

We're officially obsessed

Staffers wax on about their favorite hair products.



TIGI Catwalk Curls Rock Curl Amplifier

I spent the better part of my young-adult life subjecting my natural (unruly) curls to a barrage of sprays, gels and mousses like some sort of ill-fated science experiment, but this is the only product to deliver pleasing results. The lightweight cream has a subtle perfumey scent, rather than a noxious chemical one, and it magically coaxes out textbook spirals, keeping them tame and frizz-free without that dreadful shellacked helmet-head effect. \$14.50, at TIGI Academy, 673 Madison Ave at 61st St (212-702-9771, toniguy.com)—Cristina Velocci

Malin + Goetz Sage Styling Cream

Matthew Malin and Andrew Goetz's styling cream has botanical sage in it and fatty acids that tame frizz. After every application, I'm assured a hairstyle that won't scare small children. Success. \$20, at Malin + Goetz, 177 Seventh Ave between 20th and 21st Sts (212-727-3777, malinangoetz.com)—Lucy Quintanilla



Five ways to get a FREE CUT

1 Sign up with Bumble and bumble: Fill out a preevaluation form, and if your hair fits the stylists' needs, they'll send you an invitation for a model call. They'll reevaluate you on site, but once you're approved and used, you can call to set up future appointments. Model calls are scheduled a few times a month and only during the daytime hours, so you'll need to be flexible. 15W 13th St between Fifth and Sixth Aves (866-728-6253, bbmodelproject.com)

2 Pop into Toni & Guy: Model calls at this trendy salon are much more frequent but still require an application process. Stop by the salon on Fridays between 6 and 7pm for a hair consultation and a quick snapshot. The folks there will put your information on file and you'll be called to schedule an appointment on a Sunday or Wednesday morning. All cuts and colors are free. 673 Madison Ave at 61st St (212-702-9771, toniandguy.com)

3 Get trimonthly care at Frédéric Fekkai Fifth Avenue: As a model for Fekkai, you can receive one complimentary service every three months. If your hair is below your shoulders, go to the website listed below, answer a few multiple-choice questions about your hair, check which services you're interested in and upload a photo. They'll contact you if you fit their needs. 712 Fifth Ave at 56th St (212-753-9500, beafekkaimodel.com)

4 Settle for a trim at Sahag Workshop: Every Tuesday the workshop calls for models—with hair below the shoulders—in need of a straight-across trim. This quick cleanup is free, but you can also call and inquire about snagging a junior stylist on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays for the discounted rate of \$75. 425 Madison Ave between 48th and 49th Sts (212-750-7494, johnsahag.com)

5 Log on to Salon Apprentice: This site is like the Craigslist of hair salons and is run by stylists-in-training who are looking for willing heads. Hairstylists post what they're looking for and when, along with instructions on how to sign up. Be sure to read the ad in full because, while most offer free services in exchange for your time, some do attach nominal fees. salonapprentice.com



WE GOT ISSUES

We matched staffers' hair dilemmas with salons that could help. Read about it and see before-and-after snaps at timeoutnewyork.com/hair.



Mirta de Perales Herbal Fresh Shampoo

I swear the scent of this shampoo has hangover-curing properties. Plus, the smiling Mirta visage on the label—a demented cross between JonBenét Ramsey and

Tammy Faye Baker—is an awesomely campy presence in my shower. \$9.99, at Beauty 35, 505 Eighth Ave at 35th St (212-563-1010)—Ethan LaCroix

The All Nighter Styling Powder

I'm a packaging whore. So, yes, I love the drugstore chic of this new hair powder: The straightforward label design has a groovy '70s appeal, and following the label's directives to "scrunch, zhuzh, fluff, toss and tease" makes me feel like a young Farrah Fawcett. Many have extolled the wonders of spray powders and dry shampoos, but I've found that this loose powder gives me the most control, oil absorption and volume out of all that I've tried. \$18, at theallnighter.com.—Erin Wylie

