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10 February 2015

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Six stealthy steps to spruce up your Valentine

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A gentleman's guide to shaving and shaping





Men's grooming writer, Ross Clarke, reveals his 'strictly confidential' tips to improve your man's appearance without him even knowing

Whether it's a scraggy beard that needs taming, chapped lips that require nourishment, or rough hands that need smoothing, it's time to go undercover and banish those bad grooming habits this Valentine's Day. Here are six covert strategies that will get your loved one fit for duty. It's definitely not mission impossible!

From Ross, with love.



1. Smooth talker

The cold can play havoc with our body's natural armour, yet most men are reluctant to protect their skin from the elements. One battle zone that often gets forgotten is lips. While he might take extra care when he's skiing, back home, it's another story. Stop him cracking up with a sneaky tin of **Vaseline**, £1.85, in his coat pocket. He won't be able to resist applying a little after reaching in to warm his hands.



Your Spring beauty fix



2. Close shave

Besides a quick lesson from Dad, you never really get much help in the art of shaving. When handled incorrectly, a razor blade to the face can cause all kinds of irritation. Firstly, treat him to a wet shave at a local barber shop as a Valentine's Day treat; it'll educate him on bristle maintenance. To help keep up good habits, encourage him to invest in a good-quality trimmer and razor, like this **Gillette Fusion ProGlide Slider**, £15 – it's built for unwanted body hair, too.



3. All-in-one

Simplify his shower routine so that keeping clean and tidy doesn't feel like an assault course. With an all-in-one hair and body wash, such as **Leo Bancroft Instant Recharge**, £2, he'll find it handy at home or at the gym, plus it'll keep him smelling tip-top – all ready for date night.



4. Slight of hand

Stock the bathroom and kitchen sinks with manly scented soap and slip in a moisturiser next to it. It'll soon need replacing – and his hands will feel the benefit. Gift him some gloves to keep his mitts protected from the cold, too. Try **Baylis & Harding Black Pepper & Ginseng Cleansing Hand Wash**, £2, combined with the fishermen's friend, **Neutrogena Norwegian Formula Fast Absorbing Hand Cream**, £2.66. If it's good enough for fishermen...



5. Fresh face

While you might catch him applying a shaving balm to soothe his freshly mown face, most guys don't take the next steps to lock in moisture, moderate damage from the sun and combat ageing. Once again, quick and convenient is best here, so go for an all-in-one product that will do the work for him. **L'Oréal Men Expert Vita Lift Daily Moisturiser**, £9.37, is ideal for all types of skin and is non-greasy, keeping his face fresher for longer.



6. Eye spy

If he's burning the candle at both ends and spends most of his day staring at a screen, his eyes will soon begin to show it. Slide this discreet **L'Oréal Men Expert Vita Lift 5 Eye Roll-On**, £5.50, into his bag. Packed full of natural, eye-enhancing ingredients, it'll work much better than matchsticks!

Don't forget to send us your mission report [@BeautyatTesco](#) or get more top secret tips and hints from Ross [@gr8whiteshirt](#).





Ross Clarke, men's grooming expert

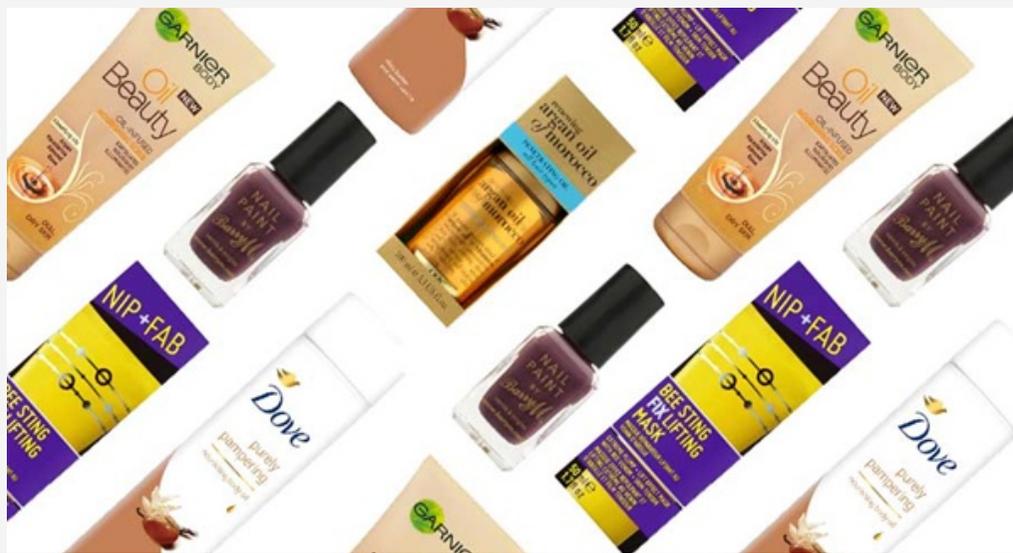
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Award-winning blogger, London Beauty Queen, shares her five top tips for updating your make-up regime for January

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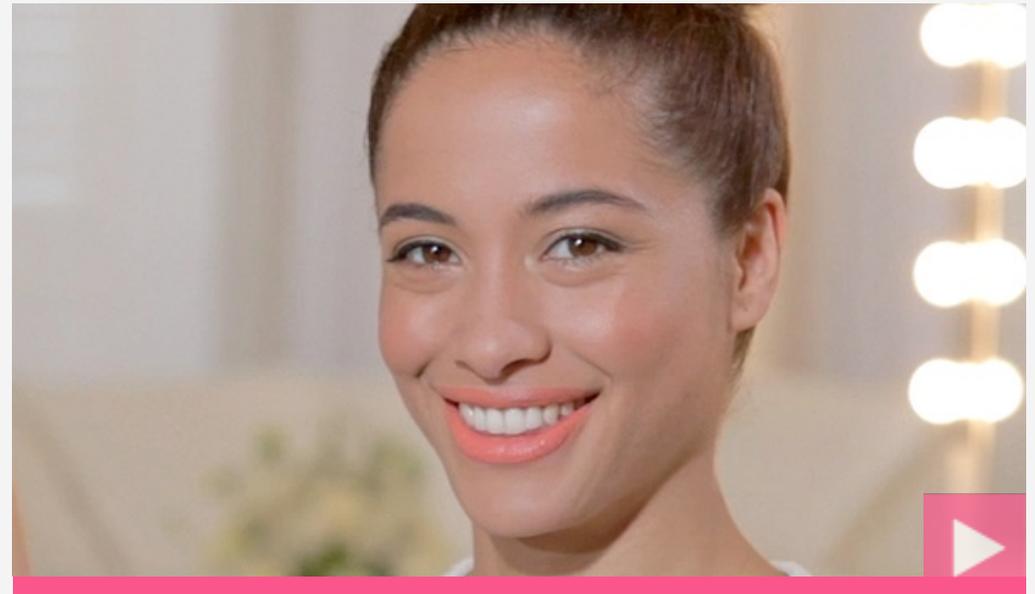
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Hot hair waves for summer

Forget choppy bobs and messy up-dos, this season we're hitting the beach in a platoon of polished waves. From bed-head to big bounce, here's our pick of how to style them

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Face shapers

Inspired by the sculptured looks on the catwalks this season, beauty editor Lisa Oxenham took up the challenge to perfect her features with face-enhancing and possibly even life-changing make-up. Here's how she did it

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Coral queen

From subtle and muted to bright and zesty, coral is the shade of choice to update your look for summer

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