

We noticed you're in France, would you like to see your local site?
Click on the country / region above to switch.



Story from CELEBRITY BEAUTY >

16 Beauty Products Lily Collins Actually Wore In *Emily In Paris*

CAT QUINN

LAST UPDATED [OCTOBER 16, 2020, 9:00 PM](#)



LILY COLLINS IN 'EMILY IN PARIS.' PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

Imagine if [Carrie Bradshaw](#) went to Paris and, instead of being snubbed by her boyfriend's snobby friends, losing her beloved name-plate necklace, and [getting slapped](#), she dumped the loser, went to the ballet solo, and spent weeks gallivanting the city in bucket hats and black tulle — leaving a trail of hot French men in her wake. That's roughly the premise of Netflix's [Emily In Paris](#), a fashion-stuffed, 10-episode brain-candy binge from *Sex and the City* creator Darren Star.

The show follows Chicago-based marketing expert [Emily Cooper \(Lily Collins\)](#) as she travels to Paris to bring an "American perspective" to her firm's global advertising team. She lands at Charles de Gaulle airport with beachy influencer waves, loud mixed patterns, and

stars in her eyes — only to be very quickly schooled by her colleagues in the Parisian art of refinement. "Emily came from Chicago to Paris — a new life, new job, and also new relationship. The more [time] she spends in Paris, the more she takes involve in her image," the show's Paris-based hairstyling lead, Mike Desir, tells me.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

Emily Cooper (Lily Collins) quickly befriends Mindy Chen (Ashley Park), who guides her in the ways of French fashion.

After her first friend in Paris, [Mindy Chen \(Ashley Park\)](#), tells her that she "looks American," Cooper starts to evolve her style. Her waves get a little smoother, her lipstick gets a little deeper, and her [fashion shifts from wild prints to a monochrome palette](#) that wouldn't look as out of place on the Metro. "She was girly and already had a sense of perfection. Naturally, she became a bit more sophisticated," the show's Paris-based lead makeup artist, Aurélie Payen, tells me. "All the details concerning her makeup, her hair, her clothes had to be at the top of fashion as she lived in Paris, the city of fashion."

But Emily's romanticized version of "[French-girl](#)" beauty — which is much more Audrey Hepburn than Caroline de Maigret — still doesn't quite live up to that of her colleagues. "It's

that *je ne sais quoi* French feel and undone chic quality that feels quite European in comparison to Emily's more 'done' look," Desir says. "[Emily] feels everything is in place and has to look perfect and done, whereas the French ladies allow their hair to fall out of place and they embrace the imperfections."

Whether you're drawn to Emily's *Funny Face* aesthetic or the "less is more" vibe of her colleagues, beauty tips (and Netflix baes) abound in this show. So settle in and scroll ahead as the *Emily In Paris* hair-and-makeup team share their top behind-the-scenes tricks for French-girl beauty — however you define it.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

How To Prevent Hat Hair — The French Way

To achieve Emily's glossy waves, which somehow never frizz under a parade of [bucket hats](#) and berets, Desir relied on [Bumble & Bumble hairspray](#) for "great hold and soft texture." Instead of fixing her [hat hair](#) between scenes, he prevented it by styling her waves in a middle part, loosely twisting her front pieces back, and then placing the accessory on her head. That way, when Emily takes off her hat, her face-framing waves bounce right back into place. *C'est beau.*



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

With Skin Care, Consistency Is Key

Any French makeup artist will tell you: The best looks start with beautiful skin. "Keeping Lily's skin perfect was my goal during those four months filming in Paris," Payen tells me. "As a makeup artist for almost 20 years, I know that skin care is the most important everyday ritual before makeup. That's why I needed the best products."

Payen started by misting [Quantum Botanika Herbal Water](#) on Collins' face before mixing the brand's [hydrating gel](#) with a few drops of [facial oil](#) and thoroughly massaging the cocktail into her skin. (The line is from London-based [facialist Nataliya Robinson](#) and available in the U.K.) She prepped her lips with the brand's [lip balm](#), smoothed [Collagena Hydrogel Patches](#) (you'll find them at [French pharmacies](#) or on [Amazon](#)) under her eyes, and then got to work on her makeup.





PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

Perfect The Art Of Day-To-Night Makeup

According to Payen, the beauty look in Paris shifts once the sun sets on the Seine. "French-girl beauty is effortless during the daytime, but a bit more sophisticated in the evening. French girls always like to highlight [their] lips or eyes for a party — rarely both at the same time!" says Payen.

With that in mind, Payen kept Emily's skin fresh and natural for day by mixing [Dr. Barbara Sturm Glow Drops](#) with [Chanel Foundation Vital Lumière Aqua](#) as her base. She tapped a tawny shade of [Tom Ford cream blush](#) from the apples of her cheeks to her eyelids and finished with a few swipes of [Dior Pump Up The Volume Mascara](#).

While Emily is most frequently seen wearing rosy-nude lips (a winning combo of [Charlotte Tilbury Lip Cheat in Pillow Talk](#) and [MAC Velvet Teddy Lipstick](#)), Payen says that her secret to a flawless red evening lip is as much about the color (she used [Pat McGrath Matte Trance Lipstick in Obsessed](#)) as it is the prep. "I applied a [lip patch by Collagena](#) before the lipstick to hydrate the lips," says Payen.

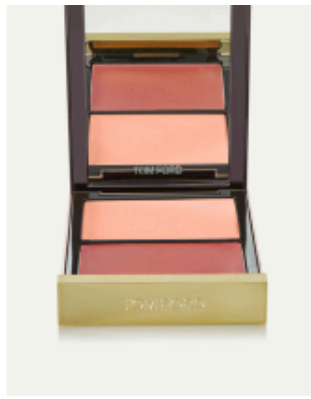
SHOP 9 PRODUCTS





PAT MCGRATH
MatteTrance™ Lipstick

BUY \$38.00
SEPHORA



TOM FORD BEAUTY
Shade & Illuminate Cheek In ...

BUY \$80.00
NET-A-PORTER



LAURA MERCIER
Secret Camouflage

BUY \$36.00
NORDSTROM



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

Don't Overthink Your Hair Accessories

Emily's trip to the ballet at the Palais Garnier is a "magic moment" that Desir says was a direct wink to Audrey Hepburn's iconic role. But what made the twinkly updo even more chic was the idea that Emily plucked a piece out of her jewelry box as a finishing touch. "We used a necklace

as an accessory to sublime the updo," says Desir, adding that the placement around the crown was key. "[It created] a pure line of highlight."



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

Brow Highlighting Makes A *Big* Difference

Another major hint to Hepburn? Emily's bold, square-shaped brows. While the actress brought her naturally bushy brows to set, Payen exaggerated their manicured shape by highlighting them with [Laura Mercier Secret Camouflage Concealer](#) in a shade lighter than her natural skin tone. Then, she brushed them up with [Anastasia Beverly Hills Clear Brow Gel](#), and kept a spare in her kit to "fix Lily's brows all day long."

SHOP 3 PRODUCTS





LAURA MERCIER
Secret Camouflage

BUY \$36.00
NORDSTROM



DIOR
Diorshow Pump 'n' Volume H...

BUY \$29.50
SEPHORA



ANASTASIA BEVERLY HILLS
Clear Brow Gel

BUY \$22.00
SEPHORA



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.

At the end of the day, Payen and Desir hope viewers expand their idea of "French-girl" beauty beyond one specific look, and instead focus on the confidence that truly sets Parisian women apart. "I hope that every girl watches *Emily in Paris* and identifies with Lily to know that everything is possible in life," Payen says. "As you grow your confidence in your ability and your skills, you grow your confidence in your own natural beauty — inside and outside."

At Refinery29, we're here to help you navigate this overwhelming world of stuff. All of our market picks are independently selected and curated by the editorial team. If you buy something we link to on our site, Refinery29 may earn commission.



EMILY IN PARIS IS FILLED WITH FRENCH GIRL BEAUTY TIPS

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED ON [OCTOBER 2, 2020, 11:45 AM](#)

[CELEBRITY BEAUTY](#) • [BEAUTY](#) • [FRENCH BEAUTY TIPS](#) • [THE LATEST](#) • [SHOPPING](#)

WRITTEN BY

CAT
QUINN

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NETFLIX.