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BEST BEAUTY PRODUCTS I'VE EVER USED

After 30 years as a beauty editor, here are Nadine Baggott's favourite buys

Nadine Baggott



MY TOP SKINCARE

1 BEST VITAMIN C

Skinceuticals C E Ferulic
(£165; skinceuticals.co.uk)

I rarely rave about expensive skincare but this is the best daily antioxidant vitamin C by far. I swear it's the only reason I don't have the sun damage I deserve from my SPF-shy youth.



2 BEST MOISTURISER

Curél Intensive Moisture Cream (on offer at £15.59; amazon.co.uk)

This ceramide-rich range for sensitive skin suits all skin types and is ideal in colder weather. Doesn't break the bank either.

3 BEST BARGAIN CLEANSER

The Ordinary Glycolipid Cream Cleanser
(£11.10; theordinary.com)

Never, I repeat never, spend a lot of money on a cleanser – this perfect formula proves my point. It cleanses, conditions, melts away make-up and SPF and rinses away with warm water to a milk, to leave skin calm.



4 BEST PEPTIDE DAY SERUM

No7 Future Renew Serum
(£38.65; boots.com)

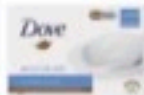
This serum, created after 15 years of research between Boots and the University of Manchester, has some brilliant clinical results. The two clever peptides tell your skin to make more collagen and fibrillin to keep skin bouncy and firmer.



5 BEST BODY BAR

Dove Sensitive Skin (£1.50 for two bars; in store at Boots)

What can I say except this is not a soap; it's a superfatted cleansing bar that is pH-balanced to protect your skin and can be used everywhere without irritation. Yes, everywhere.



6 BEST RETINOID FOR NIGHT

Medik8 Crystal Retinal 10
(£89; sephora.co.uk)

The only other skincare product on which I will splash my cash is a night-time retinoid/vitamin A to repair my skin. This is the best I've tried. It's the strongest retinoid you can use without a prescription.



7 BEST BODY EXFOLIANT

Ameliorate Transforming Body Lotion
(from £10; cultbeauty.co.uk)

This lotion is loaded with exfoliating lactic acid, which works to soften and hydrate skin. It will tackle keratosis pilaris (those bumpy red bits on thighs and the backs of arms), and scaly knees and elbows. Apply every night for a week and see the difference.



8 BEST EVERYDAY SPF

Bioré UV Aqua Watery Essence SPF50 (£15.99; superdrug.com)

The single best step you can take is to apply an SPF every day. So, it had better be lightweight, work as a moisturiser and sit well under make-up too. This ticks all the boxes. Don't forget your neck and chest or you'll regret it when you're my age.



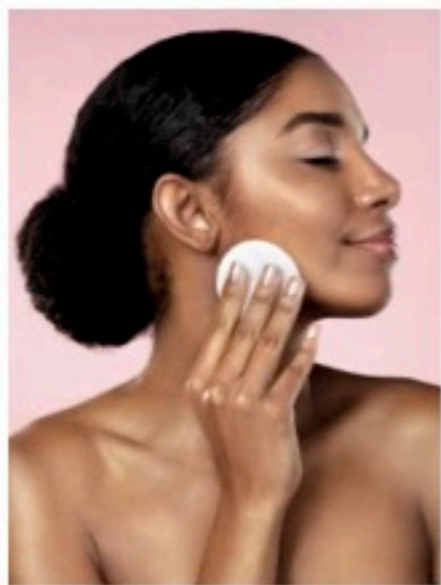
9 BEST ANTI-PUFF EYE SERUM

The Inkey List Caffeine Eye Cream (£9.99; uk.theinkeylist.com)

A caffeine eye serum will help depuff morning eyes. This is great value for money and works. ■



'THIS BEATS LUXE HAIR MASKS – AND SAVES YOU MONEY'



10 BEST SPOT TREATMENT

CeraVe Blemish Control Gel (£11.50; cultbeauty.co.uk)

This entire range is great and my favourite is this on-the-spot gel, which works brilliantly on blackheads, spots and ingrown hairs. The salicylic acid, at 2 per cent, will deep-pierce into pores and clear them over the course of three nights.



11 BEST TOP-UP SPF

Garnier Ambre Solaire Over Makeup Super UV Mist SPF50 (£12; boots.com)

This is the handiest little spray if you're caught short without SPF. It sprays lightly over your make-up, on exposed shoulders, necks and chests. Pack in your bag and go.



12 BEST BUDGET VITAMIN C

L'Oréal Paris Revitalift Clinical Pure 12% Vitamin C (on offer at £15; lookfantastic.com)

Mindful of the fact that my all-time favourite vitamin C is eye-wateringly expensive, this comes a close second. It comes from the same parent company as my first-choice product (no 1). There's also an SPF50 formulated to go straight on top.



13 BEST NECK CREAM

Just kidding, you don't need one – simply sweep all your skincare down to your chest.

HAIR HEROES

1 BEST BUDGET HAIR MASK

Aussie SOS Supercharged Repair Hair Mask (£11.99; boots.com)
Outperforms most high-end hair masks. Brilliant at detangling, adding shine and softness to damaged ends, while saving you money in the process.



2 BEST DAMAGE REPAIR SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER

Nexus Keraphix Shampoo and Conditioner (£16.99 each; boots.com)

These repair hair from the first wash, detangle and add control to frizz-prone, humidity-affected hair. And they smell so much nicer than the usual hair aisle offerings.



3 BEST BOND REPAIR SPRAY

Olaplex No 0 Intensive Bond Building Hair Treatment (£28; spaceenk.com)

There have been many new kids on the bond-building block, but this is my home option. Spray through hair until damp, leave for a minimum of ten minutes, then shampoo, condition and style as usual. It works to repair the sulphur bonds in hair that break over time.



4 BEST HAIR WATER

L'Oréal Elvive Dream Lengths Wonder Water (£9.99; superdrug.com)

This lamellar conditioning rinse works in a few seconds. It warms when in contact with damp, shampooed hair and lightly coats each damaged strand with oils and waxes, yet never weighs hair down or feels greasy.



5 BEST SUPERLIGHT TEXTURE SPRAY

Sam McKnight Cool Girl Barely There Texture Mist (from £12; sammcknight.com)

The original hair volumiser/spray/texturising mist that works on dry hair in seconds. Simply spray into roots and ruffle with your fingers for instant oomph and volume.



6 BEST FOR SCALY SCALPS

Philip Kingsley Flaky/Itchy Scalp Shampoo (£27; lookfantastic.com)

Of all of the preventative weekly dandruff shampoos, this one smells great, doesn't strip hair and works wonders. Just remember to use it only once a week if you're prone to a sensitive and/or flaking scalp.



7 BEST HAIR OIL

L'Oréal Paris Elvive 10 in 1 Miracle Treatment Leave-In Spray (£9.99; boots.com)

Let's be frank, the L'Oréal group (owner of Kérastase, Redken and L'Oréal Professionnel) does the best haircare – and its brands do share technology. Try this excellent, superlight spray-in hair oil. Use on freshly washed ends before blow-drying, or add a touch to freshly styled hair to smooth.



8 BEST STYLING CREAM

Kérastase Resistance Ciment Thermique (£33.70; kerastase.co.uk)

Some originals are still the best. This styling cream, launched 15 years ago, is lightweight, fixes dry, damaged ends, making them look healthier, and helps protect from blow-drying. What's not to love?



9 BEST ANTI-BRASS TONER

Shrine Drop It Ash Blonde Toner (£9.99; weareshrine.com)

This intensely pigmented toner comes in a range of shades and can be added to any conditioner to turn it into a toner to take the brass out of blonde hair. The perfect post-summer beach holiday treatment. ➤



'TOP MAKE-UP ARTISTS SAY THIS IS THEIR FAVOURITE'



10 BEST SCALP SERUM
Head & Shoulders DermaXPro Hair Revitaliser (£10; boots.com)
 I am not a fan of scalp products, but this is watery to the touch, so no oily feeling or residue, can be applied morning or night and pre-blow-dry and is like a skin serum for your dry scalp.

11 BEST GREY COVER POWDER

Color Wow Root Cover Up (£29.50, in eight shades; uk.colorwowhair.com)
 This powder hair colour clings to grey hair instantly. If you're caught short with a grey parting or hairline, it works wonders.



12 BEST STYLING TIME-SAVER
H&M microfibre hair wrap (£5.99; www2.hm.com)
 Cut down drying time and heat damage with a microfibre hair wrap. These wick the water out of hair in double-quick time.

MAKE-UP MUST-HAVES

1 BEST BASE

Armani Luminous Silk Foundation (£45, in 40 shades; armanibeauty.co.uk)
 If you poll a group of professional make-up artists this often comes out top when it comes to a base that suits all ages, skin types and colours. Lightweight, with a flattering glowy finish.



2 BEST BRONZER
Chanel Les Beiges Bronzing Cream (£46, in three shades; chanel.com)
 This is the original and best cream soft-focus bronzer. Apply with a kabuki brush all over

and you get a soft, glowy colour that blurs imperfections. Lasts for ages.

3 BEST MASCARA

Benefit Fan Fest Volumising Mascara (£25.50; benefitcosmetics.com)
 Who knew that Benefit, the brand that does the most innovative mascaras, could



outdo itself? But this delivers: lengthening, non-clogging, volumising, plus it fans lashes out so they don't clump together.



4 BEST TINTED BALM
Nars Afterglow Lip Balm (£26, in nine shades; narscosmetics.co.uk)
 If you want hydrated, softly coloured low-maintenance lips, this is the best. Torrid is my favourite shade.

5 BEST BODY MAKE-UP

Vita Liberata Body Blur (£30, in five shades; boots.com)
 Yes, body make-up can look natural and add colour, if you choose the best. And this is it. Instant, soft-focus colour that's like a pair of 10 denier tights in a tube. Perfect for slapping on your legs last minute if you want to get your legs out tights-free.



6 BEST SETTING POWDER
Beauty Pie One-Powder Wonder (£35; beautypie.com)
 This translucent pressed powder goes on sheer, sets make-up and even under-eye concealer and never looks cakey or flat. It has a soft finish that is flattering on all skin ages.

7 BEST CONCEALER

Maybelline Eraser (£8.99, in 13 shades; boots.com)
 This is a brilliant budget concealer, comes in a good range of shades and offers just the right amount of coverage. I'm not normally a fan of inbuilt sponge applicators, but this has an anti-microbial active to keep it fresher for longer. It's also so



reasonably priced you can buy two shades: a lighter one for under your eyes and a face-matching one to cover blemishes.



8 BEST EYELINER

MAC Eye Kohl in Costa Riche (£18.50; maccosmetics.co.uk)
 No one does a liner better than MAC, and this one comes in a brilliant range of shades. It can be used in the waterline, in the base of the lashes and on the lids, and glides on and sets quickly.

9 BEST TINTED BROW GEL

Charlotte Tilbury Legendary Brows (£25, in four shades; charlottetilbury.com)
 I need a tinted gel that I can brush through my patchy brows in seconds, and this is it. The tiny spoolie makes creating arched brows idiot-proof.



10 BEST SINGLE SHADOWS

MAC Eyeshadow (£20, in 74 shades; maccosmetics.co.uk)
 Forget flashy palettes – you'll never use all the shades – and instead invest in three or four great singles. These come in a vast array of shades and finishes. Choose something like Wedge or Cork just in the crease of your eyes to give the appearance of wide-awake, more open eyes.



11 BEST CREAMY LIP COLOUR

Charlotte Tilbury K.I.S.S.I.N.G. (£27; charlottetilbury.com)
 No one does a nude creamy lip quite like Charlotte Tilbury. What's more, the site shows its 17 shades on different lip tones. Choose Bitch Perfect for the perfect warm, hydrating, satin-finish nude.



12 BEST BLUSH

Merit Flush Balm (£32, in nine shades; meritbeauty.com)
 From the minimalist make-up brand of the year comes this clever creamy, powdery blush hybrid. The dome makes it easy to apply and it blends seamlessly from balm to powder to give a satin finish in a good range of shades. ■



Find @nadinebaggott on Instagram and YouTube where she answers all your beauty questions