

diva&disaster

Femail checks out the latest red carpet fashion heroes and no-nos




Michelle Collins' onscreen character Stella Price may think of herself as a feisty fashionista, but this figure-hugging outfit is far too chic for the cobbled streets of Corrie.

At the Tesco Mum of the Year Awards, Michelle looks striking in stripes, matched with a turquoise clutch and nude shoes.

She may be saying farewell to the soap but with her new strawberry blonde locks, it looks like she has no dramas when it comes to style.

disaster

At the same event, presenter and model Lizzie Cundy opted for a Greek goddess-inspired look. But this outfit is not the kind of heroic fashion inspiration we expect from a beauty queen. The dress is heavily embellished with extravagant gold detailing and the draped material, which is longer at the side than at the front, looks more cheap than cheerful. Despite this, we must salute her for braving those high heels.



SIX of the best

Express yourself with Femail's pick of six of the best slogan sweaters

Blue New York 8 print dolman top, £22, from www.riverisland.com

Unique London sweatshirt, £19.99, from www.shopmango.com

Monki Superduper sweat, £20, from www.asos.com

Feeling Lucky longline sweater, £14, from www.direct.asda.com/george

Mint green Selfie sweater, £14.99, from www.newlook.com

Petite dolphin sleeve sweat by Tee and Cake, £35, from www.topshop.com

Undo your hairstyle like EastEnders starlet

unique to you

with Su Wright

this week ... Jacqueline Jossa

EastEnders Jacqueline Jossa was one of the many stars to attend the recent annual National Television Awards. The actress, who plays Lauren Branning in the soap, oozed retro glamour in a floral embellished, semi-sheer, floor-length frock by Yvonna Kim. With such an intricate, eye-catching dress, she opted for minimal make-up and casual, loosely waved hair. Jacqueline's colour is a beautiful shade of chestnut brown that blends effortlessly into a mulled copper. With the advancement of free-hand colour techniques and new ash-toned shades, this look will be more prevalent in the future.

Her colour is a beautiful shade of chestnut brown

Ask your stylist about Wella's new Colour ID and Illumina shades (www.wella.com). Jacqueline's hairstyle is following the very current trend of "undone" hair, which has its origins in the late 1980s to the early 1990s. To recreate her style, shampoo and condition your hair with Wella SP LuxeOil range. This will give volume and shine to all hair types. Towel dry your hair thoroughly and apply a small amount of Sebastian's Potion 9 (www.sebastianprofessional.com) for body and shine. Work this through the hair with your fingers. Turn your head upside down and using a paddle brush, blow dry your hair thoroughly. Part your hair where you like to wear it. Take a 2in horizontal

section in your nape and secure the rest out of the way with a clip. Spray the hair with Sebastian Shine Define. Using a medium waving wand, I would recommend Cloud Nine (www.cloudninehair.com), wrap a 2in square section around the barrel. Leave it for a couple of seconds and remove the wand. Making sure you wrap the hair around the barrel in the same direction, continue to take the 2in sections until you run out of hair and all the hair is curled. Leave your hair to cool for a few seconds. Spray with Sebastian Spray Shine and then, using your fingers, pull out the curls. Your hair should fall into the soft curls you are seeing in Jacqueline's style. Spray with Sassoon's Motion Hold for a perfect finish (www.sassoon.com).

Unique to you

Stylists from East Yorkshire's Unique salons reveal their haircare secrets exclusively in Femail each week. There are branches in Cottingham, Hessle and Beverley. For more information, visit www.auniquesalon.co.uk

tried & tested

This week, Femail tests a range of beauty products ...

Dry2Alive face and body hydrating cream, 50ml, £10.40, www.dry2alive.com
They say: Typically applied, this natural herb soothes dry and itchy skin and is particularly effective for those with sensitive skin, eczema and psoriasis.
We say: I have recently been suffering from mild eczema but this product has brought relief. It is non-greasy and calms and rejuvenates the skin, rather than just covering up the problem places.

L'oreal New Skin Perfection 3 in 1 Purifying Miscellar solution, 200ml, £3.33, www.boots.com
They say: A high-performance hypo-allergenic cleanser for face eyes and lips, suitable for sensitive skin. Dissolves make-up, unclogs pores and removes impurities.
We say: I have been using this for two weeks and I can already see, and feel, a dramatic change in my skin. Blemishes are beginning to heal and my face feels toned, thoroughly clean and moisturised after use.

Lush Ultrabland facial cleanser, £6.95/45g, www.lush.co.uk
They say: Ultra effective, ultra gentle face cleanser. A rich, soft, oily cleansing cream that cares gently for all skin types.

We say: This facial cleanser is the ultimate treat, leaving skin feeling silky soft after use. It smells delicious and is thin and easy to apply. It is best removed using a damp cloth otherwise the product can become slightly messy. If used once or twice a week, I found it improves blemishes and the pot lasts a while.

Champneys Spa Skin all-in-one facial wipes, 25 wipes, £3.33, www.boots.com

They say: These soft and smooth face wipes from Champneys Spa Skin range are perfect to cleanse away make-up when you are on the go.
We say: These skin wipes are quick and effective at removing all make-up, including waterproof mascara. Just one wipe leaves no trace and they have a soft, moisturising effect after use. They also have a useful covering that locks in moisture and keeps wipes fresh until the end of the packet.

Once resigned to a tiny corner on beauty counters, organic and natural cosmetics are experiencing a major makeover. Consumer demand for organic-only is part of a growing beauty trend that analysts are calling "Nature Plus". Championing the cause are beauty journalists Sarah Stacey and Josephine Fairley. Their latest and sixth book, The Ultimate Natural Beauty Bible, gives the green light to botanical beauty. "Today, being a natural beauty doesn't mean compromising on texture, fragrance or performance," says Stacey, "Natural beauty has moved on from the time when it was all about balms and oils. As we know from the trials for this book, plenty of natural products rival their synthetic/rocket-science counterparts." Whether you are a super-natural or just a concerned consumer, there is a myriad reasons why women are choosing to pick up certified organic products.

looking good

Fairley says: "Feedback tells us that some of us prefer the power of plants to sort out skin and hair, rather than the sort of Nobel-prize-winning high-tech molecules that feature in a lot of 21st-century skincare."
BEST LIP LINER
Korres Make-up Lip Liner Pencil, £8 (www.thefragranceshop.co.uk)
The authors' verdict: Kind-to-skin ingredients in this velvety pencil include shea butter and vitamin E. The liner comes in five shades but we recommend the one closest to natural lips in tone: Neutral Light.
BEST NIGHT TREATMENT
Aurelia Probiotic Skincare Cell Revitalise Night Moisturiser, £42 (www.aureliaskincare.com)

The authors' verdict: This night treatment has notched up one of the highest product scores in Beauty Bible's history. Rich with firming ingredients, plus shea butter, it has a skin-melting texture and delectable orange blossom, mandarin, rose and lavender scent.
BEST BODY WASH
L'Occitane Lavender Shower Gel Organic, £14 (uk.loccitane.com)
The authors' verdict: One of L'Occitane's organically certified products. Flip open the top of the bottle, breathe in deeply and you can smell wafts from their lavender, harvested in Haute-Provence.
BEST HAIRSPRAY
Lavera Organic Hairspray Volume and Shine, £9.95 (www.pravera.co.uk)
The authors' verdict: From a long-respected, pioneering German brand, this hairspray – with organic bamboo, aloe vera and camellia extracts – is free from petrochemicals such as propylene glycol.

toptips

haircare

Matthew, stylist at Unique in Beverley, has these tips for beating hair boredom ...

- 1. Tone**
Changing the tone of your hair can make a great difference to the look you can achieve. There are many ways to do this. If you wanted something just for the weekend, our Wella Perfecton (www.wella.com) is perfect for you. How much you will see a difference in tone will depend on how light or dark you are. If you are a beautiful platinum blonde, why not try pastel pink and lilac tones? Or if you have more of a darker depth and your hair is feeling dull, freshen it up with red tones to give your hair a beautiful shine and "Galaxy" chocolate sheen.
- 2. Fringes**
Fringes are a great way to transform your hairstyle into a totally different look. Choose anything from a micro fringe for a bold statement, to a long sweeping fringe for something a lot softer to frame the face.
- 3. Style ideas**
Make the most out of your stylist while you are at the salon, every visit work together with your stylist to reassess your style and colour for different ideas. Pinterest (www.pinterest.com) is an amazing app that you can create your own mood board on, saving all images you like. Then share your inspirations, working with your stylist to create a bespoke colour and style.

- 4. Lessons**
Booking styling lessons in with your stylist is a great way of learning how to create different styles yourself.
- 5. Colour transformation**
Take a look at your colour, if are you someone who wants a change but wants to keep length then a colour change is a good option. The cut may be ideal but just needs a bit of tweaking, however, creating focal areas to your hair with colour will make your hairstyle stand out.
- 6. Extensions**
Most people can achieve a different look with extensions whether it be with clip-ins or something more permanent. With short hair, we can create longer sides or fuller thicker fringes, on longer hair we can increase the length and thickness.
- 7. Chalk**
Chalk is a great way to achieve pastel toning without colouring your hair, even on the darkest of hair types. Colours such as blue, scarlet, pink and white can all look stunning.

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