



Ugly zits

No matter how tempting, do not squeeze your pimple.

HOME FIX

1/ Gel concealers are great because they blend well and don't cake. Larry recommends **Shu Uemura Pro Gel Cealer** (\$48, Ion Orchard), which stays on for up to four hours on oily skin. Use a brush to pick up the product and sweep the back of your hand to rid excess. Dab the brush on the blemish, then pat gently with your ring finger to blend. For extra coverage, put on a second layer after the first dries.

2/ Set the concealer with loose powder, like **Sloane Inc Sheer Mineral Powder** (\$88), which creates a sheer veil and helps even out skin tone. If you have an oily complexion, try **Clairine Superbalanced Powder Makeup SPF 15** (\$68, Tangs Orchard), which effectively controls grease.



PRO HELP

If the zit's too prominent, get a cortisone shot from the dermatologist, says Dr Yuen. It'll calm the pimple within 36 hours. In the case of pus-filled ones, the doctor may prescribe a course of antibiotics or decide that the boil needs to be drained.

Unightly bruises

Bruises form when blood that leaks out of vessels break down under the skin, explains Dr Yuen. Depending on the compounds produced during this process, the bruise could end up looking red, purple, brown or green.

HOME FIX

1/ IF IT'S GREEN Hide it with liquid foundation that offers medium to full coverage. Try **Clarins Skin Illusion SPF10** (\$60, leading department stores), which is easy to spread and layer.

2/ IF IT'S RED A concealer with yellow undertones can help neutralise the hue.

3/ IF IT'S PURPLE Tone down the blue shades with an orange-based concealer, says Larry. Try one from the **M.A.C Pro Longwear** line (\$30). Next, layer on a foundation that offers full coverage. "Pat, don't blend, it on or you'll end up looking dirty," he adds. Though pricey, **Cle de Peau Cream Foundation** (\$190, Takashimaya D.S) offers comprehensive coverage without looking cakey.



PRO HELP

Unfortunately, the doctor can't do much in this instance. However, Dr Yuen recommends icing the area soon after the injury to slow down the internal bleeding and minimise bruising. To expedite healing, you could also gently massage the bruise with arnica cream. Try **Nelsons Arnica Cream** (\$24.90, Watsons). Don't expect overnight miracles though, warns Dr Yuen. A small bruise may take up to five days to fade while a bigger one takes 10.

Over-tweezed brows

Learning to tweeze brows is a magnifying glass (remember to have more hair plucked).

HOME FIX

1/ When choosing one that is a hair colour, or result from so mistakes less.

2/ Sharpen the strokes in the Larry. You can **Precision-Tip** has an easy-to-creating reality.

3/ Uneven brows

thing, says La proportionate brows might make them look strange." But if your arches are looking obviously misplaced, hold a ruler parallel to the ground and against the "tail" of the brow you wish to match the other to. This allows you to figure out the difference in height. Pencil in the extra hairs on the top of the lower brow and some on the bottom of the higher one.

4/ The next time you tweeze, remember to step back after pulling a few strands to see how things are looking.



PRO HELP

If you have naturally sparse brows (or find applying makeup a chore), consider eyebrow embroidery, where hairs are inked on to fill in the gaps. Unlike tattooing, the pigments (deposited by pressing a fine blade gently into the surface of the skin) don't penetrate as deep, and results are semi-permanent, lasting up to two years.

For first-timers, the hour and a half **Angelic Brows** (\$2,500, Allure Beauty Saloon, tel: 6270-8845) is a good choice. Before the procedure, a relaxing 30-minute upper body massage is provided to put you at ease. Numbing cream is applied beforehand, so all you'll feel is some light scratching. All touch-ups are complimentary for up to a year.

Saving grace

MEGA ZITS? UNEVEN BROWS? FIX YOUR BEAUTY CRISES NOW. BY YUEN YI YING

➔ Even the fairest among us muck up (remember the time you over-plucked your brows or banged your shin against a chair?), but with the right remedy, no one needs to know. Dr Patricia Yuen, dermatologist at Pacific Healthcare Specialist Centre, and makeup artist, Larry Yeo, share their expertise.

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