

Beauty Q&A

Every month, we answer a bunch of your burning beauty questions.

Q What causes the thin red veins around my nose?

A Probably excess sun exposure," says NYC dermatologist Jody Alpert Levine. UV rays inflame capillary veins and weaken your skin's top layer, so the red lines become more visible. A laser treatment will shrink the veins (and cost about \$500), but concealer does a great job of covering them up temporarily. Try Max Factor Erace, \$4.75.



Q I OD'd on my perfume. Help!

A There's no magic potion that will undo the damage. Your best bet is to dilute what's already there by spritzing on water from a spray bottle. Seriously saturated? Good ole soap and water on a washcloth will remove the excess. Next time, spray perfume into the air and walk into it for subtle overall coverage. Or use a roll-on formula—it's easier to control if you're the trigger-happy type.

Q Why do those little white marks form on my nails?

A Lack of calcium, right? Total myth! The specks indicate trauma done to the nail's base—such as dropping something heavy on your finger, says Kimberly Butterwick, a dermatologist in La Jolla, California. The blow creates marks below the cuticle, which travel with your nail as it grows. Want to hide them? Use opaque polish, and apply a strengthening base coat, like Essie Protein Base Coat, \$8, to toughen up your nail against future mishaps.



Q My guy complains about my prickly legs, but I don't like to wax. Any ideas?

A For a superclose shave, stick with a four- or five-blade razor. Then keep regrowth from feeling coarse and cactus-like by applying a thick cream right after showering (skip water-based lotions, which can evaporate and leave your hair dry). Try Elizabeth Arden Eight Hour Cream Skin Protectant, \$16.

Q Do summer eye shadows work for fall or should I toss mine?

A Keep 'em. You can layer those peach, rose, and berry shades with autumn hues, says makeup artist Sonia Kashuk. First, dust the lighter shade, like peach, over the lid and up to the brow bone. Then for a sexy contrast, apply a darker fall shade, such as chocolate, along the upper lash line, and smudge it out toward the crease.



COSMOPOLITAN.COM/BEAUTYQA



Have a question for Cosmo's primping pros? Ask it here!