

Your New Go-To Beauty Magic Trick:

A Wig

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MODELS GRACE ALBERT, COLETTE HAYNES,

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In the dead of winter, things can get a little bit stale. Besides the monochrome grey color-palette and stuffy indoor air, your complexion lacks sunshine and your hair is so over the winter static and brutal chill. But don't despair. We have a super-glam solution for the winter doldrums!

Gone are the days of little grannies in stiff wigs. Now anyone can rock the effortless, instantaneous, total bombshell makeover of a deliciously gorgeous wig. No matter your hair-styling skills, beauty tastes, or budget, there is a wig out there waiting to transform you into the woman of your daydreams.

As a woman wearing a pixie cut for over a year, my daydreams featured a head of long sex-kitten hair in a rich brunette to complement my fair-skinned winter complexion. So I went straight to Angels of Beauty Salon & Supply in Warrenton, where I found Dionne Logan, owner/stylist extraordinaire ready to help.

Together, we picked four very different styles to try: a caramel-color Brigitte Bardot mane, a blue asymmetrical long bob, a long wavy platinum grey, and a voluminous brunette – just the style I'd daydreamed about.

In a curtained private space with a mirror, a salon chair, and my selection of wigs (or 'units') on mannequin heads beside us, Dionne helped me pull each style over a hose cap, adjusting the laced cap-lines to fit perfectly along my hairline. She pulled pieces of my own hair from beneath to blend with the synthetic hair when appropriate, teaching me all about easy maintenance and demonstrating the different hairstyles I could try. This process felt like the sexy and sophisticated adult version of playing dress-up as a little girl – with all of the same fun.

While each style held its own (and tempted me to come back for more wigs in the near future), I decided to go brunette, as it's a closer fit to my natural hair color. Dionne styled my new wig by finger-combing it, spritzing it with leave-in conditioner, and setting the wavy curls to lay just right. I left the salon with long, dark hair tumbling over my shoulders, feeling like the woman of my daydreams – a queen with a foam head under my arm upon which I could rest my crown of synthetic hair when I take it off at night.

Now, I can't lie to you; wearing a wig in public can be daunting at first. But after

a few days I grew confident enough to enjoy all of the compliments on my hair. And there were LOTS of compliments on my hair.

Strangers have no clue that I'm wearing a wig, and they're in love with the volume, cut, color, and style of my super-human hair. My coworkers – primarily a group of men completely uninterested in beauty or style – seem genuinely impressed with the change, especially with how natural it looks. My clients' initial confusion – "How did your hair grow so fast?" – quickly turned into fascination after a quick explanation.

My friends are not at all surprised that I would try such a bold beauty move, but now they're ready to try it too. And after having so much fun with my own unit, I definitely think they should.

In fact, I want every woman to try a wig! You could gather your girlfriends and make a night of it or you could go solo; treat yourself and make a new friend at the salon. However you do it, you absolutely must try this beauty magic trick.

Here's a little bit of extra motivation: winter is literally your perfect opportunity. Not only will you be able to break up the monotony of the season, the extra layer of hair helps keep out the chill.





Grace loves to dye her hair playful colors, but this unit allows her to enjoy her natural hair color whenever she wants.

Natalie was afraid to chop and dye her long, blonde hair; this strawberry-blonde chin-length unit gives her a fresh look without the scary long-term commitment of cut and color.



Miriam's long black mane is to die for, but this caramel-colored style is perfect for lightening and brightening those dark winter days.



Colette's hair is beautiful to begin with, but this bold new style exudes a smoldering confidence hot enough to melt away the winter blues.