

BEAUTY IN ACTION

# BEAUTY SOS

EXPERTS EXIST FOR A REASON. FOR ONE, TO FIX THESE  
COMMON BEAUTY BOO-BOOS.

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To err is human. But not all of the mistakes we commit are equally disastrous – especially the beauty ones. They show up all over your face and body, making them tough to ignore. But fret not, we have anticipated some of these DIY blunders. Here are the godsend quick fixes you'd need.

## BEAUTY BOO-BOO #1 \* OOPS! You've cut your fringe too short

**FAST FIX:** Cut it even shorter to make it look deliberate (instead of a mistake), so it still looks edgy and fashionable (a devil-may-care attitude to match the haircut will help make it even more convincing), says Casey Chua, style director at Casey Inc. Or, you can feather the ends of the fringe to make it less defined so the fringe doesn't look "stumpy". Fringe should be kept about 1cm above the brows, and for a sexy, sassy look, the fringe should just skim the lashes. You can also try hair bands, which are seeing a revival thanks to *Gossip Girl* (a popular US television series) so wear it to hide what's left of your fringe. In general, head hair grows at a rate of 1cm a month so you might have to bear with the awkward length for a while.

**WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE:** Fringe cutting is a delicate procedure that requires precision, so it should be best left to the pros. While a bad haircut can be rectified with hair colour (to give an illusion of depth), the same can't be said for a disastrous fringe job because it's the first thing people see on your face, says Casey.

If you overdid the tanning, try exfoliating with whitening products to speed up the fading process.



## BEAUTY BOO-BOO #2 \* OOPS! You've OD-ed on the tanning

**FAST FIX:** Unfortunately, you can only wait for it to fade off, which will take weeks, says Leona Low, Clarins training manager. Even twice-a-week intensive body scrub treatments will require four to six sessions to see results, says Janet Lim, manager of Spa Esprit. For starters, try exfoliating with whitening products to speed up the process like **Clarins White Plus HP Clear Softening Peeling Lotion** (\$60, Clarins counters), which contains tamarind fruit acids and AHA to quickly rid dead or damaged surface skin cells.

**WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE:** Try self-tanning lotions, especially those with SPF protection like **Lancaster's Sun Slim Body Programme range** (price unavailable, Tangs). It has bonus anti-cellulite properties. Aim for a tasteful tan, which is about one to two shades darker than your natural skin tone.



Exfoliate your skin gently with circular strokes on your cheeks and T-zone areas, and upward strokes on the jaw-line.



## BEAUTY BOO-BOO #3 \* OOPS! You went overboard with exfoliating products

**FAST FIX:** Your skin would be red and ultra-sensitive, making it prone to external aggressors, says Leona. While you wait for your skin to renew itself and heal, get a skin SOS. Try something that contains ingredients that calm (like lavender and marjoram) and fortify (soya, avocado and ximenia extract, a vitamin C derivative) on top of your daily beauty routine. Try **Bioderma Sensibio AR Cream** (\$39.90, Guardian Paragon). Also, moisturise regularly with a non-greasy formula such as **Nuxe Rêve de Miel Ultra Comfortable Face Cream** (\$69.90, Beautyshop @ 17 Eng Hoon Street). Be diligent with your sunscreen, says Janet, as over-exfoliated skin tends to be more vulnerable to hyper-pigmentation and irritation from sun exposure. She recommends **Malin + Goetz Sun Screen** (\$30, Spa Esprit).