

THE LOOK

Highbrow eyebrows

Marion Joseph talks to the experts about getting your eyebrows in perfect shape

The shape of your eyebrows can make an enormous difference to your overall appearance. But whether your penchant is for thick or thin, arched or curved shapes, the consensus among beauty experts is to work with your natural brow shape.

Eyebrow shaper Jessica Bok, who works at the Estee Lauder counter at Myer Chadstone, says the best brow shape is one that maximises what you've got.

"What is natural for your face is best," Bok says.

"I find enhancing the natural shape, doing the best with what you've got looks the best."

She says that many people tend to overdo it on the plucking, which leads to a less-than-flattering shape.

"For nearly everybody who comes in, we

try to get them to grow more hair so they have a full natural shape and we've got more to work with," she says.

Claire Francoise, owner of Claire Francoise salon in Flinders Lane, says she also finds a tidier version of someone's natural brow works well.

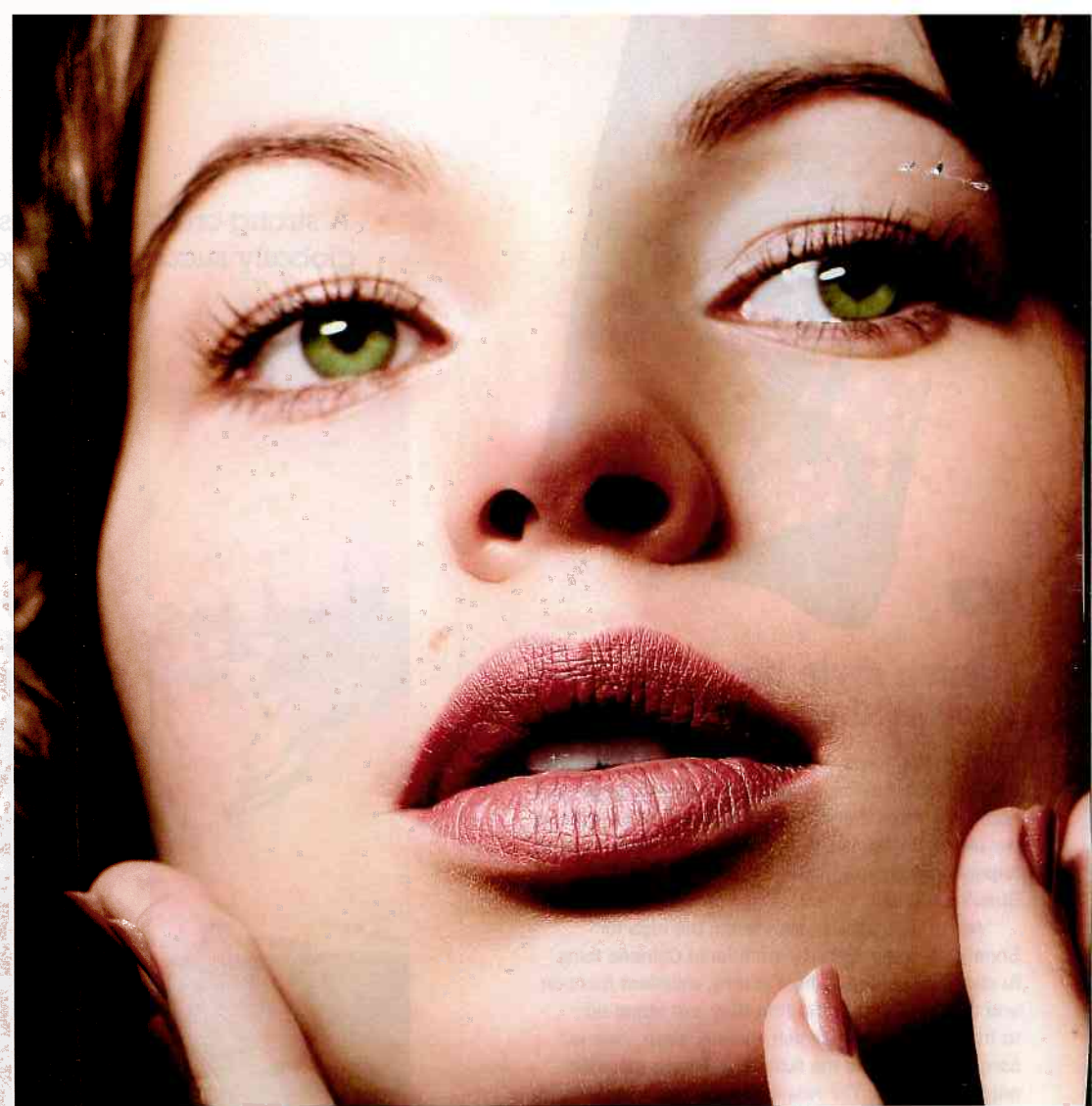
"I tend to think that a nice angled yet thicker eyebrow is better, so it's not too thin," she says.

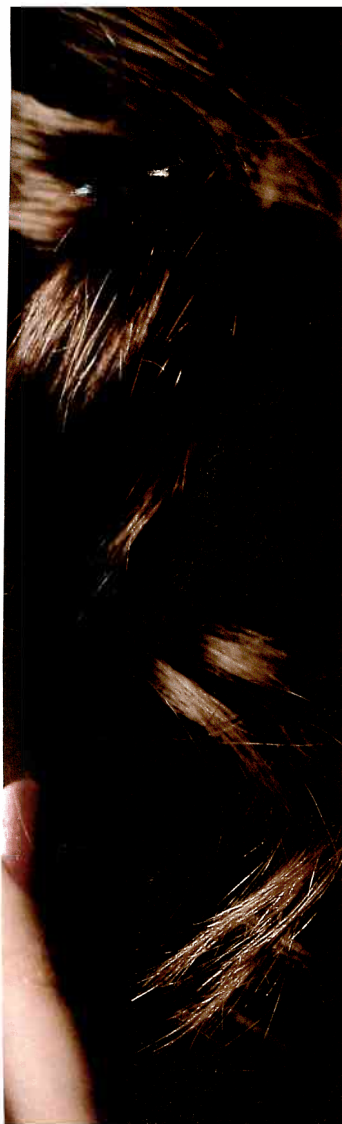
"We usually find what is best for people is their own natural shape in a more well-groomed style."

But she does say there are a few cheats to help an imperfect natural brow along.

"You can use powder and pencil if you've got a few brow patches to fill it out," Francoise says.

Both Bok and Francoise agree waxing





Many people tend to overdo it on the plucking, which is unflattering

as well as plucking is essential to achieving a perfect shape.

Francoise says there are multiple benefits to waxing first.

"You get longer hair-free time from waxing, you don't tend to get the irritation that comes from shaving or the depilatory creams, there's less itching or aggravation," she says.

"You get a longer result and the growth is not as quick. It pulls the hair out by the root, and after time it starts to wear down and you get finer growth."

Bok agrees that an eyebrow shaper should wax first, then pluck for those finer and more stubborn hairs.

"You must wax to remove the bulk, and you must tweeze to create the proper shape. You should be doing both.

"You need the wax for removing most hairs, but if someone's not doing any tweezing, they're not doing the best shape for you," she says.



BROW BEAT

Cate Blanchett
■ thin and curved brow

Nicole Kidman
■ thin and defined brow

Radha Mitchell
■ thick but well-groomed brow

Isla Fisher
■ High-arched brow

Pics: Steven Siewert
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