



MAKEUP LESSON

Colour theory

Colour correctors are the next wave in our quest for complexion perfection. Here's how to make them work for you, no makeup artist required

BY ANDREA JANUS

If you've visited a makeup counter recently, you may have noticed that the complexion section looked a little more colourful than usual. Colour correctors—concealers and primers that come in shades like mint, lilac and peach, designed to counteract skin discoloration—are now ubiquitous on both store shelves and Instagram, where beauty bloggers are posting selfies covered in pastel stripes. "It's the next big thing after strobing and contouring," says Toronto makeup artist Vanessa Jarman. "When you want to achieve perfect makeup, colour-correcting your skin first brings it to the next level."

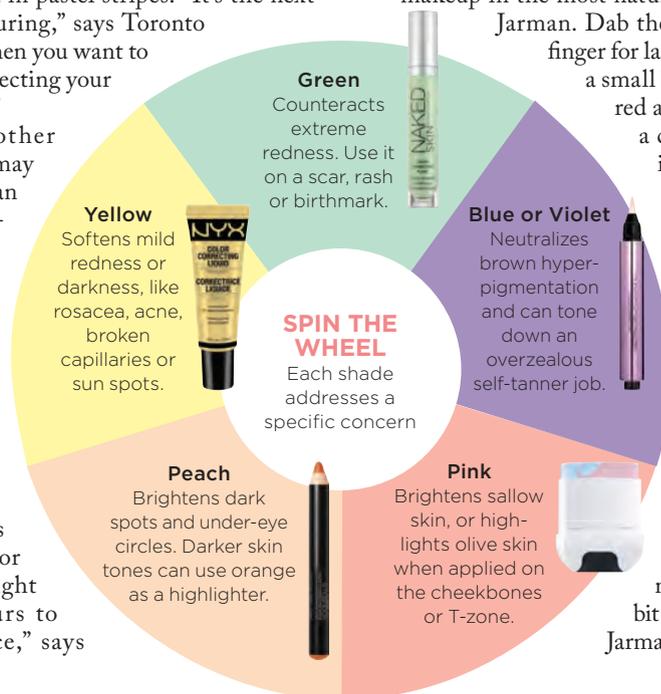
The thought of adding another product to your morning routine may be daunting, but a colour corrector can be a powerful tool to erase imperfections and boost brightness. "If you've tried five, 10, 15 different concealers and you're still confused about why nothing is covering the way you want it to, you're at the perfect point to try colour correctors," Jarman says.

Based on the colour-wheel theory that opposing tones cancel each other out, each product hue targets a specific problem, such as brown hyper-pigmentation spots or bluish under-eye circles. "You might actually need a couple of colours to correct different parts of the face," says

Jarman. Paler pastel correctors work best on lighter skin tones, while darker shades—purple, forest green and orange—are designed for deeper complexions.

When it comes time to apply it, colour corrector should be the first thing you put on clean, moisturized skin. "Try to do your makeup in the most natural lighting that you can find," says Jarman. Dab the product on with a sponge or your finger for larger areas like sallowness, and use a small brush or Q-tip for smaller spots like red acne scars. Jarman suggests choosing a creamy formula—whether it comes in a stick, pot or palette—because creams can be blended easily for sheer to full coverage.

Once your corrector is set in place, follow with your foundation or tinted moisturizer, which you might need less of now that you've concealed any discoloration. Press or stipple the base into your skin with a sponge or flat-topped brush, rather than swiping it on, so you don't undo all your handiwork. If you still feel you need concealer, pat a thin layer on top, only where you need it. "It might seem like you're putting a little bit of extra time into your makeup," says Jarman. "But it's completely worth it."



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Veronica Saroli

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