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MINI MAKEOVER

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3 Editors Try 3 Beauty Dares (Even Botox!)

By Us, Photographed by Sarah Balch



MINI MAKEOVER

We love a good makeover — trust us, we rewind all the musical movie-makeover montages repeatedly — but you know what's more exciting than a new head-to-toe look? Taking what we already have, making just *one* little change, and getting a high-impact result in return. So, we sent three of our editors to get beautified — and we're not talking a quick trip to the salon, either.

We like to call these mini-makeovers: small enough to do in an afternoon, big enough to be remarkable. One of us took the pro-whitening plunge, another tried eyelash extensions, and one editor was even brave enough to get Botox. (Oh yeah, we went there.)

Did the effort pay off? The before-and-after pictures don't lie, so read on to find out!

MINI MAKEOVER:

***Botox
Injections***

***Kristian
Laliberte***

SENIOR EDITOR



The Makeover: Botox Cosmetic

Where: We went to [Dr. Paul Frank](#), the director of the 5th Avenue Dermatology Surgery and Laser Center.

How Much: \$1,000

The Experience: "It went by much faster than I thought it would — I think I was at the office for just 45 minutes, total. First, a nurse put numbing cream on the areas Dr. Frank would be injecting; I needed to wait about five minutes for it to take effect. Then, Dr. Frank came in and walked me through the different kinds of injectables on the market and the different strengths I could get. For guys, he advised it's best to go subtle so there's not a frozen look — obviously, I agreed, as I didn't want to look like one of *those* Hollywood stars. He asked me which areas were bothering me, and I told him I had noticed some fine lines on my forehead, around my eyes, and on the sides of my nose.

"The actual injections were relatively painless. There was a slight punch and a crunch as the needle went in, but that's it. I was surprised at how little it hurt, actually. Afterward, I was given an ice pack and held it on my face for 10 minutes. There were some clear puncture marks on my face and a lot of redness, but I went out to dinner that night and no one noticed."

Was It Worth It? "I'm wary of anything that could make me look like a zombie, but I have to admit that the overall result is really subtle. I can still move my forehead and make expressions, but the fine lines definitely smoothed out where I wanted them to. A lot of friends and co-workers told me that I looked 'refreshed,' without knowing that I had had any type of procedure. Apparently, the full effects of Botox can take more than a week to set in. (Personally, I didn't notice any difference until about four days after the treatment. I'm curious if it will strengthen in the next couple of weeks.)

"Basically — and I know I'll take a lot of heat for this — I wouldn't be opposed to getting Botox again. Many doctors have told me it's a preventive measure that can stop wrinkles before they set in. Now, that's not to say I want to be completely wrinkle-free — I think lines give a guy character. But, I'd also like to avoid looking like the Crypt Keeper, a real possibility as I do like to get some sun in the summer. I think it's just important to tell the doctor you just want it to be very minimal. I promise, I don't look like a freak!"

REFINERY29

BEAUTY BUZZ

Make Me Over

Botox, lash extensions, teeth whitening...will our mini-makeovers pay off?



MINI MAKEOVER

We love a good makeover, especially when it takes only *one* step to see big results. So, we sent [three of our editors to get beautified](#)—and we're not talking a quick trip to the salon, either. One had her teeth professionally whitened, another tried eyelash extensions, and one editor was even brave enough to get Botox. Did the effort pay off? The [before-and-after pictures don't lie](#), so click on to find out!