



Regardless of their face shape or figure, celebs on the red carpet all have one element in common – contouring is their secret make-up weapon.

Everyone, from Jennifer Lopez to Cate Blanchett to Megan Gale, uses this clever play on light and shade to dramatic effect. “Even after 20 years in the industry, I’m still amazed at how this wizardly technique can transform a face,” says international make-up artist Liz Kelsh. Cheekbones pop, eyes look bigger, and a ‘double chin’ can disappear – and it’s not hard to do! Here’s how to master the look at home.

STEP

1

Smooth start

Stand in front of a mirror and look closely at your face, noticing where your natural highs and hollows are. Apply primer to even out the skin tone – a smooth, even surface helps make-up sit better and last longer.

OUR FAVES

1 **Nude by Nature Undercover Airbrush Mineral Skin Primer**, \$29.95, is a great pick for dry complexions and doesn’t contain any preservatives. **2** **Napoleon Perdis Auto Pilot Pre-Foundation Skin Primer**, \$59, is loved by many celebs for its silky skin-smoothing ability.



Get the
LOOK

Contouring & highlighting

Master this make-up technique to look younger and slimmer in five easy steps.



STEP

2

Brush up

“Good-quality brushes are vital for blending everything – and the key to flawless make-up is all in the blending,” says Kelsh.

OUR FAVES

1 The Body Shop Foundation Brush, \$22.95, doubles as an excellent liquid bronzer or highlighter brush because its design makes blending in narrow areas a breeze.

2 Eles Tapered Powder Brush, \$25, has slightly rounded bristles for controlled application to the exact area you want it.

3 The Luma Smooth Foundation Brush, \$16.95, builds foundation coverage – go one shade darker than your natural skin tone.

4 Ecotools Face & Body Sculpting Brush, \$11.99, is best for bronzing larger areas, such as the neck and décolletage.

STEP

3

Contour

Using light and shade to accentuate bone structure is simple: suck in your cheeks and apply a matte bronzer to the natural cheek hollows, then relax your

face and blend well with a brush. Apply bronzer to your temples, down each side of the nose and along your jawline – from under your ear to under your chin on each side – basically every area you’d like to visually slim!

OUR FAVE

1 Napoleon Perdis Matte Bronze, \$60, is great for shading. Always use a matte bronzer, as the bronzers with shimmer can make your skin look greasy.



STEP

5

Finishing touch

“Blush breathes life back into dull, dry skin and provides an instant pick-me-up,” says Kelsh. It’s totally fine to wear blush over bronzer – just make sure a cream blush goes over a liquid bronzer and a powder blush goes over a powder bronzer. For a daytime flush of colour that looks natural, start from the apples of your cheeks and sweep the colour up towards your temples.

OUR FAVES

1 Laura Mercier Bonne Mine Stick Face Colour in Pink Glow, \$30, blends easily to create a sheer, natural radiance.

2 Boe Professional Colour Pro Perfect Blush Duo in Apricot Smoothie, \$8.95, contains a matte and shimmer shade – use each one on its own, or blend them to create your ideal colour. **3 100% Pure Luminescent Powder in Pink Champagne**, \$34.95, is a must-have for sensitive skin and is made from real fruit.



STEP

4

Highlight

A liquid or powder highlighter has incredible power: dab sparingly on the tops of your cheekbones and suddenly they pop. Sweep it down the centre of your nose and chin, and between your brows, and a round face appears more elongated.

OUR FAVES

1 Benefit Sun Beam, \$45, gives your cheeks and collarbones a prominent sun-kissed glow.

2 Arbonne Sheer Glow Highlighter, \$56, is brilliant for that luminescent effect on cheeks and brow bones.

