

Strobing 101

Your beginner's guide to makeup's hottest trend

A lower-maintenance cousin to last season's contouring craze, strobing uses well-applied highlighter to emphasize the areas of your face that get the most natural light. The result? A youthful, dewy and radiant sheen that looks amazing on everyone. Better still, unlike contouring, you don't need a ton of time to achieve maximum impact. In fact, one of our favorite things about this hot, hot, hot makeup trend is just how easy it is to execute!

Here's your guide to strobing in five simple steps:

First, moisturize!

Dry, flaky skin is not a good look! So, before you get started, make sure your skin is well-hydrated. Choose the moisturizer that's right for your skin type (oily, dry, combination or normal). Then, apply your foundation... or don't. One more perk of this on-point trend is that it works whether you start fresh-faced or apply on top of your base!

Next up, select your highlighter

Champagne, pink and gold tones work best for most complexions. However, if you're super pale (think: Snow White) opt for pearlescent or even slightly silver hues. Likewise, if your natural skin tone is darker than olive, start by trying neutral peach tones until you find the right fit.

Which you'll know for sure only once you begin to...

Apply the highlighter

Starting at the top of your face, focus on prominent areas – those that would catch the most light. Not sure what that means? The center of your forehead, below your browbones, your nose, your cheekbones, the corners of your eyes and above the cupid's bow are great places to start. Once you're satisfied you've hit the most reflective surfaces, it's time to...

Blend it in

But not so much that the highlighter winds up all over your face. Otherwise, you run the risk of looking oily as opposed to glowing. A big, soft brush should do the trick in most cases.

And finally, finish your look

Apply any complimentary products like blush and eye shadow, opting, if you dare, for those with a little added shimmer to go with the flow – or in this case, your glow!