

What does it take to become a **MAKEUP ARTIST?**

Makeup Artists select and apply make up in accordance with the principles of light, color and the human form to achieve the desired objective and vision of their art director, costumer or client. Generally, they begin by cleansing their clients' skin. They then proceed to choose the ideal makeup style after evaluating their clients' hair color, eye color, and skin tone and type. Makeup artists must quickly analyze their clients' circumstances and implement plans accordingly. They apply the proper foundation, concealer and colors using various brushes, airbrushes and tools to shade, highlight or de-emphasize features. A makeup artist may be asked to produce special effects such as aging, illness or even wounds or deformities, and may use and design prosthetic devices such as noses or scars.

Skills & Knowledge

High school courses in arts and drawing are considered useful. There is a surprisingly strong technical component to this field. Makeup artists must have a solid understanding of lighting and the photographic process. Skills vary by specialty. However, all makeup artists must have a strong sense of fashion, an artistic nature and a willingness to work all hours. Good interpersonal skills are a must for working with clients and models. on-site to complete projects.



Training

Training is offered at registered training institutions. However, many makeup artists typically learn the trade on the job and through apprenticeships in salons and

beauty parlours. Industry experience, whether paid or unpaid, is crucial to honing skills, building a reputation and ultimately developing a solid client base. Aspiring makeup artists typically volunteer their services to local media production houses, theater troupes and charity fashion shows to get a foot in the door.

Working Conditions

Makeup artists often combine the application of makeup with sales and work at department store cosmetic counters where they instruct clients in makeup application or demonstrate the newest products. Physical fitness is also important as makeup artists need to stand for extended periods of time. The starting pay for apprentices and novices is less than what fully trained makeup artists make. As apprentices gain experience, they receive more pay. Most makeup artists work full time. However, weekends are especially busy considering that most social events take place then.

Job Prospects

Some skills necessary to work as a Makeup Artist will allow you to work in another profession as well. In addition to styling, coloring and cutting hair, cosmetologists also offer makeup application services. Skincare Specialists specialize in the care and treatment of the skin and often prepare the skin prior to the application of makeup. Most makeup artists freelance. Compensation varies, but those with established clientele tend to earn more. The best job opportunities can be found in the urban centres. Offering training can also generate significant income.

You too can live your passion and qualify as a Makeup Artist. If you are creative, personable, detail-oriented and physically fit, you are a good candidate.

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