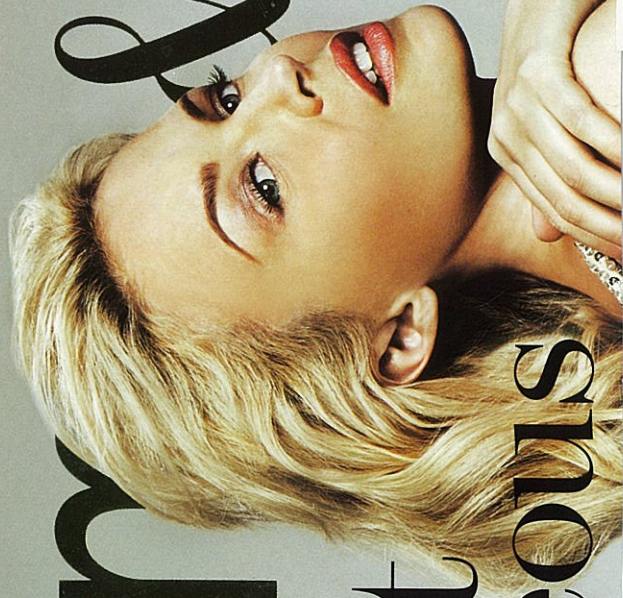


women & home

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MARCH 2008
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Q I'm 59 and disappearing! My brows are okay but my lashes are sparse and eye colour seems to be fading. Is semi-permanent make-up too mutton dressed as lamb?

A No way! If it's subtle, it can be an amazing youth fix. "Age is definitely no limit," says semi-permanent make-up supremo Debra Robson Lawrence. "My youngest client is in her twenties, my eldest is 86. A subtle shaded liner gives definition to the lashes, softly defines your eyes, enhances colour and gives you a youthful sparkle."

WHAT HAPPENS? This is a totally bespoke treatment. After deciding how subtle, smoky or defined you want eyes to be, custom-blended pigment – anything from soft taupes to browns or black – is carefully and gently sketched into the skin using a very fine needle.

DOES IT HURT? Anaesthetic cream minimises discomfort and, thankfully, Debra is quick!

COST? Prices start from £375 with a senior consultant and £475 with Debra herself. As it's semi-permanent, you'll need to return annually to have the colour refreshed. Call 0845-2302021 or visit www.permanent-make-up.com for more details.

W&H TIP Frances Furlong at Skin Health Spa recommends injecting just a little Restylane filler at the end of brows. "It gives them a nice lift," she says. >>

Q Help! I've got the start of jowls – do I need surgery?

A Slack skin in that area is often less about a softening jawline and more about losing volume higher up in the face. Try gently pushing your cheeks up and you get the same jowl-smoothing effect. "Once you lose that shelf of natural volume you've got nothing to hang your features on," says Frances Furlong at Skin Health Spa. "When the lower parts of the face start dropping, defy gravity by lifting and replacing the lost volume with injections of hyaluronic acid filler into the cheek and temple. If more volume is needed, and to boost collagen, I'd use a lighter hyaluronic acid to help increase moisture and plump those surface layers."

DOES IT HURT? "Actually, less than fillers injected near the surface," says Frances. "Anaesthetic creams are on offer too."

DOWNTIME? "Your face may be a little swollen and stiff for a day or two. Results last for a good six to nine months."

COST? From £275. Call (020) 7655 6920 for Frances or 0800-0371090 for other clinics.