

# BRIDAL BEAUTY



Having worked in the make-up industry since her move to Belfast from Scotland over 8 years ago, Samantha Weightman is widely regarded as one of Ireland's top Make-up Artists. An award winning and in demand freelance make-up artist, Samantha regularly works for the BBC, UTV and Northern Ireland's top model agency Style Academy. With vast experience, Samantha specialises in Bridal make-up offering bespoke packages to suit every bride as well as a host of other make-up services.



Working as a make-up artist, I'm constantly inundated with questions especially from brides. Possibly the most glamorous and photographed day of any woman's life, the pressure is on to get it right and dazzle everyone present with your gorgeousness...especially your groom!

Here are a few Do's and Don'ts.....

#### Do:

1. Your homework! Don't just book any old make-up artist, ask around for recommendations, read reviews and study portfolio/website/Facebook pictures. Trust your instincts and go with someone whose make-up style appeals to you most.
2. Make sure you have your trial at least three weeks, but no more than six weeks, before your wedding.
3. If you plan on using fake tan for the big day, have a test run before your make-up trial so that your artist can see your colour.
4. Wear a white top so that you can see how the make-up looks against a pale colour and take a picture of yourself in

natural day light to see how it looks.

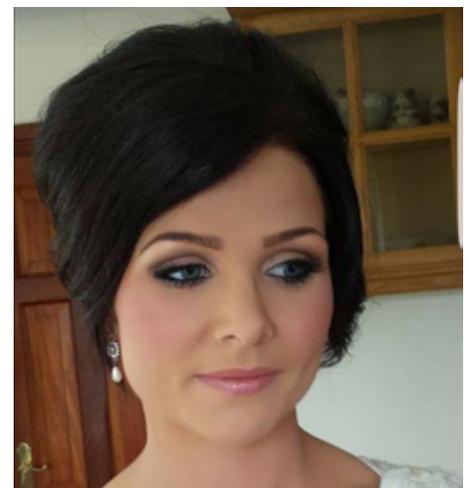
5. Bring ideas to your make-up trial. Start looking for images of make-up that you really like and bring them with you on the day. It always helps your make-up artist to see what your tastes are as no two people's descriptions of natural and dramatic are the same.
6. Use individual eyelashes – so much more subtle than a full strip lash, they're a great way to make your eyes stand out. Individual lashes are buildable to create the look you desire; use different lengths to create a really natural fluttery look and blend them in between your natural lashes rather than fixing them on top.
7. Focus on the most important elements of your look, such as beautifully natural-looking skin, fluttery lashes, beautiful brows etc. If you get these basic factors right the rest of your make-up will fall into place.

#### Don't:

1. Have your make-up trial done anywhere with overhead fluorescent lighting. Sit beside a window and aim for early to mid afternoon if possible.
2. Get carried away and create a look that isn't 'you'! I tend to think that the bride

should look like the most perfect and polished version of herself.

3. Go too heavy! Your make-up doesn't have to be layers thick to photograph well.
4. Be afraid to go a little brighter. Natural tones can sometimes look a bit washed out in pictures. Try choosing a lip colour that's one or two shades brighter than



what you would normally wear.

5. Get caught up in 'what's in fashion' right now. Stay classic and choose a look that enhances your features rather than creates a "current" look! What's on trend today will most likely change many times over the years and you want to look as amazing in your pictures in 20, 30, 40 years as you do today!
6. Forget to have a lipstick and powder with you on your big day for those little touch ups.
7. Have your lips too glossy or too matte. Too glossy and they'll not last any time whereas too matte and they'll look dry and caked... and this is one day you want to look your kissable best!



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