

Your Best Brow

Since the shape of her eyebrows can really make a woman's entire look, it's no surprise that eyebrow shaping and design have become highly desirable services on the menus of most day spas and salons on the east and west coasts. But you can achieve good results on your own.

The eyebrows are important and expressive parts of your face. They convey emotions and draw an observer's eyes to yours. Without a pleasing eyebrow shape and color, your face may look off kilter. It's subtle, yet powerful. Well-shaped eyebrows balance your face and provide a frame for your eyes.

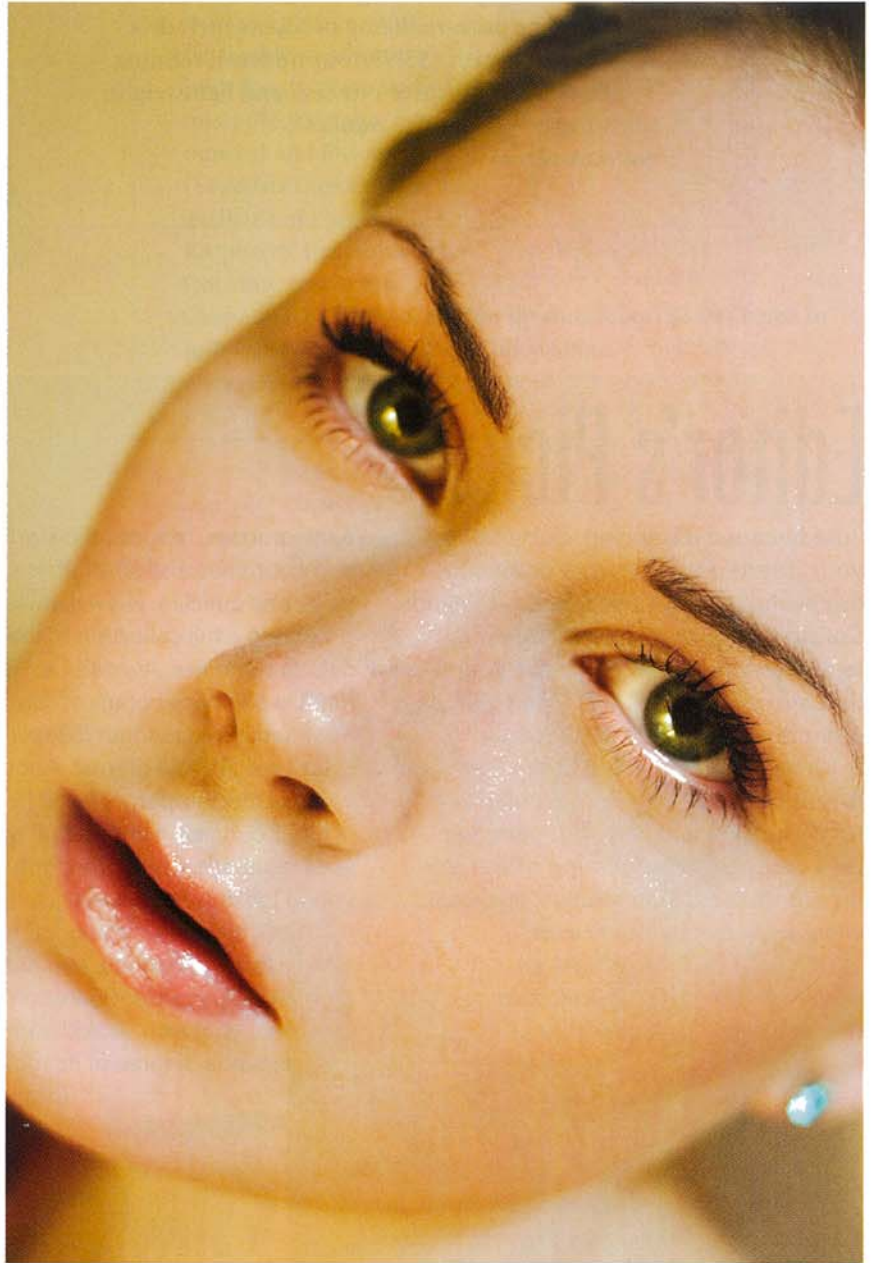
Eyebrow shapes can go in and out of fashion, so avoid fads and trends. We've all seen the young woman who has tweezed away her eyebrows to achieve an *au courant* look only to see that look go out of style, leaving her brows hopelessly dated until the style comes back into fashion. A classic eyebrow shape transcends trends.

To achieve a classic eyebrow as designed by the Westmore family of Hollywood movie fame, follow these four basic steps:

1 The most important step is to establish where the brow starts, where it arches, and where it ends. Take a straight edge and align it with the outside of your nose and the inner corner of your eye. That will show you where the brow should begin. Then, hold the straight edge vertically aligned to the outer corner of the eye. The brow should end there. To determine where the arch should begin, look straight ahead. The highest point of the arch should correspond to the outer edge of the iris.

2 Determine how high or low the brow should be in relation to the eye. Many times, this is dictated by where the hairs are already growing. It's okay to tweeze above the brow if there is a lot of excess hair or if the hair above is too high and makes the brow appear out of proportion.

3 Determine how thick or thin the brow should be based on your entire body image and especially your facial features. Thickness or thinness should be based on the shape of your face and your body. For example, a very petite woman with very



delicate bones and small eyes would be overwhelmed by Brooke Shields' eyebrow style. Likewise, someone like Brooke Shields would look odd with very thin Bette Davis-style eyebrows. Angelina Jolie has beautifully shaped brows with a clearly defined arch that fits her very angular face. In contrast, Kirsten Dunst has a lower and less arched brow that suits her fuller, less angular face.

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