



# Product Guide

FOR HAIR STYLISTS

Dear Hair Stylist,

THIS GUIDE IS CRAFTED JUST FOR YOU!

I've received so many questions about the wide array of hair styling products and tools, and I thought, 'Why not bring it all together in one place?' Navigating the world of hair products can be a real puzzle, and it's easy to get lost in the options.

That's where this guide comes in – it's like your trusty map to finding the right product amidst the chaos and will help you build your professional hair kit.

Now, let's keep it real – this booklet won't hand you all the answers on a silver platter. You see, until you've actually tried these products, you won't fully grasp their awesomeness.

So, my top recommendation is to dive in, give 'em a go, and develop that 'product sense' for yourself.

Another thing to remember is that, despite all my research and testing, there are tons (and I mean loads) of products I've never had the pleasure of trying. Plus, new products pop up in the market practically every day.

But fear not, I'm here to offer some general guidelines and, of course, recommend my personal favorites within each product category. Any recommendation is clickable and refers to the product (if it is in [red and with an underline](#)), so you can easily explore the products I'm talking about.

So, let's make sense of the hair product jungle together!

I INVITE YOU TO OUR [INSTAGRAM](#) TO LEARN MORE (AND ALSO HOW TO USE THE PRODUCTS)



# Hot Tools

HOT TOOLS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN YOUR HAIRSTYLING ARSENAL.

WHEN IT COMES TO FREQUENTLY USED ITEMS LIKE BLOW DRYERS AND CURLING IRONS, MY ADVICE IS TO INVEST IN QUALITY. IT'S WORTH IT. IF YOU'RE JUST STARTING OUT OR HAVE SOME TOOLS THAT DON'T SEE MUCH ACTION, YOU CAN CONSIDER MORE BUDGET-FRIENDLY OPTIONS TO KEEP YOUR WALLET HAPPY. I'VE GOT HERE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOTH HIGH-END AND BUDGET-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES.

## BLOW DRYER

A good blow dryer is like a magician's wand for creating fantastic hairstyles. I've seen many hairstylists scratching their heads, thinking they're messing up their blowouts because they end up looking not-so-great. But the truth is, sometimes it's not your technique; it's the blow dryer that's not up to the task. If it's not professional or powerful enough, it can make styling a real challenge.

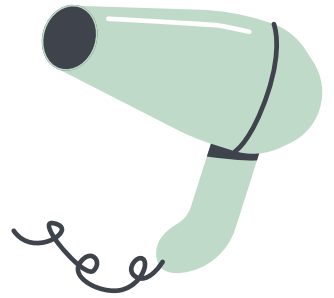
The beauty of a blow dryer is that it's not just about straightening your hair – it can boost the volume and shape, giving you that extra oomph.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[GHD HELIOS HAIR DRYER](#)

[BABYLISSPRO HAIR DRYER](#)

I don't recommend the [DYSON](#) blow dryer for professional use. While it's excellent for personal use because it's gentle on hair with daily use, it might not have the power needed for professional settings.



## STRAIGHTENER

In my working routine, I rarely reach for a hair straightener. Instead, I prefer using a blow dryer or a crimper (which I'll explain more about later) depending on the hairstyle and specific needs.

However, there are a couple of situations where a straightener comes in handy:

1. "Flat Curls" - When I'm aiming for waves that are less rounded than what a curling iron creates, for a textured and uneven look with less bounce and volume, I turn to the straightener.
2. Mini Straightener for Baby Hairs - Dealing with those tiny baby hairs around the hairline can be a challenge. That's where a miniature straightener shines, making it much easier to reach and straighten these delicate areas right at the roots.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

straightener: [HSI PROFESSIONAL CERAMIC TOURMALINE IONIC FLAT IRON](#)

[GHD ORIGINAL STYLER](#)

[GHD PLATINUM+ STYLER](#)

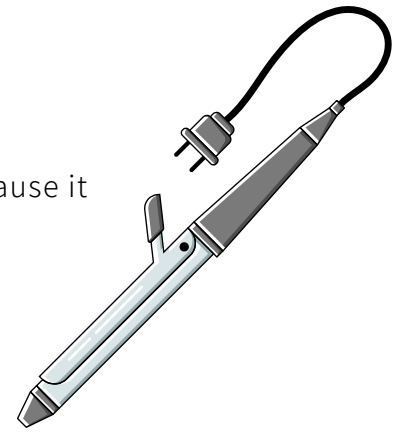
mini straightener: [WAVYTALK 3/10" SMALL FLAT IRON](#)

If you're not a frequent straightener user like me, the HSI will suffice. However, for more frequent use, I'd recommend going for the GHD. The GHD Platinum, in particular, is slightly better for curling because of its smoother glide.



# CURLING IRONS

Another must-have tool for creating soft waves or bouncy curls. In my experience, having a curling iron with a tongue is essential because it opens up more styling possibilities – like going upside down for root-reaching or easily wrapping the ends. For professional use, opt for a curling iron that can reach higher temperatures and has a longer barrel to handle even longer hair.



## RECOMMENDED SIZES OF CURLING IRONS:

1" inch - classic. Can be used for medium-sized curls, Beach Waves, and more. The most useful size in my suitcase.

1.25" inch - for big and open curls or wavy hair.

0.5" inch - excellent for beach waves with a lot of texture, or for curly hair with small curls

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

[GHD CLASSIC CURL HAIR CURLING IRON — 1"](#)

[GHD SOFT CURL HAIR CURLING IRON — 1.25"](#)

[HOT TOOLS PRO ARTIST 24K GOLD CURLING IRON- ALL SIZES](#)

[ELLA BELLA CURLING IRON 1 INCH - GHD DUPE](#)

"I don't recommend curlers with interchangeable heads (where you change the heating element to adjust the curler's diameter each time). They can be inconvenient to use, especially when you need to switch between two different sizes in the middle of styling – and it's not easy to do when they're hot."

# CRIMPER

A crimper is a unique heating tool, somewhat like a straightener but with teeth on its plates.

However, these teeth are super small and have a slightly wavy pattern, so they won't leave any noticeable marks on the hair. Instead, they prep your hair in a way that makes it super easy to work with.



The magic of a crimper lies in its ability to both smooth and add volume to the hair, thanks to these small teeth and the texture they create. Think of it this way: after a session with a crimper, your hair just 'listens' to your styling whims, making it incredibly easy to work with. I mostly use it for updos or whenever I need a little extra oomph in the hair.

If you want to see this wizardry in action, head over to my [Instagram](#) for some videos to get a better feel for what it can do.

Now, when you're on the hunt for a crimper: make sure it has those very small, wavy teeth – not sharp ones. Otherwise, it won't do the trick and will leave unwanted marks.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

After testing dozens of crimpers from around the world, I ended up crafting one that suits my exact needs – it adds volume and texture to the hair without leaving marks. If you're interested, you can [grab one here](#).



# Brushes and Combs

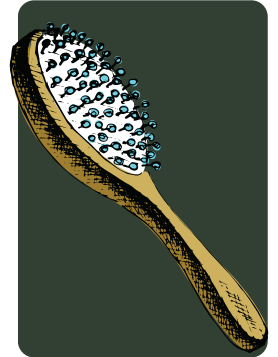
## DETANGLER BRUSH

A simple detangling brush, perfect for working out those knots. One crucial thing to remember is that this brush is all about gentle care, so I'd recommend opting for one with plastic or wooden bristles rather than metal. It'll keep your hair happy and tangle-free without any scratching or discomfort.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[CRAVE NATURALS GLIDE THRU DETANGLING BRUSH](#)

[HAIR BRUSH BOAR BRISTLE HAIRBRUSH](#)



## ROUND BRUSHES

Round brushes are your go-to tool during blow-drying, adding essential bounce and volume to the hair.

You've got two main options: [ceramic brushes](#) and [wooden brushes](#). It's mostly about personal preference.

Ceramic brushes heat up quickly, which helps seal and style the hair.

Wooden brushes, on the other hand, grip the hair more securely, reducing the chance of it slipping away.

When it comes to sizes, I prefer a small brush for framing and a medium to large brush for the rest of the hair.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Ceramic brushes: [OLIVIA GARDEN CERAMIC + ION ROUND THERMAL HAIR BRUSH](#)  
[MOROCCANOIL CERAMIC ROUND BRUSH](#)

wooden brushes: [BOAR BRISTLE ROUND HAIR BRUSH](#)



## COMBS

[Teasing comb](#) – Invest in a high-quality one that can really grip your hair and do some good backcombing. Plus, there's a handy pointed side on the other end that makes parting your hair easy.

[Fork comb](#) - for rough brushing and for polishing

[Polishing brush](#) - for dense combing, tight gatherings and polishing.

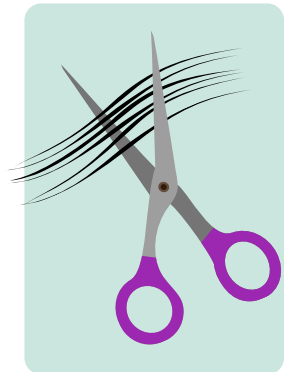
[wide comb](#) - for rough opening of babyliss, for touchups.



# More Accessories

## SCISSORS

I'm a pro hairstylist with a focus on updos, curling, and all things glam – but you won't find me doing haircuts. Still, scissors are a useful tool in my arsenal, and I often find myself trimming ends in almost every hairstyle. For these tasks, I rely on a pair of relatively high-quality scissors I found on Amazon. They're not the priciest out there, but they get the job done just right.



### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[ULG PROFESSIONAL HAIR SCISSORS](#)

## CLIPS

### ALLIGATOR CLIPS

Handy for grabbing sections of hair while working. steer clear of using them on hair that's still hot from using hot tools, as they can leave unwanted marks.



[ALLIGATOR CLIPS](#)

### METAL CLIP

Clip for holding smaller groups, while working.



[METAL CLIPS](#)

### NO BEND HAIR CLIPS

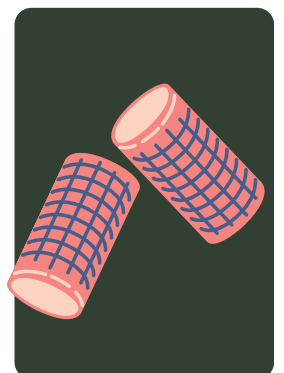
Small clips that do not leave a mark, I put them mainly when I want to move the hair from the client's face during makeup.



[NO BEND HAIR CLIPS](#)

## ROLLERS

I primarily use rollers for the front sections of the hair. The great thing about rollers, unlike the traditional hot curling iron, is that you can attach them right at the roots. This gives you both volume and waves that start right from the roots, which works wonders for the front part of the forehead area. Keep in mind that to achieve the best results with traditional rollers, you need to leave them in for several hours since no heat is involved. However, I've recently started using heated rollers, which work like a charm and save you from the hours-long wait.



# Pins and Bands

## PINS

### BOBBY PINS

Good old Bobby pins are your go-to for crafting and securing your hairstyle, so quality and strength are key here. You want ones that can hold things in place without a hitch



[METAGRIP BOBBY PINS](#)

### U SHAPE PINS

versatile tools for temporarily or permanently securing your hairstyles. They're often easier to work with due to their malleability, making them simpler to tack in place.

However, they work best when there's a base for them to grab onto



[IKOCO 2.4 INCH HAIR PINS](#)

### U JAMBO SHAPE PINS

Very large open pins that are used to temporarily hold the hair, they can be easily pulled out while styling, but on the other hand because they are strong and large they hold the hair tightly.



[4 INCH SILVER U SHAPED HAIR PINS](#)

I'd suggest having both black and bronze-colored pins in your kit. Except for the jumbo pins, their color doesn't matter much since they're temporary and won't stay in your final hairstyle.

## BANDS

### RUBBER BANDS

the go-to for creating a ponytail, and my top choice is a simple office rubber band. They're strong, affordable, and don't budge. Plus, I often use them along with two pins to secure the elastic, as you can see in my Instagram tutorials



[RUBBER BANDS SIZE #18](#)

### SMALL ELASTIC BANDS

I use silicone rubber bands for securing small sections, such as ends or braids. These bands need to be sturdy but not as thick or non-slip as office or stretching rubber bands.



[CLEAR ELASTIC HAIR RUBBER BANDS](#)

# Holding Sprays

ONE OF THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL PRODUCTS IN HAIRSTYLING IS A HAIR HOLD SPRAY, WHICH ENHANCES HAIR STABILITY AND DURABILITY. THESE SPRAYS COME IN VARIOUS HOLD LEVELS, WITH THE HIGHEST PROVIDING THE MOST LONG-LASTING HOLD BUT POTENTIALLY MAKING THE HAIR FEEL STIFF AND LESS MANAGEABLE. ON THE FLIP SIDE, THE LOWEST HOLD OFFERS A LIGHTER TOUCH WITHOUT HARDENING THE HAIR. IT'S ESSENTIAL TO AVOID CONFUSION BECAUSE THERE'S A WIDE RANGE OF SPRAYS OUT THERE - INCLUDING WAX SPRAYS, GREASE SPRAYS, AND MORE. THESE ARE NOT HOLDING SPRAYS, AS THEY SERVE DIFFERENT PURPOSES, WHICH WE'LL DELVE INTO LATER.

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## STRONG HOLD

This strong-hold spray is ideal for achieving a long-lasting style. However, it can make your hair feel stiff and crunchy, so handle with care. It's best used for finishing touches, rather than during the initial styling process, to keep your hair flexible for further adjustments.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The most potent spray in my arsenal is [Schwarzkopf's Silhouette](#) (aerosol), but honestly, it's a bit too intense for my taste. That's why I prefer [Schwarzkopf's Osis 3 Session Spray](#) for a more balanced hold.



## MEDIUM HOLD

balance between durability and manageability. It keeps your hairstyle in place while still allowing you to work with it comfortably (although overdoing it can make the hair feel crunchy). It's excellent for styling your hair, such as applying it before curling to ensure a firm hold.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Schwarzkopf's Osis 2 freeze-](#) matte finish  
[Moroccanoil Luminous Hairspray Medium](#)



## LIGHT HOLD

incredibly flexible and won't make your hair feel stiff. However, it doesn't provide much durability. In my experience, I rarely use it, as a medium hold spray, when applied with a light touch, usually suffices for most styling needs.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Schwarzkopf's Osis 1 elastic](#)





# Moisturizers

MOISTURIZING PRODUCTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR GIVING YOUR HAIR A HEALTHY AND VIBRANT APPEARANCE. I HAVE A RANGE OF MOISTURIZERS AT MY DISPOSAL, FROM LIGHTWEIGHT TO HEAVIER OPTIONS. I SELECT THE ONE TO USE BASED ON THE HAIR TYPE (MORE MOISTURE FOR DRIER HAIR, AND VICE VERSA) AND THE DESIRED HAIRSTYLE (LESS MOISTURE FOR A DRIER, MORE TEXTURED LOOK). SOME MOISTURIZERS ARE IDEAL FOR THE PREPARATION STAGE, WHILE OTHERS WORK WELL IN ADVANCED STAGES, OR EVEN BOTH. I'LL PROVIDE A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF MY MOISTURIZERS, STARTING FROM THE LIGHTER OPTIONS AND WORKING UP TO THE HEAVIER ONES, ALONG WITH WHEN AND HOW I USE EACH ONE.

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## SPRAY PREP WITH MOISTURE

Prior to blow-drying or using hot tools, I apply a prepping spray to the ends of the hair, which contains moisturizing properties and doubles as a heat protectant. I typically focus on the ends (unless the hair is exceptionally dry, in which case I extend it toward the roots) before using heat styling tools. The heat helps seal in the moisture, resulting in hair that looks more vibrant and glossy. For best results, it's advisable to apply the spray to damp, rather than completely dry, hair.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Colorwow Dream Coat](#)



## LIGHT-MEDIUM MOISTURE CREAM

I turn to these kinds of creams in two scenarios:

1. Preparation: When dealing with extremely dry ends or overall hair dryness, I apply it to damp hair before blow-drying or using hot tools. This can be used either as an alternative to or in conjunction with the ColorWow spray.
2. Styling Aid: In situations where the hair is relatively normal (not excessively dry), I use this cream while styling. A heavy cream can weigh down and make the hairstyle appear greasy for this kind of hair, so this lighter option keeps everything in place.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Moroccanoil Hydrating Styling Cream](#)

[R+Co Waterfall Moisture and Shine Lotion](#)



## HEAVY MOISTURE CREAM

These are thicker creams with a higher moisture content. I reserve them for use during styling, specifically at the ends of the hair. They're not suitable for the preparation phase because they can be too heavy. I turn to them when dealing with extremely, extremely dry hair.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[R+Co High Dive Moisture and Shine Crème](#)



# Additional Sprays

## WAX SPRAY

This spray provides a satin finish and imparts a light, waxy texture to the hair. It's perfect for styles where you want a clean look without excessive shine or greasiness. You can use it during the hairstyling process or as a finishing touch. Additionally, it offers some holding power, so it won't make your hair lose its shape. In fact, it can help maintain your style

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Redken Spray Wax Invisible Texture Mist](#)

[KEUNE Style Spray Wax](#)



## TEXTURE SPRAY

This spray is your ticket to achieving a more 'rough' texture in the hair when that's the look you're after. Typically, I apply it towards the end of styling, especially when working with loose hair. A light spray and a little shake, and you're all set

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Moroccanoil Dry Texture Spray](#)

[OUAI Wave Spray](#)



## THICKENING SPRAY

This spray works wonders when applied before blow-drying or using hot styling tools. It creates a protective coating on the hair strands, resulting in a thicker appearance and providing added stability and hold. It's particularly well-suited for those with thin hair looking to achieve a fuller look.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[TIGI Bed Head Queen For A Day Thickening Spray](#)

[Kevin Murphy AntiGravity Spray](#)



## LIQUID SPRAY

This is a holding spray that's dispensed in liquid form, not as an aerosol. It allows for precise application right where it's needed, rather than creating a general mist over the entire hairstyle.

Why is this precision important? Well, this spray is seriously potent, and I use it like glue to tame unruly hair frizz. I prefer to apply it specifically to the areas that need that extra hold, as using it all over the hairstyle can result in an unnatural and overly stiff look.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Schwarzkopf Silhouette Super Hold Pump Spray](#)



## VOLUME POWDER

Powder-based products work their magic by creating volume through the drying effect. They absorb excess moisture, preventing hair strands from sticking together. This is precisely what volume powder does. You can apply it by itself for a light volume boost or use it before backcombing to ensure it will hold and stay in place.

Backcombing without powder often lacks the required grip, and using a spray beforehand can make the hair feel wet, stiff, and far from natural. I like it when the volume powder comes in a bottle with a pump, as it minimizes powder dispersal and provides better control.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[SexyHair Big Powder Play Lite](#)

[Schwarzkopf OSiS Soft Dust](#)



## DRY SHAMPOO

Dry shampoo is a savior when it comes to absorbing excess grease from the hair. It's a great solution when a client might not have washed their hair thoroughly and shows up with slightly greasy locks. However, it's important to note that if someone's hair is extremely greasy, dry shampoo won't be a cure-all – they'll need to opt for a proper shampoo wash to get that deep cleanse. Using a high-quality dry shampoo is crucial, as cheaper alternatives can often leave an unsightly white residue on the hair.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[amika perk up talc-free dry shampoo](#)



## MOUSSE FOR CURLS

When I'm working with curly hair and aiming to accentuate those beautiful curls, I reach for mousse. To make the most of it, I prefer applying the mousse to damp hair and then using a diffuser to dry the hair. This technique ensures that the curls hold and look their best. I prefer relatively flexible mousses that allow the hair to maintain its natural texture and avoid becoming overly stiff.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Paul Mitchell Sculpting Foam](#)



## GLAZE

Glaze is a liquid gel, making it gentler than traditional hair gel. It imparts a glossy yet subtly firm finish to the hair. When applied in the right amount, it helps create well-defined and clean curls. You can use it at the start, alongside mousse, and then dry the hair with a diffuser for fantastic results

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Paul Mitchell Super Sculpt Styling Liquid](#)



# More Products

## WAX STICK

The wax stick is a matte, waxy product designed to combat frizz and flyaways. It's conveniently shaped as a stick and is perfect for achieving sleek, well-kept locks where hair strands are held together tightly, resulting in a clean and taut appearance.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Bed Head by TIGI Hair Wax Stick](#)



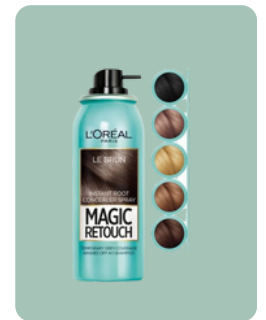
## CONCEALER SPRAY

Concealer sprays are tinted sprays designed to cover roots, such as regrowth from not refreshing hair color, or to camouflage white hairs. They are also handy for blending the connection points of hair extensions with your natural hair color. These sprays adhere to the hair but not the scalp, so they're not suitable for concealing bald spots. However, they work wonders for enhancing and refining hair color.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[L'Oreal Root Cover Up](#)

Frequently used shades- dark brown, medium brown and dark blond



## COLORED HAIR FIBERS

Colored hair fibers are different from tinted sprays. They come in powder form and are ideal for concealing bald spots and sparse areas on the scalp. These 'hair fibers' are designed to add volume and coverage to thinning areas but are not meant for coloring the hair itself

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

[BOLDIFY Hair Fibers](#)

Frequently used shades- Ash brown, medium brown and medium blond



# Hair Extensions

HAIR EXTENSIONS CAN BE A GAME-CHANGER WHEN YOU'RE AIMING FOR THAT FLAWLESS HAIRSTYLE, PARTICULARLY WITH DOWN-STYLE LOOKS. DESPITE COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS, THEIR PRIMARY ROLE IS TO ADD FULLNESS AND VOLUME TO YOUR HAIR, NOT JUST LENGTH.

ONE CRUCIAL ASPECT IS ENSURING THE EXTENSIONS ARE CRAFTED FROM NATURAL HAIR, WHICH IS WHY QUALITY EXTENSIONS TEND TO COME AT A HIGHER PRICE POINT. NATURAL HAIR EXTENSIONS CAN WITHSTAND HEAT STYLING, ALLOWING YOU TO ACHIEVE YOUR DESIRED LOOK SEAMLESSLY. THERE ARE VARIOUS METHODS FOR ATTACHING EXTENSIONS TO YOUR HAIR, AND I PERSONALLY FAVOR EXTENSIONS WITH CLIPS OR SPECIAL TEMPORARY GLUE FOR A HASSLE-FREE APPLICATION

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The purposes of hair extensions are threefold:

1. To enhance fullness and volume.
2. To fortify and extend the longevity of a hairstyle.
3. To add length to the hair, although this isn't their primary focus.

This explains why extensions are primarily utilized in down styles or ponytails, and less commonly in updo hairstyles. Updos generally offer greater stability and are easier to work with when dealing with less hair. In cases of extreme thinness, you can consider adding extra hair using extensions. However, in most situations, using a [hair donut](#) or padding underneath the bun will suffice



Choosing a shade:

When selecting a shade, it's crucial to match it with the ends of the hair, as that's what's most visible. If you're just starting out, I wouldn't recommend amassing a large inventory of different shades just for the sake of it – it can be quite expensive. Instead, consider buying the shade your client needs on a case-by-case basis. A great way to begin is by sending the extension sellers a picture of your client (taken in natural daylight) that accurately reflects their hair color. They can then advise you on the suitable match. As you gain experience, you'll gradually become more adept at determining the right shade independently.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HAIR EXTENSIONS SELLER:

**GOO GOO Clip-in Hair Extensions-**

you can buy it on [their website](#) (and send a photo for color matching) or order from [AMAZON](#).