresses are your crowning glory, starting with them to erase a few years is a great idea. And yes, you can make some age defying tress changes without

turning to Botox or taking a major checkbook hit.

Look younger instantly with a brand new face framing style that is shiny and easy to maintain. Longer chunky layers are currently very popular with celebrities like Carmen Electra and Nancy O'Dell. Not only do layers minimize lines and creases, when cut correctly, they can direct attention toward your best features like gorgeous eyes, chiseled cheekbones or luscious lips. Ask your stylist to design your layers so they fall against your face to show off your best assets.

Going to a darker shade of blonde will also soften and erase some years. Ask your stylist or colorist to advise you of a shade that will instantly

brighten your complexion and skin tone. If you miss the light blonde hue, have a few lighter strands strategically woven around your hairline to add extra oomph to your eyes.

While you're dumping some years with your new hairstyle and color, consider having a complete makeover addressing ways to enhance your lips, open up your eyes and play up your skin tone. The combination of a hot new hair hue, style and make-up will turn back the hands of time.

My sister-in-law just graduated from cosmetology school and has dreams of becoming a famous colorist. While she works her way towards that goal she has been bugging everyone in the family to color their hair. Recently she convinced me that I should go with a more copper colored blonde tone. I have a pinkish complexion with a hint of blue undertones and light blue/gray eyes. In the past my hair was colored a light strawberry blonde by my favorite colorist. She wove some beautiful blonde and red tones around my face and it really made my eyes pop.

Now I look all yellow and sallow. I hate my new copper blonde. My sister-in-law however just loves it and trots me out every chance she gets to show off her copper blonde colors.

I have several questions. Do you think that with my eyes and skin tone that copper is a good tone for me and maybe I am just being too picky? I want to go back to my colorist and ask her to put me back to my original color, or to help me

find a better color combo. However, I am worried she might be offended that I ruined her last color work, which was really beautiful. What would you recommend?
—Carolyn, Oklahoma

While it was very sweet and generous of you to be a color guinea pig for your sister-in-law, it's time for you to reclaim your own dreams and go with the colors you love. Tell your sister-in-law that you totally support her career aspirations but that you want to go back to your original hue. A light strawberry blonde is definitely a good hue combo for someone with your color eyes and skin tone.

Call your colorist and explain that you were trying to help your family by sacrificing her recent work for the good of experimentation. If she is a great colorist, she will understand and will not be upset. After all, she probably changed her family member's hues in her own career path. If she is offended or upset, find a different colorist that understands that life happens.

In the meantime, don't let your sister-in-law change your copper hues to strawberry blonde. Put your foot down and insist on getting your hair colored by your own expert. After all, you already did your good color deed of the year for her. Encourage her to experiment on someone else in the family. Better yet, buy her some wigs



Stan Milton Salon (Atlanta, GA);
Global Hair & Fashion Group

that can be dyed and present them as your gift to her.

Here's a crazy hair related question for you. My feng shui instructor noticed that I love to wear headbands. He told me that I should use feng shui colors to get an extra kick from my hair accessories. Does that make sense? If so, what colors might he be talking about?
—Georgia, Texas

What a great idea! Feng shui experts, depending on their school of thought, generally believe the color blue is a relaxation color that helps ease breathing and encourages a good flow of oxygen.

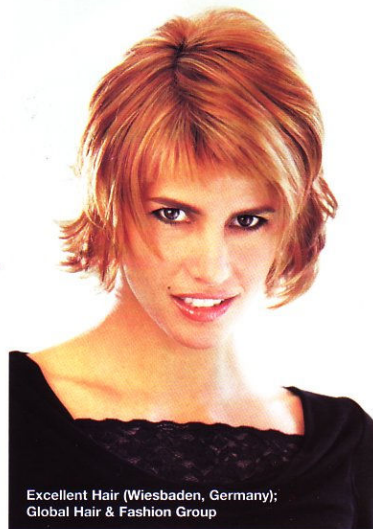
The colors of nature are considered to promote harmony and healing. Green brings a sense of renewal.

Why not ask your Feng shui instructor for a reference to some books that list the best colors for your own energy. Then mix and match your beloved headbands according to the colors that you feel would benefit you the most on any given day.

My hair color expert has refused to color my hair a light red, which is my dream color. I have always wanted to be a redhead. She insists that with my coloring and eyes that I have more yellow undertones and require a warmer color. She insists that I stay with a light or light golden brunette tone. Yuck—I want to be red! Should I dump her and try with someone else or is she right?
—Donna, Kansas

Theoretically your colorist is correct that someone with yellow undertones and a warm coloring should stick to darker colors for their strands. Light red or strawberry blonde tones would potentially clash with the yellow tones giving you an overly reddish glow.

However, there is a good compromise. Why not ask your



Excellent Hair (Wiesbaden, Germany);
Global Hair & Fashion Group

colorist to create the very best golden brown tone for the majority of your hair while strategically applying multiple shades of reddish blonde as highlights or chunks.

To avoid the problem of reddish hues clashing with your skin tone, have the colorist layer the darker brunette shades around your hairline with the redder shades being layered further back on your crown away from your skin. You can have your desired red tones without negatively impacting your skin tone.

Make an appointment with your colorist to discuss this potential option or one that she might suggest. Keep an open mind. However, if your colorist outright refuses to discuss options then yes, you might want to look for someone who is more willing to consider your hair color goals.

Karen M. Shelton
is President/CEO of the
popular award-winning
www.hairboutique.com

Have a question for the hair
doctor? Email Karen at
shelton@hairboutique.com or
Cheryl at cheryl@celebinsider.com.

Or send your question to:
Hair Doctor, 101 HairStyles,
1359 Broadway, Suite 1203,
NY, NY 10018

Professional Haircolor On A Budget & How To Make It Last

By Karen M. Shelton
www.hairboutique.com

Many of us dream of visiting one of the current hair color magicians known for transforming mousy hues into spectacular works of shimmering beauty, however many of us lack the funds for both the initial color and the long term upkeep. Although you may be able to scrape together the medium to big bucks to get foiled by the best colorists around, you will be wasting your money if you can't afford regular upkeep. So does this mean that you can't go to the master colorist for a hue transformation? Not at all. What you should do is make sure your colorist understands your budgetary limitations and requirements.

Professionally applied color can have a spectacular impact on your hair. While it doesn't come cheap, it is often a wiser financial investment than home hair color that may ultimately cause more damage than the cost savings are worth. It is also important to note that hair correction services that must be performed by a color professional can wipe out any potential savings you might have counted on with a home hair color treatment.

John Paul Mitchell Systems; Stylists: Robert Cromeans, Stephanie Kocielski, Linda Yolice and Scott Cole; Makeup: Joanna Schlip for Cloutier; Wardrobe: Stacey McNutt; Photo: Spicer



Color Options For Any Budget

Master stylist and color expert Barbara Lhotan pointed out “there are many tricks that experts can use to create stunning hue transformations” with much lower maintenance requirements. Barbara, who is a senior educator with Paul Mitchell Systems and author of *5 Minute Fun Finishes* and *5 Minute Updos*, pointed out that the majority of hair dressers want to work with their customers offering the best possible color options according to their financial constraints.

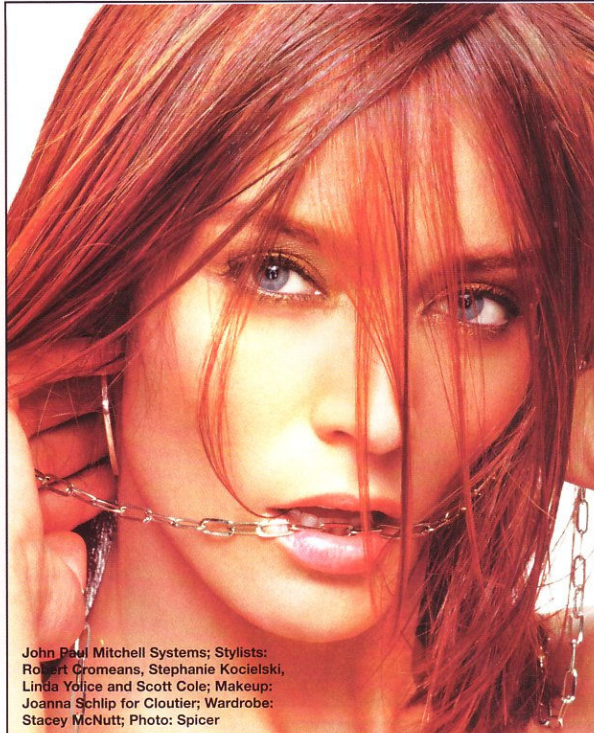
Barbara explained that when she is approached with tight budgetary consideration for achieving color, she suggests a number of treatment options that range from very simple and limited face framing ribbons of color to more extensive random highlights applied “like a field of flowers.”

While the limited face framing highlights may only utilize one contrasting color, the more extensive highlights might include three or four contrasting and complimentary colors painted in a “hunt and peck” formula on a series of previously separated and elasticized hair sections.

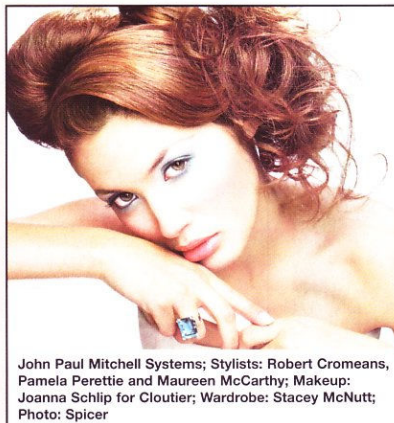
Barbara’s random color highlighting technique results in deep, multi-dimensional colors that have a gorgeous shine. Even better, both types of highlighting is less extensive and will grow out with minimal lines. She estimates that both types of highlighting applications could last up to six months with minimal, if any, need for salon touchups in between.

She also suggested that a cost conscious color client that wants a more edgy color change might consider a hot new color strapping technique. Barbara explained that “one of the hottest new color techniques is the strap technique” invented by the Paul Mitchell award winning Hair Color USA team of Scott Cole & Linda Yodice.

Barbara explained that “the strap technique involves foiling the underneath of the hair a darker color and then painting a contrasting color, either lighter or darker, along a strategically placed hair strap on the top of the strands along the natural part. The colored strap can range in size from half an inch to two inches and extends from the tip of the widows peak near the forehead to the rounded part of the head. Similar to a suspender strap in shape, the technique provides bold and spectacular hues that grow out beautifully with a minimal color line.



John Paul Mitchell Systems; Stylists: Robert Cromeans, Stephanie Kocielski, Linda Yodice and Scott Cole; Makeup: Joanna Schlip for Cloutier; Wardrobe: Stacey McNutt; Photo: Spicer

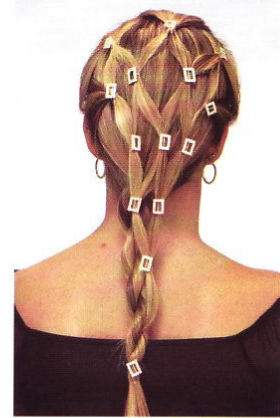


John Paul Mitchell Systems; Stylists: Robert Cromeans, Pamela Perette and Maureen McCarthy; Makeup: Joanna Schlip for Cloutier; Wardrobe: Stacey McNutt; Photo: Spicer



John Paul Mitchell Systems

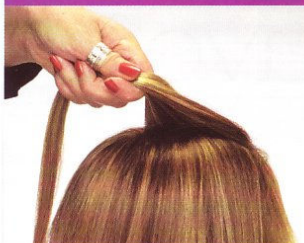
Veiled Updo



Model: **Lindsay**
Stylist: **Barbara Lhotan**
Photographer: **Eric von Lockhart**
Technical: **Karen Shelton**
Makeup: **Denessa Myricks**

This simple but elegant braided veil is stunning when dressed up with accent hair accessories. The veiled 'do works best on hair that is shoulder length or longer with medium thickness. This look can be easily adopted for waist length or longer hair with some modifications at the end of the styling process. Hair that is short can adapt to the style with extensions or other add-on hair. Naturally straight strands or hair that has been pre-straightened is ideal.

INSTRUCTIONS



1 Start by using a soft boar's head brush or similar natural bristle brush on your hair. Make sure that all knots and tangles are completely removed.

2 Working with individual sections that are about one to two inches in thickness, smooth all of the hair with a hot flat iron. Allow hair to cool completely before proceeding.

3 Part out a triangle shaped section of hair that is one to two inches thick at the top of the crown area.



4 Secure the section of hair with a clear plastic Blax or other "hair friendly" band, or clip on small hair accessories.

5 Part out a triangle section of hair on the side of the head right above the ear. Secure the section with a Blax or other similar plastic tie.

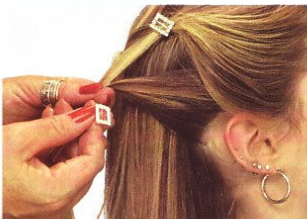
Note: Make sure that the triangular sections of hair are all the same thickness. For a different look experiment with different sizes of hair sections.



6 Part out a triangle section of hair on the opposite side of the head. Secure with a Blax or other similar plastic tie.



7 Split the original top center section of triangular hair into two sections. Then split the right section of hair into two. Connect the strands together, secure with plastic band. Repeat on the other side of the head.



8 Take a section of hair behind the ear on the right side. Add to the remaining strand, secure with plastic band.



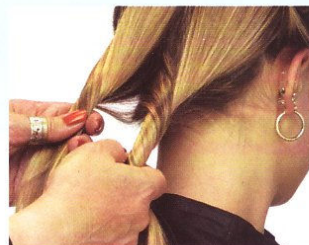
9 Continue veil hair pattern down back of head. Split each section into two sections and join with the strand next to it.

10 Spray finished veil with firm hold hairspray. After spraying with hairspray add small jeweled hair clips to each of the Blax or other plastic bands.

Note: Use tiny hairpins that match your hair color to help anchor slippery or soft hair.



11 End veiled hair pattern based on length of the hair. Long hair can extend further down the back.



12 Pin veil of hair temporarily on top of head to move it out of the way.



13 Take remaining back hair and separate into two sections. Twist the two strands together making a rope braid. Secure ends with a plastic band.



14 Unpin veil of hair.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROPE BRAID

1. Separate a strand of hair into two equal sections. Smooth each section for easier and more uniform braiding.

2. Create the braid by tightly crossing one section over the second section of the braid. Pull strands tightly and smoothly.

3. Continue this crossing, tightening and smoothing process until all remaining hair has been merged into the desired braid.

4. Leave a small section of hair "tail" free at the tip of the braid. Tie off the braid above the "tail" with a hair friendly hair bungee, Blax or other hair safe elastic band.

Running With Scissors



I often receive emails from distraught hair consumers who have suffered an unexpected hair chopping at the hands of a well-meaning stylist. Of course, I would always be skeptical that they couldn't have prevented the dreaded attack of the scissors—but, life always has a way of proving me wrong just when I think that I have all the answers. Such was the case recently when I went to see a new hairstylist after my trusted stylist of over 10 years moved out of town.

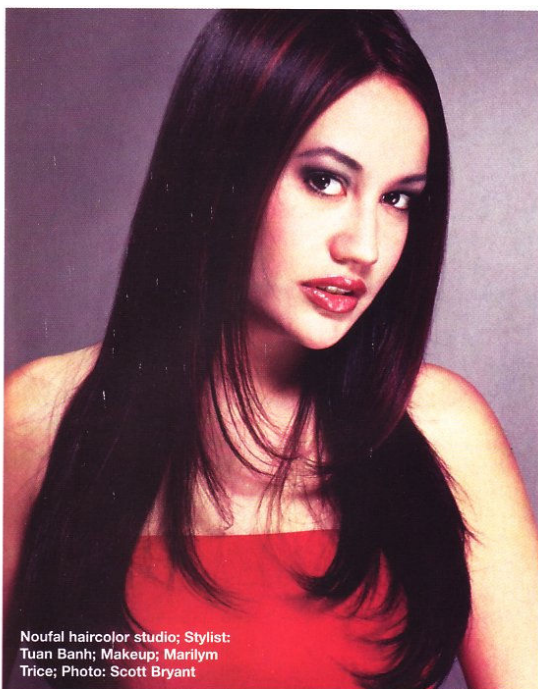
Since I have been growing my hair long for the past 20 years, I am extremely paranoid about subjecting my locks to just any stylist. I found a new stylist that claimed to have a "no cut" policy for Rapunzels like me. Lulled into a sense of false security, I eagerly turned my locks over for my regular highlights with no discussion of any type of trimming or cutting.

The highlights went well until the final rinse out stage. At that point the stylist used a product that was very inferior to the products most salons use to pamper locks like Phyto, Aveda, Rene Furterer or ARTec. After the stylist subjected my strands to a vigorous shampoo session followed by minimal conditioning, she discovered that my soaking wet hair was extremely tangled. Well, duh!

It was then she came at me with a comb complete with thick hair ripping knobs on the ends. I cried out no, and she retreated to only return with a wire brush with even bigger knobs. (Lesson number one, never brush wet hair because it will cause it to rip. And lesson number two, scissors are not the answer for tangles.) As she shook her frustrated head at me, she calmly suggested "why



Spa Hollywood (Sarasota, FL);
Stylist & Makeup: Josie
Gonzalez; Photo: Tina Golder



don't you let me take a run at you with the scissors and remove a lot of the hair that is tangled." Running at me with scissors is not acceptable under any circumstances, but it certainly was not in my realm of consideration since I had spent so much love, time and attention on my prized long locks.

As she stood there with the dreaded killer brush in one hand and the gleaming steel scissors in the other, I did what I thought I would never do. I ran. Grabbing my checkbook I told her that I would "detangle and deal with my own locks" back at the office. Then I hastily paid my bill and ran towards the front door, leaving a trail of gloppy drip marks on the salon's carpet.

I headed straight to my beauty cabinet and applied Phyto 9 to my frazzled hair; watching the tangles fall right out as I carefully detangled with my Mason Pearson detangling comb. Once I was finished styling, my hair was a gorgeous sheet of shiny, silky blonde strands that curled several inches below my waist. Unless you had been at the salon with me, you would never have known the potential tress destruction I had barely missed.

I examined my ends and discovered that they were neither split nor damaged. Of course the stylist figured that because my hair was tangled, it was because the ends were in bad shape. Not so.

So what should you do if you find yourself in a similar situation where a stylist is driving towards you with flying scissors?

Hair Emergency Options

Consider these hair emergency options:

1. Yell "STOP" as loud as you can. Inform the stylist you have a bathroom emergency. Run for the restroom where you will have a few minutes to consider your options. Should you stay or should you go? Only you know if you can handle the stylist. The important thing is to allow yourself some time to make an informed choice.
2. If you decide to stay at the salon, talk the stylist down from her weapon by promising you will come back for a full trim in a few days. This will normally pacify the most trim-happy stylist.
3. Tell the stylist that your religion requires that you can't trim your hair for any reason. Most stylists will not risk a major religious breach for a few inches.
4. Inform the stylist that you prefer to trim your own ends but would love to purchase scissors from them. Some stylists will actually sell you a pair of trimming scissors to guarantee that you do follow up with a good end clipping.
5. If the stylist seems hell bent on cutting your hair or trimming your ends, get up from the chair and physically leave the salon. Grab your checkbook and pay quickly. Then leave. Don't be enticed back to the chair for "just a quick little trim." Those famous last words have announced the beginning of major hair altering cuts and chops.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not against a well planned trim or haircut. My problem is with random, unexpected, spur of the moment cuts or trims designed to bail the stylist out of a bad situation. Maybe the stylist is frustrated by a tangled mess of hair, like in my case, and figures a good trim will instantly remove the problem. Or maybe the stylist is having a slow day and needs to deliver more services.

It is also fair to say that many professional stylists sincerely want your hair to look its best and know that it is important to remove your split ends. The majority of stylists will never trim more than you request and will honor your wishes to not cut, if that is what you want. But there is a good time and good place for a trim and as the customer, you should always have the final say about what is done to your tresses. Stay strong to your wants and you'll keep those scissor-happy stylists at bay.