

➔ BRAND OF THE MONTH: SUKIN

They may have a douche of a prime minister, but, on the plus-side, Australians also have some of the best skincare on the planet. Vegan brand Sukin is the



frontrunner, with its affordable ethical ethos – and now you can get it in the UK! You may be wondering about the ethics of transporting products all the way from Oz, but the company is 100%-certified carbon-neutral and contributes to various eco-initiatives, so you're certainly doing better things for the environment by buying from them than from dodgy, secretive, chemical-laden companies closer to home. Sukin formulations work well for all ethnicities and are biodegradable; the packaging is recyclable, and there's a Sensitive range for those who find natural oils too harsh, as well as a kids' range for cleaning the small and screamy ones. I love the Hydrating Body Lotion (£10.16, 250ml) – non-sticky yet very moisturising.

Available from cressuk.com, Holland & Barrett and other health shops.

**WE'VE GOT
10 BOTTLES
OF SUKIN'S LONG-LASTING, GENTLE YET
REFRESHING BOTANICAL BODY WASH
(USUALLY £8.12) TO GIVE AWAY!
VISIT DIVAMAG.CO.UK/COMPETITIONS**

MULTI-TASKER



Dry2Alive FACE & BODY HYDRATING CREAM

This little lifesaver uses a blend of 14 natural healing oils to soothe and moisturise, immediately banishing dry patches from elbows, knees, hands and feet. It also calms eczema and de-Rudolphs raw noses during hayfever season. Unlike many similar products, it's lightweight, absorbs easily and is gentle enough to be recommended for all the family, even babies.

£10.40 FOR 50ML
dry2alive.com

➔ DO I REALLY NEED... HAND CREAMS

In short, yes. I mean, not in the way you need air and water, but hands require more moisture than the rest of our bodies because we spend our days washing them and exposing them to heat and cold, not to mention washing-up liquid and cleaning products. Even those with oily skin probably need the odd dab of something to ward off the dreaded raspy patches and flaky cuticles. The ideal hand cream is rich but easily absorbed, intensely moisturising for skin, without weakening nails. Here are two of my faves...

Liz Earle HAND REPAIR

The product that made my skincarephobic wife change her ways: no more chapped and bleeding hands! Sure, it's pricier than the bog-standard hand cream, but it lasts much longer. *Wife says it smells of "disinfectant", I say "bergamot, lavender, chamomile".* From £5 for 15ml lizearle.com



Organic Surge LAVENDER MEADOW HAND & NAIL CREAM



A good budget option that absorbs easily and has been clinically proven to work well for sensitive and eczema-prone skin. *Smells: "disinfectant" (wife), "drowsy lavender dreams" (me).* £4.25 for 75ml organicsurge.com

QUEER GROOMING

JOANNA BENECKE BRINGS YOU THIS MONTH'S LOW-DOWN ON THE UPKEEP FRONT...

ANIMAL INGREDIENTS

Many natural and organic products on the market use animal

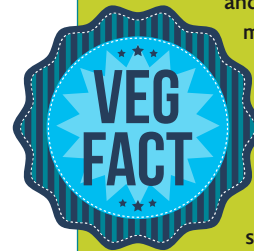
ingredients, as these are, after all, natural. For those looking to avoid them, ingredients to screen for include:

lanolin (grease from sheep's wool); **cochineal** and **carmine** (pigments from

insects); **civet oil** (from the anal gland of a fluffy wild cat); **emu/mink oil** (yup, it is what it says it is); and **musk** (secretion painfully extracted from the genitals of deer, beaver, muskrat, civet or otter).

Read more at PETA:

tinyurl.com/Cruelty-freeGrooming



GOT A GROOMING QUESTION?

EMAIL edit@divamag.com

OR TWEET @joannabenecke