

BRIDAL BEAUTY

- Going to the Chapel and We're Gonna Get Married



Your wedding day is rapidly approaching and you're working your way down the checklist. Dress...check. Wedding location...check. Reception...check. Music...check. Those are the big ticket, high stress items, but don't leave your hair and makeup until the last minute. Whether you prefer to do your beauty routine yourself, or have a pro do it for you, you will need several practice runs prior to your big day.

It is important that your makeup "go" with your 'do' and your dress. Diane Cressey, Beauty Consultant with Mary Kary in Folsom, says that there are many things to consider when making your makeup choices: time of day, prevalent lighting and overall style.

If your wedding is in the morning, try for a softer, more natural look using "neutral" colors as seen on our "model bride" Nikki. For

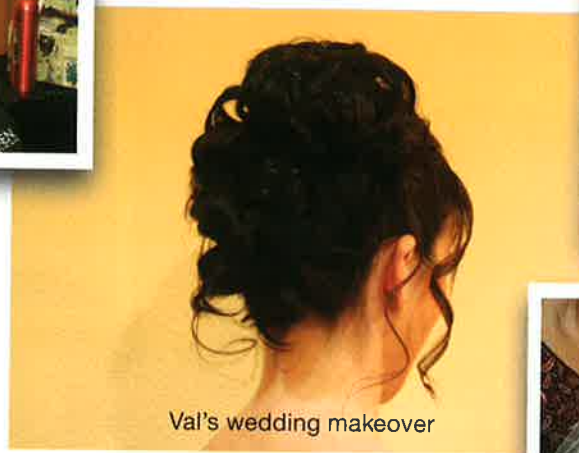
evening weddings, you will want darker colors for eyes and lips to show up, but don't go overboard!

If you are having a beach wedding where sun is obviously the most prevalent lighting source, go for lighter, "cool" colors like those seen on our "model bride" Val. But if you are in a dark church, then deeper tones work best. You may be going from a bright, outside wedding, to a darker, inside reception so stop at the powder room to do some makeup modification on your way in!

If your gown is simple and classic, your hair and makeup should be too.

Although you want to look better than the "every day" you, don't do anything too dramatically different that might not go over well in pictures, or that may ultimately make you uncomfortable – you

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still want to look like YOU, and your whole ensemble should reflect your own personality.

A fun option for your hair is to try extensions. Kitty Bunker, a stylist at Chez TJ in Folsom, suggests adding a few pieces for effect, which would run about \$10 - \$15 per strand. There are even accessory extensions with rhinestones in white, red or blue. "Model bride" Nikki is wearing one rhinestone strand near the front on the right and a few accenting blond pieces. Extensions can add just the right amount of pizzazz and fun. Although a partial or full head of extensions can be expensive, they last anywhere from three to six months and your wedding is the perfect time to splurge on yourself.

During your practice sessions, have a friend or relative photograph you with your various makeup and hair options like we did here with Nikki and Val – but be sure to hide the photos so your groom-to-be doesn't accidentally run across them!

Julie Miller, stylist and owner of Chez TJ in Folsom, suggests thinking about the basic idea of the look you want to achieve and then consulting with your stylist who can suggest the best hairstyle and veil to match your desired look. But most important of all, remember this is YOUR wedding – enjoy every minute of the experience!

Resources: "Model Brides" - Nikki Gates and Val Keene. Nikki's extensions were done by Kitty Bunker and her hair was styled by Julie Miller. Elaine Ricci created Val's hair styling. All stylists are from Chez TJ Salon and Spa of Folsom, 916-983-9878. Makeup on our "model brides" was provided and applied by Diane Cressey, Beauty Consultant with Mary Kay in Folsom. She can be reached at 916-532-9060. Beautiful veils were graciously supplied by De La Rosa's Bridal in Folsom, located at 319 E. Bidwell. De La Rosa's can be reached at 916-983-3400. 

— Elizabeth Morabito