

TREND WATCH

Chilled out updos

The key to this relaxed pin up is not to try too hard says Sharon Bett from Umojah Hair Salon

What makes this work?

It's all about under styling: loose strands, dishevelled top knots, uneven sections...

Basically you want your updo to look effortlessly relaxed like the wind is blowing through it.

How do you make loose styles last?

Lightweight products won't weigh the hair down and will retain the movement that's

needed. I recommend KeraCare Finishing Spray in Medium Hold (£7.95/300ml).

Is there a texture preference?

There's so much scope to be creative. Locs and braids can be braided into a fishtail plait or intertwined with afro kinky textured extensions which is light and very natural looking. There are no hard and fast rules! **BB&H**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATTHARSHPHOTOGRAPHY.CO.UK. HAIR BY HECTOR OBENG AT HECTOR'S GLOBAL HAIR WITH ZEAL, 73 LOWER RICHMOND ROAD, MORTLAKE, LONDON SW14 7HJ. TEL: 020 8878 7069. MAKE-UP BY AMANDA THORRELL. STYLING BY PHILOMENA OBENG AND KONADIA ADIEPONG

Wise Buys



Get cleavage confident with This Works Perfect Cleavage Firming Lotion (£38/60ml). Formulated to 'brighten and tighten,' it also combats fine lines, wrinkles and dark spots

Face scrubs using granuals can cause tiny tears in the skin, which can be a problem if you're blemish prone. DHC Washing Powder (£8/50g) contains wheat to cleanse and soften skin. Wet the powder to create a milky lather that doesn't strip the skin's pH.



Prevent dry chapped lips with a round ball of deliciousness. EOS Lip Balms (£7)



100 per cent vegan, tick! Antibacterial bristles, tick! Nanshy Face 5 Piece Brush Set (£34.95) is the ultimate make up tool



Get your glow on with BlackUp Radiance Concealer (£21.56)

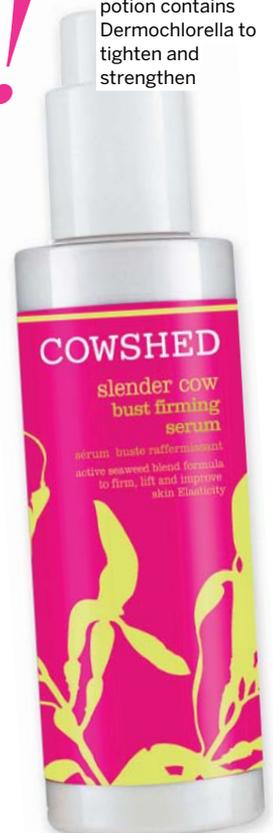
HOT RIGHT NOW!

Fun in the sun beauty buys

Say hi to your cleavage's new best friend, with the Slender Cow Bust Firming Serum (£36/150ml). This invisible bra potion contains Dermochlorella to tighten and strengthen



Pop-open these playful Pigment pots from MAC (£17 each)



Academy award-winning actress, Lupita Nyong'o, has been snapped up by Lancôme to be a new ambassadress. The French beauty company described her as 'strikingly beautiful, intelligent and true to her African beauty.' Her first campaign will be out September 2014. Can't wait!

Clinique Anti-Blemish Solutions Clinical Clearing Gel (£14/15ml) clears and prevents breakouts, controls oil levels, exfoliates, reduces redness and soothes skin

Luminate your skin with the honey infused Early-Harvest Raspberry Shower Gel by The Body Shop (£4/250ml)



Smudge-proof and water-resistant, the Youngblood Eye-Mazing Liquid Liner Pen (£20/7g) is pool-friendly

3 BEST PAWPAW LIP BALMS



PURE Papaya Ointment Tube (£9.99/25g) is 100 per cent natural, and packed with calendula, shea butter, jojoba oil and macadamia oil



Dr. PAWPAW Original Balm (£6.95/25ml) is the only British made multi-purpose, miracle balm to contain pawpaw



Together olive, avocado, sesame and jojoba oil make the dream team for soft summer skin, and they can all be found in the Bobbi Brown Beach Body Oil (£24)



Melted Liquified Long Wear Lipsticks (£19) have the intense colour of a lip stain and the shine of a gloss. Available in Nude, Peony, Coral, Fuchsia, Ruby and Violet

PapayaGold PAWPAW Balm (£5.99/25g) is mixed with manuka honey to soothe irritated skin



Santorini Getaway Moisturising Body Set from Fashion Fair (£40) makes the perfect getaway companion home or away

RELAXER ROUND UP

Not sure what relaxer to go for? To help you make a decision we look at the most innovative ranges out now

SALON-ONLY



AVLON

Offering two professional-only products, the Avlon Affirm Conditioning Relaxer System comes in two strengths: Crème Relaxer and Sensitive Scalp Relaxer. Avlon has merged a blend of exotic and cutting edge ingredients that help strengthen and protect hair from damage both in the process and after. The chemistry-based company have promised that this formula will retain 81 per cent of the hair's elasticity than previous formulas, and will leave your tresses soft and bouncy.

WHAT THE PROS SAY

'This is the biggest range that suits every individual, from sensitive to very dry scalp. On every application the conditioning system and treatment leaves the client's hair looking silky and shiny.' Alex O'Brien, colour technician at Francesco Group



Mizani

Premium salon-only brand, Mizani, have improved their original Butter Blend HG Relaxer by creating two different formulas. Mild is for those wanting minimal to moderate curl reduction, resulting in a textured wavy look that can be worn textured or straight. Normal is for those seeking a much straighter look. The HG technology penetrates quickly to produce better straightening results and protects against breakage in the process. The rich blend of cocoa butter, shea butter and honey, leaves hair superbly conditioned and soft to the touch.

WHAT THE PROS SAY

'This is a great product to use for when you want to texturise without it being dead straight, as it keeps a good balance from your natural and relaxed hair. I would recommend this if you have very dry hair, as the 5-step system has a pre-treatment that keeps hair moisturised.' Michelle Garande, stylist at Afrotherapy Salon



Design Essentials

Design Essentials have produced salon-only relaxers to accommodate all hair types and textures. The Design Essentials Conditioning Relaxer with Olive Oil & Shea Butter is a sodium hydroxide formula. To help prevent irritation and discomfort, a unique mix of conditioning buffers have been added along with olive oil and shea butter to give hair more moisture, softness and manageability.



WHAT THE PROS SAY

'Each relaxer has a comprehensive conditioning system that works from start to finish. This makes it ideal for all hair types, and along the way, protects both the hair and scalp relieving it of dryness and flaking.' Sylvia Gordon, Design Essentials educator



OTHER RELAXERS

- Design Essentials Sensitive Scalp Cream Relaxer
- Design Essentials Honey Nectar Time Release Regular Relaxer
- Design Essentials No Lye Relaxer with Olive Oil & Shea Butter

AT-HOME KITS

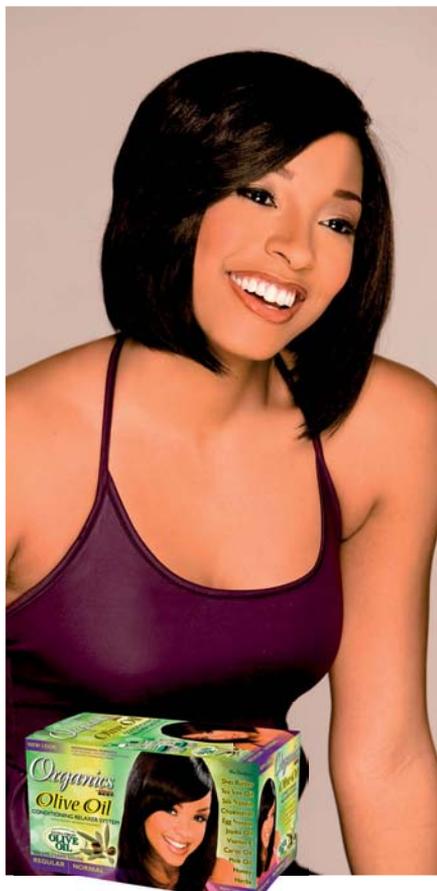


Luster Products

Luster's Pink No-Lye Relaxer Kit (£4.49) is a trailblazer for at-home relaxer kits. Available in Regular and Super strength formulas, its Prota-Silk Conditioning System makes it gentle on the scalp and optimises sleek, straight results. The addition of shea butter, aloe vera and organic extra virgin olive oil moisturises, strengthens and softens the hair.

OTHER RELAXERS:

- Luster's Pink XVO No-Lye Relaxer Kit (£4.29)
- Luster's Shortlooks Colorlaxer 3-N-1 (£4.49)



House of Cheatham

Organics Olive Oil Conditioning Relaxer System (from £3.99) has a new package and formula. The mix of natural oils and silks gives 'superior straightening' results, and the egg protein acts as a reparative to rebuild and restore tired, limp hair. Available in Regular and Super strengths.

OTHER RELAXERS

- Africa's Best Kids Organics Organic Conditioning Relaxer System (from £3.49)



Organic Root Stimulator

The Olive Oil Relaxer Kit (£5.49) is a classic staple to the brand ORS. Its ability to provide nourishing moisture, damage protection, shine and elasticity has made it an award-winning relaxer kit.

OTHER RELAXERS:

- The ORS Olive Oil Girls Built in Protection Plus Relaxer System (£5.49)
- HAIRepair No Lye Conditioning Relaxer System (£5.49)



Creme of Nature

Straight from Eden (from £7.75) is a brand new relaxer from Creme of Nature. The straightening crème is enriched with plant extracts to reduce dryness, damage and breakage. In particular the coconut, avocado and olive oils penetrate the cuticle of the hair shaft to maximise moisture. Available in two strengths, Hair Type A is for fine, wavy, delicate hair, and Hair Type B is for normal to thick hair. **BB&H**

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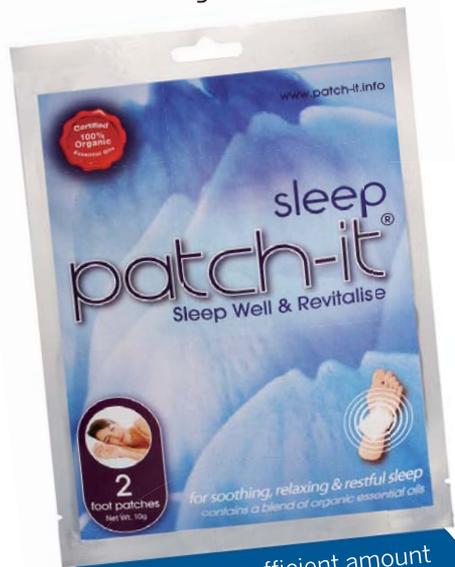
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Treat yourself to something tasty, uplifting, and what's more, with zero calories. Hotel Chocolat Cocoa and Peppermint Infusion Bag (£9/18 bags) is ultra-low in caffeine and ultra-high in antioxidants. It releases flavours of malt, cocoa and peppermint, making it a delicious and refreshing detox.



Not getting a sufficient amount of sleep can often equal to dull skin, mood swings and the temptation to give into unhealthy snacks. Break the no sleep pattern with Sleep Patch-it (£9.99/six patches). Place the reflexology patches on the soles of the feet before bed to soothe, calm and relax the body and mind.



GOOD FOR YOU

Looking after yourself - inside and out



Spring cleaning your body doesn't have to take place in spring. Now Liquid Chlorophyll (£17.41/473ml) can be taken all year round and is made from natural chlorophyll, known as 'the life blood of plants'. One daily teaspoon with water will fight infection and generally promote good internal health.



Calm post wax skin irritation and shaving bumps with Aloe Clear (£17.95/120ml). This unisex product has a string of post hair removal benefits including an instant moisture surge to soothe tender skin and a non-sting formula.

6vitaminshot (£2.50/60ml) will have you at your best 24/7. The cocktail of vitamins ranging from B12, niacin and amino acids helps to maintain good cholesterol and improve brain function.



Brighten up your smile with Blanx White Shock Gel Pen (£9.99/18ml), the only bleaching product that whitens without peroxide or abrasive silica, giving you whiter teeth from day to night. Can be applied on the go and carried in your purse.

Unlike other protein shakes, Purition (£19.95/500g) contains wholefood fat, natural vitamins and minerals; using only the highest quality of ingredients to provide a balanced and healthy diet.



Wise Buys

Nailberry's Summer 2014 Collection (£13.50 each) brings the pop of colour you need to bring your nails to life. Left to right: Baby Blue, Rio and De Janeiro



MADE TO STICK



Elegant Touch Polished UV Gel Technology Nails in See Me 324 (£6.95)



Lupita shows how it's done on Instagram

NAIL FILE

Treats for hands & feet



The Noble Isle Rhubarb Rhubarb! Hand Wash (£18/250ml) and Hand Lotion (£20/250ml) will keep your hands fragrantly fresh this season

This professionals' favourite goes above and beyond the top coat realm. Penetrating through the nail lacquer forming a single solid coating, the Seche Vite Dry Fast Top Coat (£10.95/14ml), offers the ultimate protection for a manicure



You'll never get bored with Impress by Broadway Nails Press-On Manicure (from £5.99)



Great British Sewing Bee inspired Mad Beauty Cotton Reel Nail File (£1.95) which can double up as a bookmark too!

THINK PINK



Bobbi Brown Limited Edition Nail Polish - Pink Peony (£11)

Nails Inc Latex Effect Polish - Shoreditch High Street (£12)

Rimmel London 60 Seconds Rita Ora Nail Polish - Don't Be Shy (£3.69)

Models Own 'Polish For Tans' - Sun Hat (£5)



When feet need a rub down reach for Ciaté Rich Papaya Foot Renew (£14) and the Ciaté Coconut & Kukui Foot Oil (£20)

FOR STOCKISTS SEE PAGE 162