



Module 6 : Working with Makeup Artist Brushes

- A more detailed account of how to use makeup artist brushes
- Identify what qualities to look for in brushes
- Know the importance of density, length and shape of the brush
- Tips for effective application

What you will learn:

- A more detailed account of how to use makeup artist brushes
- Identify what qualities to look for in brushes
- Know the importance of density, length and shape of the brush
- Tips for effective application

6.1 Introduction

 **In the last module, you learned some tips about how to use the various makeup brushes.** This section will give you more detailed information about how to use each brush. You will learn the most common uses and what each of the brushes is designed to do. When it comes to choosing brushes, it is easy to get overwhelmed. There are a lot of brushes out there to choose from. They are all designed for a specific technique or application in mind. Learning how to utilize them properly can be challenging; however, you can do it.

In this section, you will learn about the unique qualities that many of the brushes have and how to use them so that you can apply makeup effectively. Here are some of the qualities to consider when

you are looking for just the right brush for the job.

6.2 Brush Qualities

 **The more that you work with various brushes, the better results you will get.** You will find that some brushes will serve several purposes. Find the brushes that work best for you. It may be a good idea to get a mentor and work under them. You will get an idea of which brushes they use. You can also get a chance to try out various brushes and find the ones that work the best for you.

Various Sizes

The brushes come in various sizes. You may want to keep a notebook and record information about the various brushes that you have tried. You can purchase a few different sized brushes and then keep track of the ones that worked and the ones that didn't. That way you are not buying the same size brush and running into the same problem. They are usually numbered and come in standard sizes.

Brands

The brand of brush makes a really big difference for the most part. Some brushes are made using better materials. For example, there are times when you will need a synthetic brush and times when you will need a natural brush. Learn which brands you can trust. Try a few brushes from different brands. Record the brand, size, and other materials in your notebook. You can also keep track of when they work well and when they don't work.

Materials

Be sure to note the materials that the brush is made up of. It will be a good way to decide when to use various brushes to create different looks. The notebook comes in handy this way as well. Create a section for the brushes that work and what they are used for. Make another section of the ones that didn't work, so that you don't purchase them again.

Shape

The shape of the brush has a huge bearing on what it should be used for. A smaller rounded brush can get into the little crevices. A flat brush is good for applying various foundations. An angled brush is great for creating a clean look.

Length

The length of the bristles is important as well. There are shorter and longer bristled brushes. Take note that the longer ones will likely have more flexibility. You will learn which ones work the best for you and find a set of brushes that work to give you the desired look.

Density

The denseness of the brush is important as well. If the bristles are denser, they are less flexible and will create a denser coverage. A fluffy brush is not good for applying foundation, but is perfect for polishing the look afterwards. A small, dense brush is perfect for eye shadow and concealer. You will notice that these brushes have denser bristles. That is because they are used to draw the line or go over it with color.

6.3 Foundation Brush

The proper use of a foundation brush is important because if it isn't used properly, you will give your client an unpolished look. It can be tricky to apply the foundation correctly. You will need to blend it into the dry spots, slide it over any oily sections, and cover every crease and crevice.

Preparing the Skin

Start by preparing the face for the application of the foundation. Wash the face and pat it dry. Apply a lightweight moisturizer and allow it to dry for a few minutes. Add a foundation primer with the hands or a small foundation brush. Make sure that it is an even coat and let that dry. Add a concealer under the eyes if needed with a small foundation brush. You can also use a concealer brush or an eye shadow brush. Make sure to dab the concealer until it blends in and not tap it.

Applying the Foundation

When using a liquid foundation, you will pour a little bit of foundation on the back of your hand. Use your foundation brush to pick some of it up. Use one side of the brush for a light cover and both sides for a fuller cover. Apply the foundation down the center of the face and then blend it outwards towards the hair line. It will keep from forming makeup lines. Downward broad strokes should be used to apply the foundation on the forehead, nose, cheeks, and chin. The tapered edge of the brush can be used to get to the hard-to-reach spots along the hairline and around the eyes and nose. Let it dry and then look for lines. If you see any lines, use a clean brush to blend them in. You will use small and circular motions to blend them in.

Foundation Brush



6.4 Kabuki Brush

 **A kabuki brush is sometimes called a mushroom brush because it has dense bristles and a short stem.** The head is usually rounded, but some are flat. It can be made with both natural and synthetic bristles. It is used to apply loose powder makeup. You can use it to apply to larger areas. Use it with powder foundations, blush, and face powder. It is a popular brush because it can replace the powder brush, foundation brush, mineral powder brush, and blush brush. So, if you have only a limited amount of space or money to purchase materials, this is the brush that

you should choose to be in your collection.

Kabuki Brush



6.5 Powder Brush

 **This is a must-have in your arsenal of beauty supplies.** Ensure you get a medium sized powder brush. There are some available which are dual purpose as a blush brush and a powder brush. You can use this brush for bronzer, powders, or blush. Make sure to use the flat part of the brush to apply these products and tip of the product for the creases in your eyes.

Powder Brush



6.6 Angled Blush Brush

 **The best way to use the angled blush brush is to use it with the flat side of the brush and the angled tip closest to the temple or the ear.** Use brush strokes towards the cheek. When using a bronzer, work outwards, do it in sweeping motions that are light around the facial perimeters. This brush is perfect for contouring and sculpting with precision. To create the contour, run it along both sides of the nose from the brow towards the tip of the nose. Starting near the back and moving towards the center, lay a brush on the cheeks in the hollow. It can be used for many purposes.

Angled Brush



6.7 Concealer Brush

 **Concealer is very important for the under-eye area and to cover up blemishes.** Concealer is useful because the skin underneath the eye is thin, and most people have dark circles under their eyes because of the way the eyes are set in the head. The concealer brush is very useful for applying

concealer to mask these natural dark circles. Put a small amount of concealer on the back of your hand. Use the concealer brush and dot the concealer. Now dot it onto the outer part of the eye. Use the brush to pull it into the inside of the nose and then back out again. Now dot the concealer again and put it in the inside corner of your top lid.

Make sure that you dot it until it blends in. Do not swipe.

Now, dot the concealer again and swipe it under the eye. Go from the outside of your eye under the dark circle area and then inside and back to the outside. This will reduce the look of tiredness. It can be applied before or after your foundation, but you need to make sure that you blend it in.

Make sure to gently stroke back and forth or dot. Do not pull or rub because it will damage the skin.

Concealer Brush



6.8 All-Over Eye Shadow Brush

 **All-over eye shadow brushes are great for taking care of spotty and sparse eyebrows.**

They can be used to fill the eyebrows in and make them look defined. Swipe the brush across the eye shadow and dot it along the brow. Brush in the direction of the brow and extend to the edge of the eye. Use a tissue to pat the eyebrow to remove any excess eye shadow. Use a medium or dark brown eye shadow for brunettes. Taupe look great for red hair or blonde hair. Charcoal or silver are good for grey hair.

All-over Eye Shadow Brush



6.9 Blending Brush

 **Blending your makeup gives you a flawless and natural looking finish.** Blending brushes have soft, synthetic bristles that are packed densely. The top is rounded so that it can blend gently. They come in various sizes for different parts of the face. Use a smaller blending brush for the smoky crease. These are about the size of a pinky nail. Dip the tip of the brush into an eye shadow with a matte finish and then tap off excess color. It will allow you to blend the color into the crease. Start at the crease and then sweep it along the crease. Go towards the center of the eye like a windscreen wiper. You can also use a smaller brush to sweep over the complete eyelid so that you can soften the various colors. Take a clean and dry brush and sweep it over the eyelid in a circular motion to soften the hard lines. You can also use the small blending brush to blend in a dark cream eyeliner from the lash to the line in an upward motion. It will give a smoky gradient color. Larger blending brushes can be used to soften and smooth. They have soft bristles and a rounded top. These

larger brushes are around an inch wide and have a dome shape with the bristles packed tightly together. It is a perfect size for blending the areas under the eyes or where you want to soften the makeup on the face.

Concealing

Dot on a liquid or cream concealer using the tip of a dry and clean blending brush. Buff the area with the brush using short dash strokes to put it in place. Now sweep from the middle of the face towards the outside. Make sure that it is even and then blend it using gentle and circular motions.

Blending Naturally

The large blending brush works towards softening the makeup and the blush along the jawline and hairline. After finishing applying the makeup, twirl a large, clean blending brush along the cheeks, nose, hairline, and jawline. It will help to soften any sharp edges. If you are after a matte finish, dip it in a loose setting lightweight powder. It will help it keep all day.

Blending Brush



6.10 Smudge Brush

 **This brush works well for smudging dense color bursts.** It can blend the kohl liner or an extremely pigmented shadow. It is a great way to apply the color without having to worry about a mess. The bristles are dense and round in shape. Therefore, it works well for applying the eyeliner or shadow. Use a smudge brush to smudge or blend the makeup so that the lines are not so harsh. It will give a softer look. Simply brush over the line several times until it is blended and has given the desired look. You should purchase a set to get the largest array of brushes. Some will even come in nice carrying cases. You can eliminate the ones that you don't use or you don't like using and then replace them with single options. You can purchase brushes individually and as a set. Remember that natural brushes work best with dry products and synthetic brushes work best for cream and liquid products. Make sure that you have a foundation or powder brush, a flat concealer brush, a blush brush with loose bristles, a flat highlighter brush, an angled brow brush, and an eyebrow brush. From there, you can add on to your collection. However, it will be really hard to start without these brushes. Throw a pack of cotton buds onto the list of brushes and you will have them all.

Smudge Brush



When you come to buy brushes, it is recommended to purchase a set to get the largest array of brushes. Some will even come in nice carrying cases. You can eliminate the ones that you don't use or you don't like using and then replace them with single options. Remember that natural brushes

work best with dry products and synthetic brushes work best for cream and liquid products. Make sure that you have a foundation or powder brush, a flat concealer brush, a blush brush with loose bristles, a flat highlighter brush, an angled brow brush, and an eyebrow brush. These brushes are all absolutely essential. From there, you can add on to your collection with the other brushes we have described.

6.11 Instruction Video

Makeup Brushes - 12 min 17 sec

In this video Olivia will guide you through the various makeup brushes that she uses to create her looks.

Module Summary

This module gave you more detail on how to use the various brushes that you were introduced to in the last module. It also provided you with information about choosing the right brush for the job. We covered why certain brushes are used, and which ones are essential items in your makeup kit. You also learned the important criteria to consider when choosing new makeup brushes.

[Tweet "I just completed Module 6 of the Makeup Certification Course"]
