

An artist is only as good as her tools.
Have at it, Frida Kahlo (or Salvador Dalí).

tools

makeup brushes

FOUNDATION. The wedge shape of **Kat Von D Lock-It Edge Foundation Brush** buffs away streaks around the nose, jaw, and hairline.

CONCEALER. Zits are like snowflakes (from hell): No two are alike. With a flat end for precise application and a rounded one for covering whoppers, **Kevyn Aucoin Duet Concealer Brush** targets every blemish that befalls us. For under-eye circles, **Sephora Collection Pro Airbrush Concealer 57** has fluffy tips that blur shadows and fine lines.

EYELINER. The teeny **Smith Cosmetics 202** brush might make you squint at first (don't—crow's-feet). Wedge the point into your lash line for a dramatic eye-opening effect.

POWDER. With bristles that gather into a point, **Real Techniques Point XL** brush blends powder precisely to avoid pileups.

BLUSH. The whisper-soft slant of **It Cosmetics Heavenly Luxe Blush No. 4** gives cheeks an honest-to-goodness flush.

BRONZER. The **Revlon Contour** brush picks up just the right amount of powder and diffuses it flawlessly.

CONTOURING. Soft and compact, **Nyx 05** brush steers around angles and prevents stripes.

HIGHLIGHTER. The wide fan of **Lancôme Dual Ended Fan Brush 31** spreads over cheekbones; the smaller one follows the arc of your brows.

EYE SHADOW. The **E.L.F. Brush No. 201** has the ideal width for sweeping color across the lids. We love the **Smith Cosmetics 232** brush for creating definition in the creases.

BROWS. The sharp slant of the **Anastasia Beverly Hills Brush #12** lets us zero in on gaps and define arches like a pro.

LIP. We've retired our ring finger. The **Sephora Collection Pro Lip Brush 85** spreads color, sharpens peaks, and gives matte formulas a lush finish that mere tapping can't touch.

makeup sponge

The egg-shaped **Beautyblender Original** can't be beat for all-over buffing. For smaller jobs, the **Beautyblender Micro Mini** goes where fingers can't: around nostrils, under tear ducts, along the base of a blemish.

tweezers

The precise steel tip of the **Tweezerman Slant Tweezer** grabs the wispiest hairs, the stubbiest regrowth, and our unending devotion.

hot tools

BLOW-DRYER. Weighing in at less than one pound, **BaBylissPro Rapido** is a breeze to maneuver and prevailed against all others in our split-head tests.

FLATIRON. "Flatiron" feels like a misnomer. The **GHD Platinum Styler** has a wishbone shape and slender plates that allow us to straighten, curl, and flip with ease.

CURLING IRON. The three interchangeable barrels mean the **T3 Whirl Trio Styling Wand** produces every wavy look you can imagine—and a few you haven't even thought of.

hairbrushes

ROUND. The flexible plastic spikes on the ultralight **Tangle Teezer Blow-Styling Round Tool** form a tight pattern that traps moisture, while its pointed tips lift and snag.

PADDLE. A single pass with the **Christophe Robin Hairbrush** gets hair singularly glossy.

DETANGLER. **Wet Brush Shower Flex** has bendy plastic bristles that glide through damp strands without breaking them.

skin-care devices

FOR ACNE. **Neutrogena Light Therapy Acne Mask** goes all storm trooper on zits. The full-face contraption shines UV-free LEDs on your skin to reduce breakouts. Blue light kills bacteria, while red tempers inflammation.

FOR REJUVENATION. The teeny needles on the **Beauty Bioscience GloPro Microneedling Regeneration Tool** create teeny holes on the skin's surface that trigger collagen production. Throw in the fact that this gadget also emits red LED light, and it bestows the tightest, brightest results this side of the dermatologist's office.

