

shameless beauty tricks



Bikini-Line Soother

After every Brazilian or basic wax, the gurus at NYC's Shobha hair-removal salon soothe their clients' stinging skin with cooling rosewater cloths. Whip up your own with this at-home recipe, or try the real thing.

DIY

What you'll need:

- ½ dozen roses ● Water

Pluck the petals off the roses, and place them in a heat-safe bowl. Pour 2 cups of boiling water over the petals, cover, and let them steep for half an hour. Remove the petals, refrigerate the liquid, then dab it onto skin with a cotton ball.

BUY

Shobha
Rosewater
Freshening
Cloths, \$9



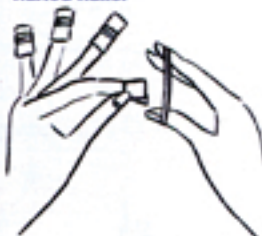
HOST A BEAUTY SWAP

Instead of letting unwanted beauty products collect dust in a drawer or on a bathroom shelf, throw a beauty bartering bash. Ask a group of friends to bring their gently used booty (ideally, items should be at least half full... and to stay safe, no swapping eye makeup), then let the trades and upgrades begin.



Erase Stubborn Nail Polish

It can take serious elbow grease to strip glitter-packed or darkly hued lacquers from tips, while gel-polish manis (such as Shellac) require you hit the salon a second time to have color removed—that is, until now. Soak cotton pads with acetone remover, wrap one around each nail, and secure with a rubber band (as the picture below shows). After two minutes (10 for gel polish), twist off the pads to reveal naked nails.



Haircut on the Sly

While they usually don't promote free services, most salons grant gratis bangs trims between routine haircuts. Call ahead to be sure yours does too, or ask your stylist on the DL if he or she will comp a cleanup (just leave a tip for their time).

