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How to Select the Right Hair Color for Your Skin Type by [Carol Belanger](#)

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It is easy to spend at least an half an hour in the store trying to select the right hair color. The choices are endless and colors range from platinum to jet black and from basic rinses to permanent colors. These hair dyes are also categorized into warm colors, neutral colors and cool colors. However, don't despair because with these simple guidelines you can find the right shade that harmonizes with your skin tone.

In selecting the perfect hair color the first thing you must know is your skin tone. Skin tones are categorized into three basic tones: warm, cool or neutral. In order to determine your skin tone there are various methods you can use. One method is to look at the inside of your arms; do the veins appear blue or green? If they look blue you are most likely a cool undertone. Green veins usually indicate a warm skin tone. There is also neutral shade and lucky them they can wear just about any color. Another test is to drape a baby blue or white cloth across your shoulders, how does it make you look? If baby blue or white compliments your complexion chances are you are a cool skin tone. If a rust or cream color brings out your complexion then chances are you are warm.

IF you are unsure about your skin tone, select a shade two shades lighter or darker than the natural color of your eyebrows. The eyebrow color you were born with compliments your skin tone perfectly. The natural color of your eyebrows should be the standard on which your hair color should be measured. If you dye your hair too far away from the natural color of your eyebrows your complexion will look washed out.

If you have determined your skin tone, consider these tips for selecting the right hair dye:

Cool skin tones should avoid shades of yellow, gold, bronze and red tones. These tones will give the skin a sallow appearance and facial features. Consider flat browns, or light ash blonds as a base color and pick golden, ash or honey highlights for contrast.

Warm tones avoid ash. Consider a deep, rich base color like an intense chocolate, chestnut, mahogany or auburn. Also consider, honey light blondes, warm chocolate brown, or browns with a hint of rust.

For those that have a reddish complexion or sufferings from rosacea avoid bright red tones. Consider a honey brown or golden base color.

While the above our generalizations, I hope these tips will offer some help when selecting your next hair color. Remember select a color that will compliment your skin tone.

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