

Want an instant slimming solution? Find the perfect haircut for your face. We've got all the tricks you need.

inding the right hairstyle is like slipping into shapewear – its slimming power instantly boosts confidence when you find the perfect fit. Slimming styles have two elements – length and layers. "Long hair makes your face seem more slender," says Sydney hair stylist Barney Martin. "And the diagonal curve of a side-swept fringe is always a winner."

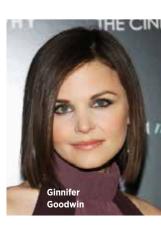
There are, however, a few styles to avoid. A short fringe, straight blunt cuts, slicked-back ponytails and pixie styles all highlight extra weight around the face.

The key is to match the style to your face shape. Follow our pointers to see how.

THE PERFECT CUT "To slim down a round face, add height at the crown and reduce width around the face," says Barney. Go for face-framing layers or a loose ponytail with height at the crown if you have lengthy locks, or a lob – long bob – with jagged, razored edges. "Your hair should go past your chin to help create a lengthening effect and balance out any roundness," says Barney.

cuts to avoid very short cuts or styles with volume at the side draw attention to the fullest part of your face: the cheeks. PARTING WORDS "A side part works best as the asymmetrical style helps to offset roundness," says Barney. To prevent layers from adding bulk, use a straightening cream before blow-drying or hot ironing, and smooth the ends with a finishing serum.







THE PERFECT CUT Keep the hair close to your face with a tapered bob to soften the forehead and jawline. And if your hair is naturally curly, play up the waves. "Graduated layers that start at the chin and turn inwards instead of outwards also help narrow a square face," says Barney. "If you want to go short, try an angled bob where the front layers are longer than the back to elongate the face."

Olivia Wilde

CUTS TO AVOID Steer clear of square bobs and blunt bangs – they accentuate a broad forehead and chin.

PARTING WORDS An off-centre part softens a strong jawline. You'll need a thermal heat protection spray and round brush to blow-dry layers in towards the face.





Rose

Byrne

THE PERFECT CUT Pretty much anything goes for oval face shapes because your forehead and chin are in proportion – you're blessed with natural symmetry! "Go for bangs," says Barney. "Whether blunt, rounded or side-swept, all fringe styles will suit you. If you get a straight fringe make sure it stops at the outside corners of your eyebrows so your face doesn't appear square." CUTS TO AVOID Given oval-shaped faces are slightly longer than they are wide, a dead-straight style can elongate the face further. PARTING WORDS You can pull off both a side part or a centre part, but always keep your locks layered for movement and texture.

BEAUTY



THE PERFECT CUT Go for short layers to take the focus off a prominent chin and wide brow. Soft waves work wonders, but keep the curl below the ears as fullness on top emphasises your triangular face shape. "For a shorter style, go for a lob that's cut past the chin to show off your cheekbones," says Barney.

CUTS TO AVOID Anything above the jawline highlights a pointy chin, as does a full, blunt fringe.

PARTING WORDS "A deep side part is perfect - it opens up the face and draws attention to your cheekbones," says Barney. You'll need a curl definer if you're working the waves, and a luxe finishing serum to keep locks sleek.

