

Important questions to ask when choosing a wedding hair and makeup provider

Choosing a wedding hair and makeup provider can be one of the most important decisions you make in the lead up to your special day. It is important that you find a stylist and makeup artist that has the skills and expertise to ensure you not only look and feel like a princess on your big day, but can deliver their service in a caring and stress free manner.

Based on our extensive bridal research we have found that there are major differences in the level of service you can expect from different wedding hair and makeup providers, and surprisingly, price is not always a true indicator of quality.

So to help you with this difficult process, we have developed this simple questionnaire to help you compare potential providers. Remember this is one of the most important days in your life, so don't leave anything to chance.

Q. How long will you normally spend on applying a bride's makeup?

You should be wary of makeup artists who complete a face in under 30mins - you may as well do it yourself. At Hollywood Brides our artist's spend on average about 45mins per face.

Q. What makeup style do you typically recommend?

Be aware that some makeup artists will use the same colours and style on every bride and bridal party. At Hollywood Brides, every face is unique, that is why it is our philosophy to tailor an individual look for each person, taking into account their unique features and maximising their natural beauty.

Q. Do you apply any skin preparation products prior to makeup application?

The very best celebrity makeup artists will prepare your skin using a range of products including, anti-shine serums, toners, moisturisers, makeup primers, silicone based pore and line minimisers. At Hollywood Brides all professional makeup artists have a treasure trove, full of magical beauty products.

Q. Do you offer highlighting and contouring?

A true professional will use the art of highlighting and contouring to accentuate your positive features and minimize those that may be less desirable. For example, applying highlights to your brow bone will make your eyes stand out, adding shadows to a double chin will make it less noticeable, while applying highlights down the centre of your nose will make your nose look slimmer. At Hollywood Brides our magicians provide this as a standard service, minimising any flaws and accentuating your natural beauty, creating a beautiful sculpted look.

Q. How can I be sure that my makeup will last?

Through the course of an average day and evening your makeup will experience general wear and tear. Without a celebrity makeup artist waiting in the wings to touch your makeup up, it is important that your makeup artist uses a makeup setting spray which holds everything in place - all day and night. At Hollywood Brides we use and recommend 'Model in a Bottle' which has been featured on the Oprah Winfrey and the Tyra Banks Shows.

Q. How can I be sure that my hair will last?

At your trial, your stylist will determine the time that they will need to spend on each person's hairstyle. This is governed by length, thickness, density, resistance, condition and cleanliness of your hair. At Hollywood Brides we will follow up with you after your trial to find out how long your curls lasted before dropping, so we are prepared for your special day. Once you have decided on a style, we will be able to give you advice on routine treatments and trims, to get your hair into tip top shape. If you're top layers are shorter than 4 to 6 inches, we will recommend that you wear a hair piece, wig, padding or extensions, making your dream hairstyle a reality.

Q. Do you offer a guarantee on your work?

At Hollywood Brides we are so confident in the standard and quality of our services, that we offer a 100% satisfaction or money back guarantee on every wedding trial. This ensures that all our brides a completely happy with the look and style they have chosen, come their wedding day. Visit our website for more information.



Q. What products will you be using on the day?

Generally speaking, experienced providers will only use quality hair, makeup and beauty products, with no particular attachment to any one brand. At Hollywood Brides we have found that this allows us to customise products according to your individual requirements and tastes, providing you with a far superior result.

Q. Will you be providing me with a pre wedding beauty plan?

The key to looking stunning on your big day is preparation. At Hollywood Brides you will receive a customised pre-wedding beauty plan which will focus on the health of your skin, hair and nails, in the lead up to your wedding day. You will also receive our celebrity style beauty newsletter, which will provide you with invaluable information, advice and tips. Furthermore, our in-house beauty therapists will be able to assist you with resurfacing chemical peels, facials, manicures, exfoliation and hydrating treatments, brow wax and tints and more.

Q. Will your stylists be working at another wedding during the day?

The last thing you want on your special day is to be rushed by your stylist, who has pre-booked another wedding. Many providers will book back-to-back weddings, which means they cannot take the time and due care required to flawlessly execute your look, often dictating the times to you and having you ready too soon or last. At Hollywood Brides we ensure that all our stylists are there at the set times agreed by you, ensuring a perfect result every time.

Q. Do you recommend I undertake a pre wedding trial?

Most professional hair and makeup providers will insist that you undertake a pre-wedding trial. You should treat this as a full hair and makeup dress rehearsal for your big day. This will allow you to experience how your hair and makeup will look on the day, so you can experience how long your hair and makeup will last, and whether it feels comfortable and natural. Did your curls drop? If yes, how long did it take? Use this opportunity to discuss any skin conditions or allergies you may have, as well as your specific thoughts and ideas for your stylists to interpret.

Q. How often will you be in contact with me in the lead up to my wedding day?

One of the biggest complaints that many brides have is not hearing from their wedding hair and makeup provider until the day of their wedding. This can create unnecessary anxiety. At Hollywood Brides we will keep in regular contact with you via email, newsletters, text and phone, ensuring your peace of mind in the critical lead up to your big day. We will provide you with advice, tips and assistance when you need it, not just on your wedding day.

Q. Will you provide me with a run sheet for the day?

At Hollywood Brides we will work with you to develop a personalised run sheet for your day. This will ensure that everything runs to clock work and goes as smoothly as possible, including working in closely with your wedding co-ordinator and photographer. It is critical that your hair and makeup is completed on time, otherwise you could be forced to play catch up for the rest of your day. Even worse, you may be late for your ceremony and lose precious time for photographs, missing out on capturing those special moments.

Q. Do you have before and after photos of your work?

The best way to gauge a hair and makeup provider's experience is to view their portfolio. It is important to be wary of providers who only use models in their portfolios, as this will not provide a true indication of their skills. Ask to see before and after photos of real brides. Check out our extensive before and after photos on our website.

Q. Do you have any testimonials I can review?

If you don't know of anyone who has previously used the provider, then ask to see their references and testimonials. This is a good way to see what other brides thought of their services. Visit hollywoodbrides.com.au

Q. Are all of your staff fully insured?

To ensure your peace of mind and that you have some form of protection should something go wrong, it is recommended that you check that your hair stylist and makeup artist are fully insured. If in doubt, ask to see a copy of their public liability insurance certificate. All Hollywood Brides stylists and artists are fully insured.

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