

BEAUTY > HAIRSTYLES, CUTS & COLOR TRENDS

2022 Hair Awards: The Best Products of the Year

The 33 must-haves that really work and exactly how to use them.

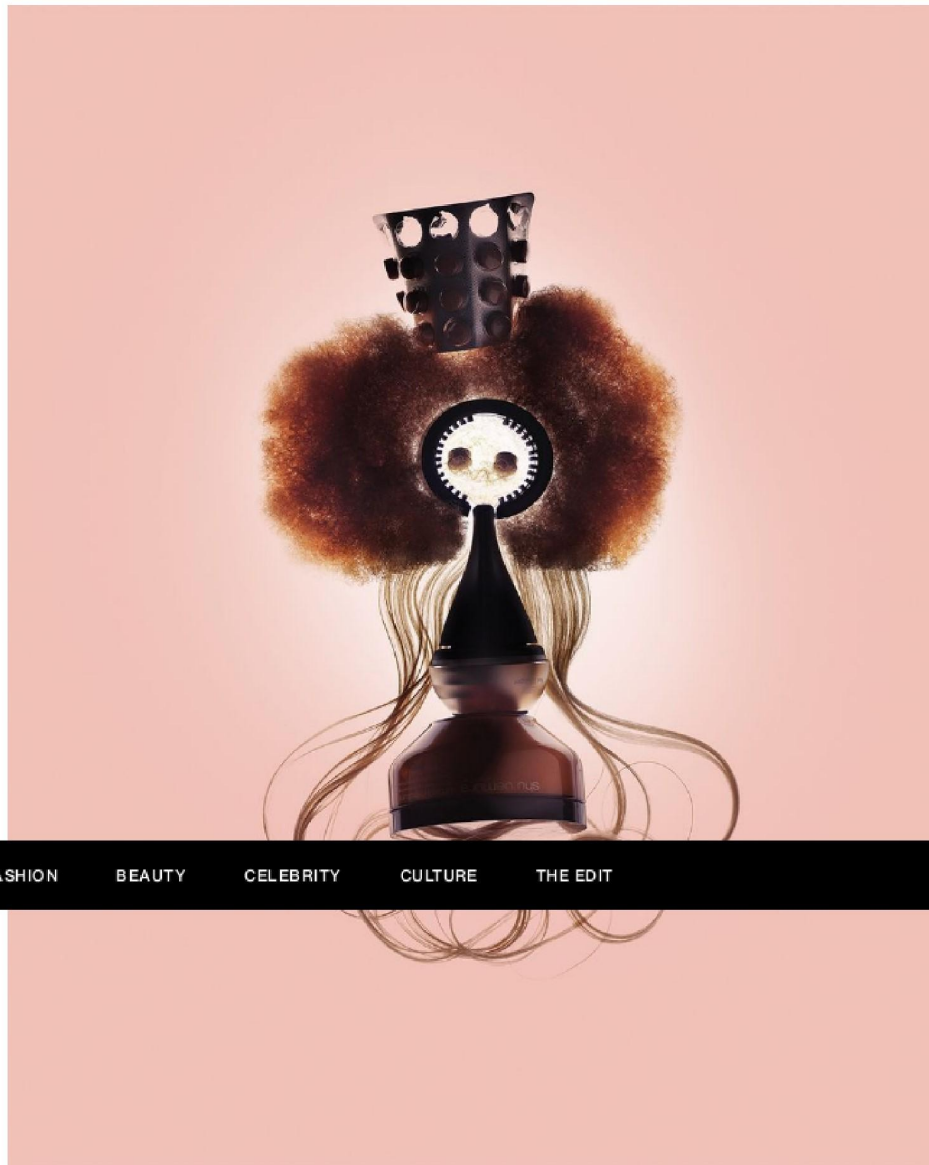
PUBLISHED: JAN 31, 2022

SAVE ARTICLE



It used to be that sussing out a great shampoo meant surreptitiously removing the cap in the store and giving it a little sniff. Today, an amazing fragrance, great texture—these are simply table stakes. Consumers expect more from their products; they read the labels and want to know which ingredients really work, says L.A.-based stylist David Lopez. As a

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HORACIO SALINAS

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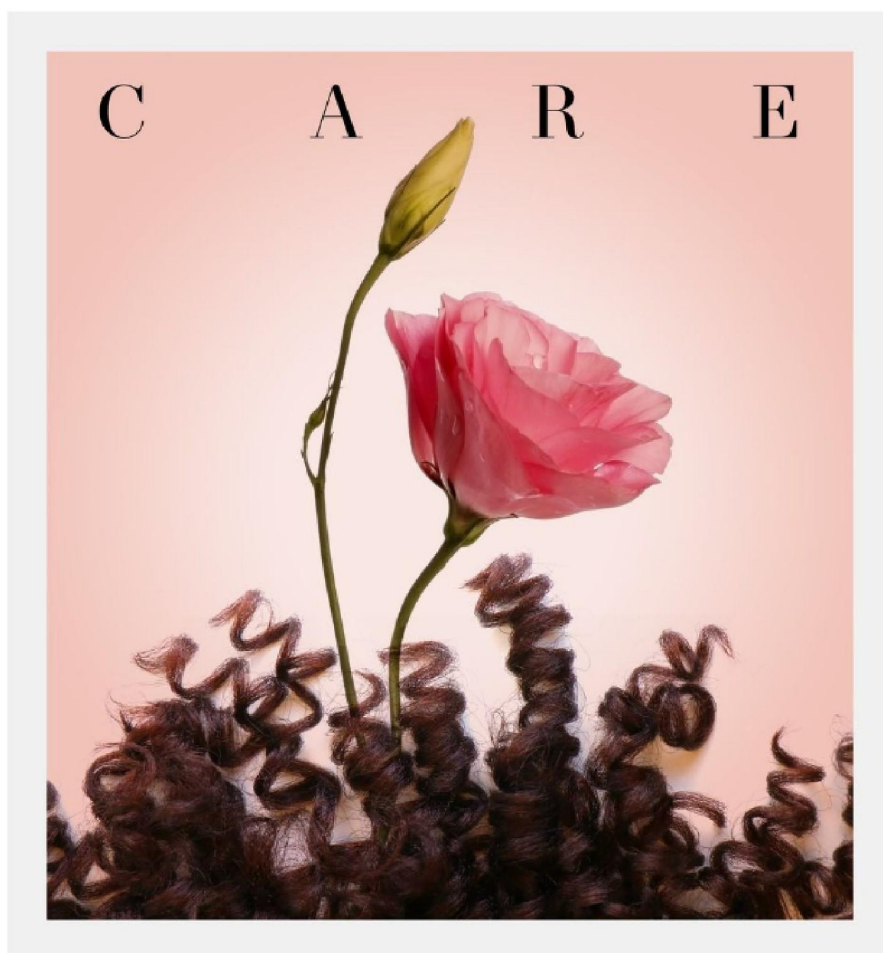
Christopher Kane
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These new tech-forward products are also responding to the desire to protect healthy hair that was restored by gentler pandemic regimens (read: fewer

These new tech-forward products are also responding to the desire to protect healthy hair that was restored by gentler pandemic regimens (read: fewer products and less heat). “So many of my clients adopted low-maintenance routines or grew out their hair,” Lopez says. Now that wash cycles and heat styling have returned, it’s about protecting the hair at every stage, from your in-shower procedure to your styling tools. Here, we’ve highlighted the best products that embrace innovative hair technology to get the job done.



The past two pandemic years have given us time to rethink our routines. One area that took the spotlight: scalp care. “*Healthy hair starts from the top,*” says L.A.-based stylist Felicia Leatherwood. Using a scalp treatment promotes a clearer path for hair growth and can soothe irritated skin and even boost volume. (Debris and buildup—especially from dry shampoo—can make hair look limp in the long run.) “*Take a minute to massage in the product to release any dead*

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BEST SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER



Redken All Soft Shampoo and Conditioner

\$50 AT AMAZON

Redken All Soft Shampoo and Conditioner contain an argan-oil complex to add serious moisture and shine.

BEST FOR CURLY HAIR



Kerastase Curl Manifesto Bain Hydratation Douceur Shampoo and Fondant Hydratation Essentielle Conditioner

\$21 AT KERASTASE

The Curl Manifesto Bain Hydratation Douceur Shampoo and Fondant Hydratation Essentielle Conditioner are miracles for curly hair. Used together, they help gently cleanse curls while reducing frizz and boosting moisture.

BEST FOR FINE HAIR



Pantene Generation Beauty Full & Vibrant Sulfate Free Shampoo and Conditioner

\$12 AT CVS

This sulfate-free shampoo and conditioner cleanse and condition without weighing hair down. The blend of hyaluronic acid, antioxidants, and pro-vitamin B5 boost moisture and shine and are safe for color-treated hair, too.

BEST FOR DRY HAIR



MoroccanOil Hydrating Shampoo

BEST LEAVE-IN



Lo!avie Perfecting Leave-In

BEST MASK



Shu Uemura Urban Moisture Deep Hydration Mask



Moroccanoil Hydrating Shampoo and Conditioner

\$26 AT SEPHORA

Dry hair is no match for Moroccanoil's hydrating shampoo and conditioner combo. The argan oil-rich formula helps smooth frizz with just one use, plus we love the way the signature scent lingers.



Lolavie Perfecting Leave-In

NOW 14% OFF

\$25 AT LOLAVIE.COM

Jennifer Aniston's new Lolavie Perfecting Leave-in uses natural alternatives to silicones that provide serious glide.



Shu Uemura Urban Moisture Deep Hydration Treatment Mask for Dry Hair

\$69 AT VIOLET GREY

Shu Uemura Art of Hair Urban Moisture Hair Mask uses moringa oil to revive dull strands. The hero ingredient is packed with nutrients and antioxidants that leave hair conditioned and shiny without weighing it down.

BEST BOND BUILDER



K18 Biomimetic Hairscience Leave-in Molecular Repair Mask

\$75 AT SEPHORA

Chemical processes and even daily brushing can break the disulfide bonds in hair. K18 Leave-in Molecular Repair Hair Mask takes only four minutes to work. Its unique formula mimics natural keratin to rebuild damaged strands.

BEST TOP COAT



Pureology Color Fanatic Top Coat + Clear Gloss

\$35 AT SEPHORA

Everyone looks better after using Pureology Color Fanatic Top Coat + Sheer Clear, on hair that's colored or not. It leaves hair glossier after just five minutes.

BEST SCALP TREATMENT



Sisley Soothing Rebalancing Cure with Intense Rebalancing Complex

\$142 AT SISLEY PARIS

Hair Rituel by Sisley Soothing Rebalancing Cure contains potent antioxidants like celery-seed extract and oils specifically chosen to help relieve a dry, tight, itchy scalp. After your shower, apply all over your scalp, massage in, and style as usual.

BEST HAIR OIL



BEST FOR MATURE HAIR



BEST SCALP SCRUB





JVN Complete Nourishing Hair Oil Shine Drops

\$22 AT SEPHORA

Hemisqualane, a lightweight yet hydrating emollient, stars in JVN Complete Nourishing Shine Drops, leaving hair smooth and protected from damage or color fade.



Better Not Younger Superpower Hair and Scalp Liquid Serum & Comb Set

\$59 AT SEPHORA

The brush in the Better Not Younger Hair & Scalp Duo Kit removes buildup and feels like a little scalp massage, all while applying the brand's superpower serum, which uses ingredients like niacinamide and caffeine, which help promote thickness and density over time.



Christophe Robin Purifying Scalp Scrub with Sea Salt

\$53 AT DERMSTORE

Thousands of Sephora shoppers agree: this scalp scrub rocks. It exfoliates away product build-up and gunk while cleansing, leaving your hair squeaky clean and ready for the rest of your routine.

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S T Y L I N G

S T Y L I N G



To get the best results from your products, remember that less is more. *“Start small and go slow by applying a pea-size amount of product, and let it fully absorb,”* says L.A.-based stylist Gregory Russell. *“The thicker and more porous your hair, the more product you may need. Just add a pea-size dollop at a time.”* For even distribution, put a tiny bit of cream, serum, or whatever you’re using on your palms, rub them together, and then place a section of hair between your hands. *“Use praying hands to slide down the hair from the roots to the ends,”* says Leatherwood. If you’re using a spray like a detangler, mist the product onto your brush beforehand. This guarantees even application from root to tip.

Shop the Winners

BEST STYLING CREAM



BEST CURL CREAM



BEST DRY SHAMPOO



BEST STYLING CREAM



PATTERN by Tracee Ellis Ross Styling Cream

\$25 AT ULTA BEAUTY

Pattern styling cream gives soft definition and hold to coils, twist-outs, bantu knots, and more.

BEST CURL CREAM



Holy Curls Cream

\$34 AT THIRTEENLUNE.COM

Curls need heavy hydration, as they're naturally dry. Holy Curls Cream, from the London-based brand, is formulated with baobab oil, coconut oil, and shea butter to keep all curl types feeling soft and quenched.

BEST DRY SHAMPOO



Living Proof Perfect hair Day (PhD) Dry Shampoo

NOW 13% OFF

\$26 AT SEPHORA

While you typically have to work dry shampoo into your hair to see results, Living Proof Perfect Hair Day Dry Shampoo absorbs excess oil upon the first spray. Plus, it has a time-released fragrance, so hair smells fresh all day.

BEST HEAT PROTECTANT



Mizani Thermastrong Heat Protecting Serum

\$22 AT AMAZON

The secret to limiting damage from hot tools? A nutrient-rich protectant like Mizani Thermastrong heat protecting serum, which contains shea butter and ceramides to ward off damage and nourish, no matter your hair type. Hot tip: "make sure the protectant has completely dried in your hair before using an iron," says L.A.-based stylist Bobby Eliot.

BEST COLOR/ROOT TOUCH-UP



Oribe Airbrush Root Touch-Up Spray

\$34 AT ORIBE.COM

Oribe Airbrush Root Touch-Up spray not only covers up grays, it also absorbs dirt and oil and prevents color fading from UV rays. Spray one of the six shades onto your roots and hairline between dye jobs

BEST GLOSS



dpHUE Color Boosting Gloss + Deep Conditioning Treatment

\$38 AT ULTA BEAUTY

This color-boosting gloss deeply conditions while it boosts shine and color on both natural and dyed hair, so you can leave your shower looking like you just left the salon.

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BEST SHINE-BOOSTER



Dove Hair Therapy Gloss Repair Leave-In Serum

\$9 AT CVS

This leave-in goes beyond just smoothing and detangling thanks to ceramides and nourishing ingredients that help your hair look glossy from the inside-out. Mist it through damp hair before styling.

BEST HAIRSPRAY



L'Oréal Paris Elnett Satin Hairspray Extra Strong Hold Unscented

NOW 13% OFF

\$13 AT AMAZON

This beloved hairspray is the only one we trust to hold our curls and waves in place for hours.

BEST FRIZZ-FIGHTER



Color Wow Dream Coat Supernatural Spray Anti-Frizz Treatment

\$28 AT SEPHORA

This celeb-favorite treatment fights frizz for hours while leaving hair with an Instagram-worthy shine.

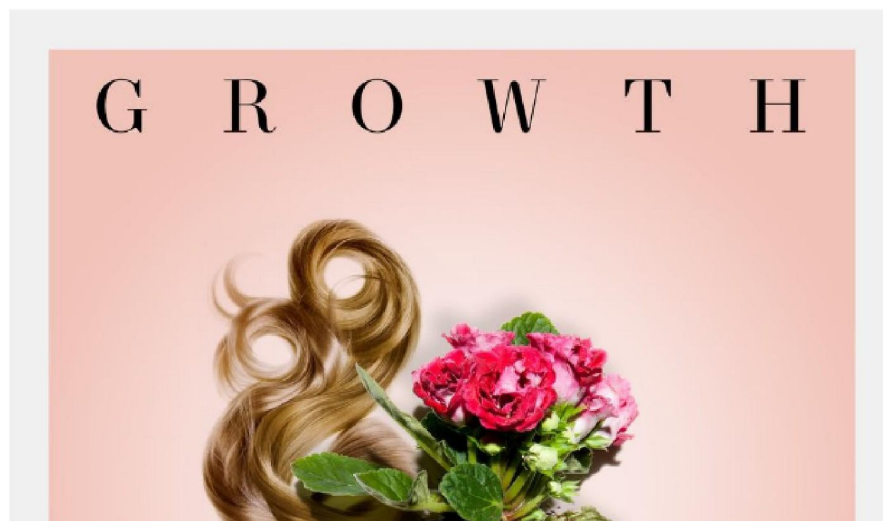
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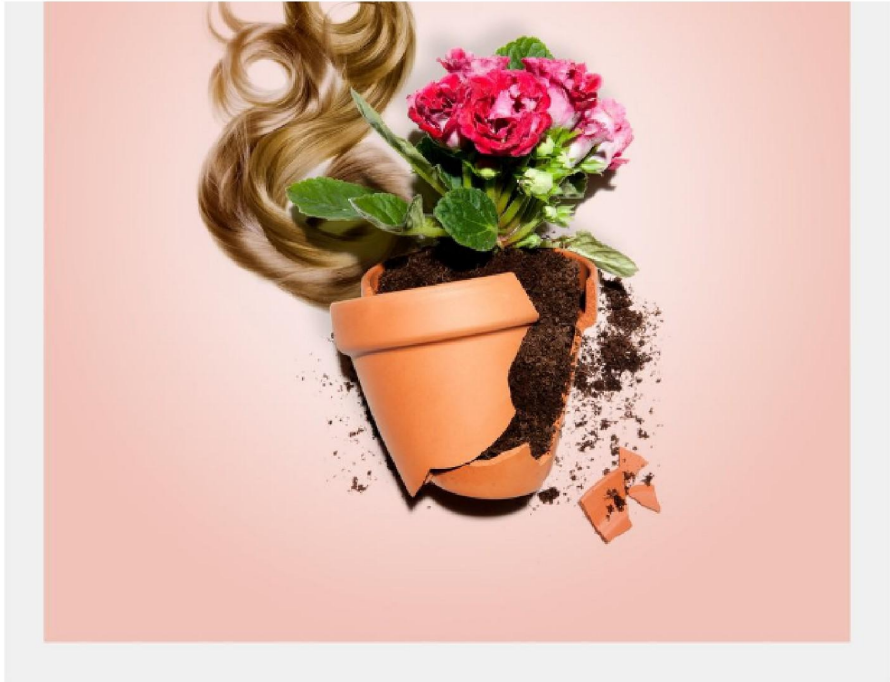
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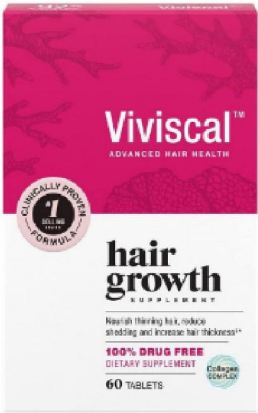
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When stress increases, so does hair loss, due to a spike in cortisol. But if you have significant hair loss (more than 150 strands a day or it's accompanied by redness, scaling, or a tender scalp), consider looking into an over-the-counter treatment or consult a doctor, says Ava Shamban, an L.A.-based dermatologist.

BEST SUPPLEMENT



Viviscal Hair Growth Supplement

NOW 20% OFF

\$28 AT AMAZON

Viviscal hair growth supplements nourish hair follicles with collagen, biotin, and other vitamins and minerals to thicken hair and reduce shedding.

BEST TOPICAL TREATMENT



Augustinus Bader The Scalp Treatment

\$80 AT AUGUSTINUSBADER.COM

As it turns out, the technology that made beauty gurus lose their collective minds over Augustinus Bader's face creams also works for your hair, too. Drop this on your scalp two or three times a week to help reduce shedding, invigorate your hair follicles, and support healthy growth right from the source.

\$28 AT AMAZON

\$80 AT AUGUSTINUSBADER.COM

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BEST TREATMENT KIT



Virtue Flourish Nightly Intensive Hair Growth Treatment

\$134 AT SEPHORA

Virtue's minoxidil-based treatment helps address serious hair shedding and loss, as does the blend of hair-strengthening keratin protein and peptides to encourage a healthy scalp. Stick with this system for a few months and you'll see serious results.

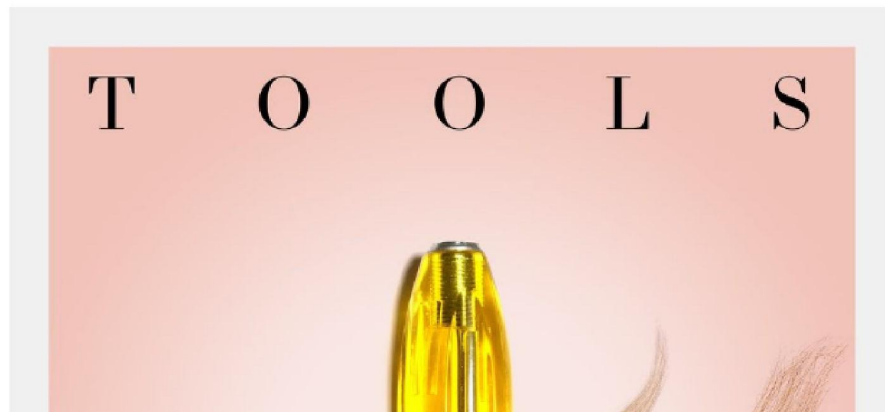
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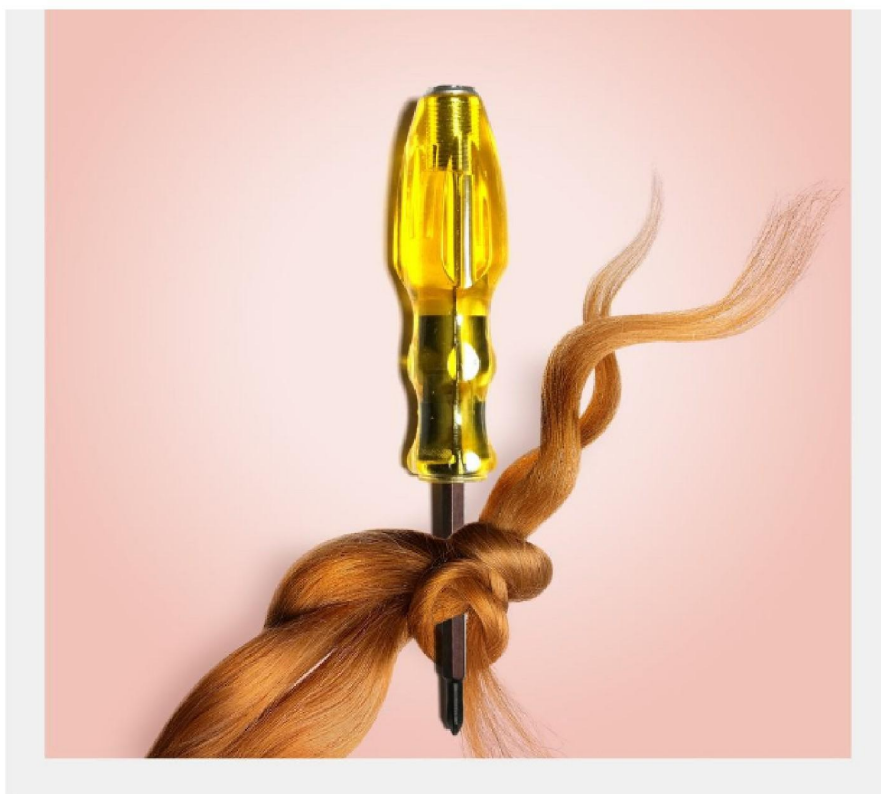
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Heat zaps hair of color and moisture, making it look duller and dryer faster. However, you don't need to swear off hot tools; you just have to adapt the way you use them. *"Turn down the temperature,"* advises Lopez. *"You don't need the highest setting to achieve a great result."* For thinner hair, start low and work your way up to around 375 degrees if needed. Thicker hair can go up to around 425 degrees, but never higher. To limit the amount of heat, choose multitasking and high-speed tools. And unless you're using the Dyson Airwrap, let your hair air-dry about 70 percent before hitting it with heat. For a sleek look, blow-dry brushes are a great option. *"They are not only convenient but also save time,"* says Leatherwood.

SHOP THE WINNERS

BEST HOT BRUSH



T3 AireBrush Duo

BEST CURLER



Dyson Airwrap Styler

BEST DRYER



GHD Helios 1875W



T3 AireBrush Duo Interchangeable Hot Air Blow Dry Brush

\$190 AT NORDSTROM

With two interchangeable attachment heads (a round brush for a bouncy blowout and a flat one for sleek styling), the

T3 Airebrush Duo evenly distributes heat (causing less damage) and has bristles that prevent snagging. "It creates a smoother finish," Lopez explains.



Dyson Airwrap Styler

\$599 AT SEPHORA

Though it's been out for a few years, the Dyson Airwrap has never been more popular. You can thank TikTok for that, where viral videos show how the nifty gadget delivers a bouncy blowout without heat damage.

It's currently sold-out, but should come back in stock soon.



GHD Helios 1875W Advanced Professional Hair Dryer

\$279 AT NORDSTROM

You don't need to blast the heat to get a good blow-dry. Experts agree: rough-dry on a low-heat setting, then use high heat in areas like the hairline. GHD Helios 1875w Advanced Professional Hair Dryer is an editor favorite for its ionic technology, which reduces frizz and increases efficiency (meaning your hair is spending less time under the heat).

BEST BRUSH



Briogeo Vegan Boar Bristle Hair Brush

\$28 AT ULTA BEAUTY

For years, experts have touted boar-bristle brushes as being the best for creating a polished finish. Briogeo's vegan version feels so much nicer to use on every level. Expert tip: when brushing, start at the bottom and work your way up to avoid knots and breakage.

BEST HAIR TIES



Slip Silk Skinnie Scrunchies

\$39 AT DERMSTORE

Slip's silk scrunchies are perfect for preserving a bouncy blowout or curls. The silk material won't dent, tangle, or break strands.

BEST STRAIGHTENER



Dyson Corrale Hair Straightener

\$499 AT SEPHORA

Invest in this flat iron if you're ready to take your hair's health seriously. The cordless design and flexing copper plates get even the curliest hair straighter, faster.

BEST COMB



BEST EDGE TOOL



BEST NEW ATTACHMENT



BEST COMB



Crown Affair The Comb No. 001

\$42 AT VIOLET GREY

Editors, hairstylists, and viral hair influencers all agree on one thing: if you're going to buy one comb, it should be this one from Crown Affair. It helps gently detangle wet or dry hair, is great for travel, and doubles as a scalp massager.

BEST EDGE TOOL

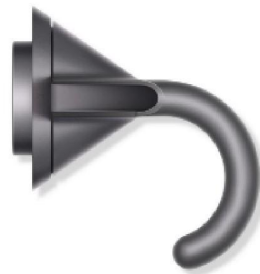


PATTERN by Tracee Ellis Ross Edge Tool

\$12 AT ULTA BEAUTY

Hairstylists love this edge brush because it offers unparalleled control for combing, brushing, and swirling. Plus, the pointed end doubles as a tool to create pristine parts.

BEST NEW ATTACHMENT



Dyson Supersonic Flyaway Attachment

\$40 AT ULTA BEAUTY

This genius attachment for the Dyson dryer helps flatten stubborn flyaways—all without hairspray.

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All the sides. None of the stress.

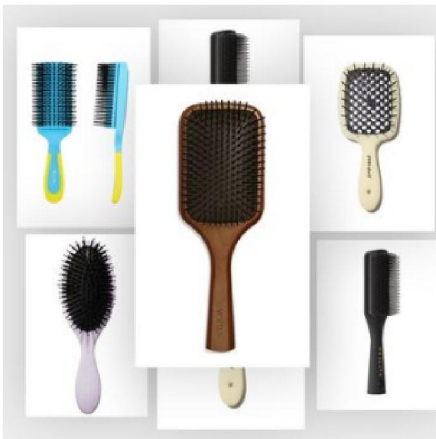
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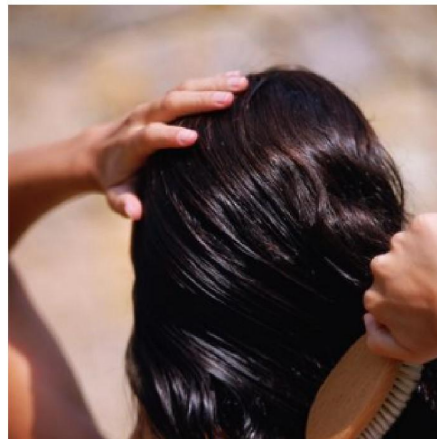


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Keep Dry Hair at Bay with These Top Moisturizers



The 15 Best Hair and Scalp Oils Experts Love



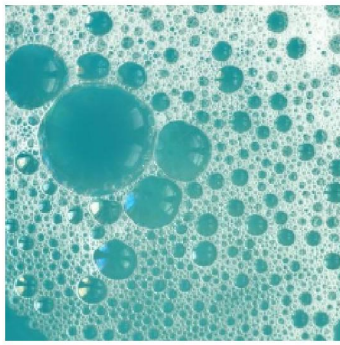
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