

REFRESH YOUR

BEAUTY

ROUTINE

2021
Prevention
BEAUTY
AWARDS

If there's ever been a time to really embrace the power of possibility that comes with spring, it's 2021. So to help you find new favorites and rediscover the joys of pampering yourself, we tested hundreds of beauty products and tapped industry pros for their insights. The result is this list of the most effective skincare, barely-there makeup, salon-worthy haircare, and nail nourishers.

Feel your best this year!

BY ALISA HRUSTIC

PREVENTION'S EXPERT PANEL

- **Caroline Chang, M.D.**, a board-certified dermatologist and the founder of Rhode Island Dermatology Institute
- **Melissa Kanchanapoomi Levin, M.D.**, a board-certified dermatologist and the founder of Entière Dermatology in New York City
- **Lucy Garcia-Planck**, a senior hairstylist at the John Barrett Salon in New York City
- **Katey Denno**, a green beauty expert and celebrity makeup artist based in Los Angeles and New York City
- **Joy Fennell**, a top fashion and celebrity makeup artist in New York City
- **April Franzino**, beauty director of *Prevention*, *Good Housekeeping*, and *Woman's Day*

2021
Prevention
BEAUTY
AWARDS

DAILY SKIN SAVIORS

1 | UNIVERSAL FACE WASH

La Roche-Posay Lipikar Wash AP+, \$15, drugstores
This gentle foaming cleanser has a special ability to keep oil at bay without irritating sensitive skin. It packs rich shea butter and calming niacinamide (vitamin B₃) while ditching harsh soaps and fragrances.

2 | RESTORING SERUM

Neutrogena Hydro Boost Night Pressed Serum, \$23, drugstores
Serum in an unconventional form, this “pressed” formula maintains a thicker

consistency, helping repair skin while you sleep. Franzino points to its “rich, bouncy texture” and “gold standard” moisturizing agents, which work extra hard to relieve parched patches when sealed in with your go-to night cream.

3 | WEIGHTLESS MOISTURIZER

EltaMD AM Therapy, \$35, dermstore.com
Dr. Levin backs this product because it is “super lightweight, but has great moisturizing ingredients,” including niacinamide to

help soothe redness and hyaluronic acid to help banish dryness.

4 | GLOW-BOOSTING SPF

Colorescience Sunforgettable Total Protection Face Shield Glow SPF 50, \$39, colorescience.com
“This hydrating sunscreen leaves almost no trace on the skin,” says Dr. Chang. She loves it for what it *does* leave: protective antioxidants

and 12% zinc oxide to ward off sun damage and pearly pigments for a radiant finish.

5 | MIRACLE ZIT ZAPPER

Bliss Clear Genius Clarifying Toner + Serum, \$18, ulta.com
This serum/toner hybrid makes use of proven acne fighters like salicylic acid (to unclog pores) and witch hazel (to control oil). Bonus: It also contains skin soothers and hydrators like zinc and hyaluronic acid.



ASTOUNDING ANTI-AGERS

1 | MULTI-TASKING CREAM

Tatcha Luminous Dewy Skin Night Concentrate, \$110, sephora.com
“This silky-smooth ultra-hydrating formula is packed with antioxidant-rich algae, green tea, and ginseng,” says Dr. Chang. Licorice root lightens dark spots, while squalane (extracted from olives) delivers deep moisture, making this a do-it-

all cream to protect and repair skin.

2 | BRIGHTENING SERUM

Olay Regenerist MaxTone Serum, \$33, olay.com
More like a serum/lotion hybrid, this fragrance-free pick delivers niacinamide to reduce irritation and vitamin C to boost brightness and even skin tone. The creamy formula glides on sans stickiness, leaving

you with a can't-miss-it glow.

3 | ANTI-AGING EYE CREAM

Skinbetter Science InterFuse Treatment Cream Eye, \$105, skinbetter.com
Dr. Levin says this eye cream is probably the most popular in her practice, thanks to a special peptide that mimics Botox by “relaxing superficial muscles.” It also is loaded with hydrators, vitamin C, and caffeine to reduce puffiness. Apply it morning and night after you cleanse and before you slather on other serums.

4 | ALL-STAR RETINOL

RoC Retinol Correxion Line Smoothing Night Serum Capsules, \$25, walmart.com
Retinol is powerful, so it can spur redness and peeling if you use it in large amounts. These 100% biodegradable capsules offer the perfect dose while “maintaining the freshness and potency” of the highly concentrated retinol inside, says Dr. Chang.



2021
Prevention
BEAUTY
AWARDS

ALLOVER BODY BOOSTERS

1 | INNOVATIVE RAZOR

Gillette Venus Mini, \$9, drugstores

This ingenious mini razor comes with its own case for travel convenience. The design shrinks the original full-size handle but keeps the same effective three-blade head, so no separate purchase is required.

2 | SMOOTHING BODY WASH

Glytone Exfoliating Body Wash, \$33, glytone-usa.com

"I love this exfoliating body wash," says Dr. Levin, who recommends it for people who struggle with keratosis pilaris (a.k.a. "chicken skin"). It contains gentle surfactants to cleanse and glycolic acid to slough away rough texture.

3 | ECO-FRIENDLY DEODORANT

Native Plastic-Free Deodorant, \$16, target.com

Tapioca starch and baking soda keep you dry, coconut

oil ensures smooth application, and a unique sugar-based ingredient derived from starch slowly releases a pleasant scent for odor-free wear—yes, even for those who sweat heavily. Best of all, it's packaged in paperboard instead of plastic, and 1% of sales goes toward fighting plastic pollution.

4 | HAND HEALER

Aveeno Repairing Cica Hand Mask, \$3, drugstores

Treat dry, cracked hands with their own mask, suggests Dr. Chang. Infused with soothing colloidal oat and shea butter, these slip-on gloves repair and relieve damaged skin in just 10 minutes.

5 | RICH BODY BUTTER

Kiehl's Creme de Corps Soy Milk & Honey Whipped Body Butter, \$40, kiehls.com

"This souffle-like body butter is rich, but it soaks into skin thanks to its whipped texture," says Franzino. "The jojoba and shea butter really nourish dehydrated skin, yet feel like a pampering treat."



HEALTHY HAIR ESSENTIALS

1 | MOISTURIZING HAIR MASK
Verb Hydrating Mask, \$18, sephora.com

A mask that fights dryness, tames frizz, and repairs damage all at once? Believe it. Work it through damp hair, let

it sit, and rinse away for shinier, softer strands that are much easier to style.

2 | FRIZZ-FIGHTING SERUM
Kérastase Paris Nutritive 8H Magic



3 | VOLUMIZING SHAMPOO
L'Oréal Paris Ever-Pure Volume Shampoo, \$8, drugstores

If you want an affordable shampoo with salon-quality results, this is the one to try. "It brings a nice softness to hair without making it flat," says Garcia-Planck. Plus, it's free of sulfates (cleansers that can sometimes strip strands), so it's gentle even on color-treated hair.

4 | HYDRATING CONDITIONER
Pantene Sulfate-Free Hydrating Glow Conditioner, \$7, drugstores

This sulfate-free conditioner "gives hair a silky look," says Franzino. All-star hydrators

like baobab essence (from cold-pressed seeds of the Tanzanian tree) and vitamin B₅ give strands a surge of moisture without weighing them down.

5 | REVITALIZING SCALP SCRUB
Nexus Clean & Pure Invigorating Detox Scalp Scrub, \$16, target.com

A healthy scalp grows healthy hair, so work this exfoliating scrub right into your roots to bust through oil and product buildup for the ultimate refresh. The sugar base dissolves easily, meaning it won't leave specks in your strands, which should feel full and bouncy after you use it.

6 | LIGHTWEIGHT CURL BOOSTER
Virtue Curl-Defining Whip, \$36, virtuelabs.com

To give curls and waves extra oomph, reach for this light but deeply hydrating mousse, which helps define your natural texture without that sticky, crunchy feeling. The result: soft, effortless curls that feel as great as they look.

2021
Prevention
BEAUTY
AWARDS

SIMPLE, STUNNING MAKEUP

1 | BEST BROW PRODUCT

Maybelline Brow Ultra Slim Defining Eyebrow Pencil, \$8, drugstores

This pencil has a micro-precision tip that's easy to control and a formula that stays in place, says Fennell. It doesn't leave that notorious waxy film behind, so "it mimics real hair, making a brow look extra full naturally."

2 | NATURAL SKIN TINT

Ilia Super Serum Skin Tint SPF 40, \$48, sephora.com

Denno says this multitasking serum protects skin, gives enough coverage

for sunspots and blemish scars, and "quickly melts in and disappears" once you find your match among the 30 diverse shades: "It's on my face most days and gives a great glow."

3 | EVERYDAY EYESHADOW

Aether Beauty Summer Solstice Palette, \$58, sephora.com

"The silky, easy-to-blend texture of these powders makes this a must-have," Denno says. We love this palette for its mix of wearable mattes and "something special" shimmers.

4 | BRIGHTENING BALM

Tower 28 Beach-Please Luminous Tinted Balm, \$20, tower28beauty.com

"I love the texture of these juicy balms so much," says Denno. "They are not sticky and feel more hydrating and bouncy than you'd ever expect." Gently massage into cheeks as a your-skin-but-better blush or use as a fun lipstick topper.

5 | WEARABLE LIPCOLOR

Mented Lip Gloss, \$15, mented cosmetics.com

Fennell says the shade range of

these smooth, luscious glosses complements a variety of skin tones and that they're "thick enough to have good staying power"—all while giving your pout a fuller, plumper look.

6 | DRAMATIC MASCARA

Lancôme Lash Idôle Mascara, \$26, ulta.com

"This mascara's novel curved wand and lightweight gel formula help reach every lash, making them look full, not clumped or deflated," says Franzino, who tests dozens of new mascaras each year.



PRETTY NAIL NECESSITIES

1 | NONTOXIC LACQUER
Nails Inc Plant Power Polish, \$10, sephora.com

This vegan polish is "free of almost every potentially questionable nail polish ingredient," says Franzino—21 of them, to be exact. "But it still manages to come in a range of

gorgeous, vibrant colors that look glossy and won't chip in a day."

2 | MESS-FREE CUTICLE OIL
Sally Hansen Cuticle Rehab Oil Balm, \$9, drugstores

A cuticle treatment that doesn't leave you with an oily mess? It's possible, thanks to this solid

balm, enriched with nourishing vitamin E and safflower oil, that you can easily glide on with no drip or spill risk.

3 | SHINY TOPPER
Olive & June Super Glossy Top Coat, \$8, target.com

Reach for this polish-perfecting top coat to give your at-home mani a salon-quality look and a much longer life. The smooth application makes finishing the job a total breeze.

4 | GENTLE POLISH REMOVER
Ella + Mila Soy Nail Polish Remover, \$11.50, target.com

Most polish removers contain acetone, an effective but harsh solvent that can leave nails brittle—but not this one. It is soy-based and has various vitamins and lavender essential oil to moisturize nails and cuticles while gently swiping away at-home paint jobs.



Discover
extra expert
picks for every
category in
our expanded
Beauty Awards
at prevention.com/beautyawards2021.

MORE
WINNERS!