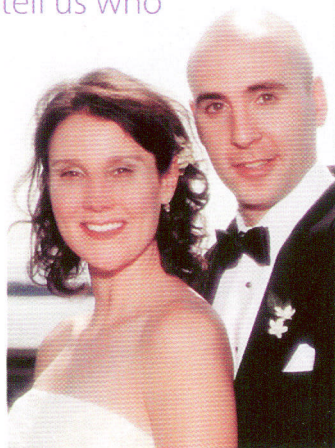




by jeanne muchnick

Make Me Over!

Worried about how you'll look on your Big Day—and who you'll find to do your makeup? We went to the source (local brides) to tell us who they selected and why.



Mary Lynn Strom

Peekskill, NY; married September 4, 2004

MAKEUP ARTIST: Natalia Garro; 914-320-1108; natalia@bridemakeup.com; www.bridemakeup.com.

WHY I PICKED HER: I had been to three makeup trials, which earned me raves like, “You look like a clown” (my brother) and “You look like a mannequin” (my mom). What I really wanted was to look like myself—just better. A friend of mine found Natalia’s website and, at first, I thought she seemed pricey—\$200, plus tip—so I kept looking. But she was always in the back of my mind; her website impressed me—it’s very elegant and chic. I finally came to my senses and called her.

WHAT I LIKED ABOUT HER: She made me look natural. Plus, she didn’t ask me any questions. She looked at my face and my coloring as though they were blank canvases and went to work. I trusted her immediately and when I looked in the mirror after my trial run, I finally breathed a sigh of relief. Also, since we met for a trial two months before my wedding, she recommended two products for me to prepare my skin for the big day: A Clinique lip balm for my dry lips and an eye cream for my dark circles around my eyes. I loved how she recommended reasonable products, not just the stuff at the most expensive makeup counters.

MY ADVICE TO OTHER BRIDES: Be comfortable with the artist you pick and make sure it’s someone you trust. When your wedding finally arrives, you’re way too busy to think, “Is this the best eye color for me?” My whole wedding party used her—and everyone, even my hard-to-please mom, was thrilled with the results. Natural girls, beware: You’ll want to resist wearing too much makeup, but if your makeup artist says you’ll need more for pictures, trust her judgment. It may feel awkward at first, but it works in the photographs.