

The Best Face Masks for a Clean, Clear Complexion

A good face mask will cleanse, hydrate, or exfoliate your way to a smooth and bright complexion—and force you to relax for a second.

There's a face mask for every purpose. Some will sucks the dirt, grime, and excess oil from your pores. Others hydrate the skin with vitamins and nutrients to keep it from drying out. Still others focus on exfoliating, dissolving dead skin cells to help unclog pores and brighten your appearance. And some face masks do more than one of those things.

No matter how it gets there, a good face mask deep keeps you looking younger, and makes your skin *glow*. They work so effectively that they need only be done only once or twice a week, after you cleanse, and then followed by moisturizer or night cream before bed. Luckily, it gives you a good excuse to relax with some hot tea (or a beer, but know that this works counter to your anti-aging strategy here).

Face masks come in different forms. Some are clay creams or just-add-water powders that you shellac onto your face and wash off after ten to fifteen minutes—that's what we've focused on here. (You might also see this term applied to sheet masks, a literal mask soaked in serum, and we've got picks for those at the bottom.)

If anything, do a mask for this reason: It forces you to slow down, which reduces stress, which in turn probably makes your skin look better. So it's a two-for-one deal.

The Best Face Masks Shopping Guide

• For alert eyes: Superegg Calm Movements Eye & Cheek Mask, \$50



For alert eyes



Calm Movements is roomier than traditional eye masks, allowing your cheeks to also soak in some of the CICA, tremella mushroom, and vitamin B5 packed into the cooling hydrogel.