

I'D LIKE A CONTEMPORARY-LOOKING UP DO, WHAT HAIRSTYLE DO YOU SUGGEST I GO FOR?

"I'd suggest a loose braid, pulled out and put up softly to create an elegant, contemporary look, which is very up to the minute but still simple and romantic," says hairstylist Maria Jones, of Elite Hair (07718 140 244).

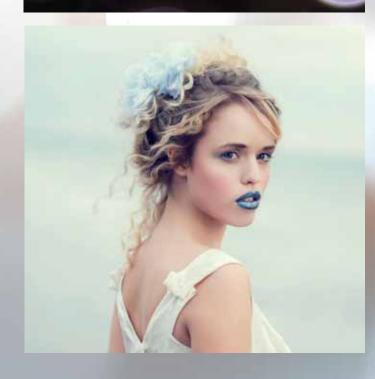
I HAVE REALLY FINE, SILKY HAIR BUT WOULD LOVE A MASS OF BOHO CURLS FOR MY BIG DAY, HOW CAN I ACHIEVE THIS FOR MY BRIDAL LOOK?

"It's all about the hair prep when it comes to curls for fine hair. I'd recommend a bouncy blow dry creating lots of volume using a texturising spray, then use a curling wand, pin and let the curls cool for a longer-lasting curl," says hair stylist Samantha Bilham of Hair Up by Sam (07960 227 858).

MY BRIDESMAIDS ARE ALL FASHION-FORWARD LADIES AND I'D LOVE TO PICK A MODERN DRESS FOR THEM. WHAT COLOURS AND STYLES DO YOU SUGGEST I LOOK AT?

"I'd suggest not to choose a coloured dress – I love bridesmaids to match the bride and just using the bouquets to bring in some colour. I'd also recommend that your group of ladies be mismatched in styles – a uniform look echoes traditional! Also, dress each bridesmaid according to their body shape.

"The other on-trend look I'd suggest is for them to wear separates," says bridal boutique owner Sally Brady of helenafortley.co.uk



I'VE NEVER HAD A FACIAL BEFORE BUT HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO HAVE THEM IN THE RUN-UP TO THE WEDDING. WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST IS THE BEST TYPE I GO FOR?

"The big trend this year is for a glowing complexion, so you're right to be looking for professional ways of achieving this," says Dr Susan McGregor of A Touch of Spa (atouchofspa.co.uk). "In my view, professional facials are a necessity for every bride. A personalised treatment can leave you looking amazing — even without any make-up. On the day, it will ensure your make-up goes on easier and looks better. The effects of a really good facial can last for some time, and take you through your honeymoon.

"So what should you expect from a facial? An excellent treatment should address all of your skin issues, be relaxing, and leave you with glowing skin that feels soft, smooth and well hydrated. Any fine lines should reduce and your eye area should look lifted and youthful. Sometimes, if you have an uneven complexion or congestion, for example, you may need a series of facials.

"When it comes to choosing which facial to have, it's surprising how many beauty salons give you a facial just based on your age and skin type, which in my view simply does not go far enough. Try to find a salon that will do a really detailed skin analysis and create a personalised treatment for you. Check out the reviews for the salons, and choose one that gets five-star recommendations.

"And finally, try them out a few months before your big day. The results should last for weeks if you follow their aftercare advice."