

Young Man, are You Ready?

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NOW YOU JUST WATCH THE CHANGE

The Journal Says "Never Say Dye," But After This Watch for Springtime Shades

"Don't!"
Mr. Punch's immortal counsel to those about to be married applies equally well to the women who want to dye their hair.

However good this advice may be, it is quite evident that few women take it, since hair dressers tell me and my own correspondence shows me that hair tinting is more prevalent now than ever before.

Dark brown hair is quite out of fashion, and the women whose hair is

of that shade and who has not begun "touching it up" possesses either a very strong character or is indifferent to her appearance.

Not that brown hair with drab streaks in it is ugly. On the contrary, it is often beautiful, particularly when well brushed and glossy. But fashion will have none of the shade, and popular taste runs to hair with a glint of red or gold in it.

The color which the brown haired maiden desires to acquire is not chest-

nut nor Titian red. Indeed it is only called red by courtesy and looks red only when seen in strong sunlight.

Many girls of about 18, particularly out of door girls, have this kind of hair, brown with a golden-riddish tint in it. As they grow older the light fades out of the hair and the face is framed in tresses of somber brown. Now art steps in and reproduces the tint of girlhood, and when the transformation is unobserved, it is voted rejuvenating and beautiful.

"Isn't it wonderful how much Mrs. Brown's appearance has improved since she went south? She looks five years younger," some one will say. She does not know that the lady has improved her vacation by shining up her locks.

Absence lends a charm. It also helps people forget one's exact appearance, and a prolonged journey should be advocated for those about to use the dye bottle. When the transformation

from muddy brown hair to more youthful sunlit color is effected in a few hours, the result is liable to cause an unpleasant amount of critical attention. Therefore go slowly if you will insist on changing the color of your hair.

A correspondent writes that her darkening hair makes her look older. It undoubtedly does. As soon as you put that in your argument for lightening your hair some conservative friend will inform you that the pigmentary deposits in the skin of the face also darken with years, or rather they accumulate and make the complexion look darker to correspond with the hair. Well, our conservative friend errs, or rather he—for the veto is usually put in by a man—forgets that modern woman uses a face bleach as readily as she does powder, and does not hesitate to have her offending dark epidermis removed until a lighter one shows in its place. With this the arguing man gives up the controversy and steps aside. He is heard from later when he admires the results of the lightening process, providing he does not know how they were obtained.

"Do you think I am wrong in making my hair lighter?" write scores of correspondents. "I do so wish to look well." Undoubtedly lighter hair gives the face a softer and more youthful appearance. As for the right and the wrong of it, that is for each person to settle for herself.

Should she decide that her drab and dingy looking hair no longer pleases her, and that henceforth she is going to have the courage of her convictions, there are various ways of attaining those glints of red and gold so attractive to the eyes.

No two heads of hair are affected by chemicals in the same degree. Even sunlight bleaches some hair quicker than it will others. Strong alkalies like salts of tartar, soda and borax bleach some hair and seem to have no particular effect on others. Very coarse dark brown hair is usually hard to affect, even with pure peroxide. Remembering this, the woman who is about to cultivate reddish glints must begin carefully, experimenting until she finds out how susceptible her hair is to the tint.

The reddish brown glint is produced by using one of the following agents: Henna, peroxide of hydrogen, claret, an infusion of camomille flowers or

safron tea. Before using any of these, the hair should be thoroughly shampooed, care being taken that the sides and back of the head are washed perfectly clean and that the grease and suds are rinsed out properly. The shampoo should not contain anything stronger than a bit of soda dissolved in the water, as potash, for instance, will change the color of the hair and act on the dye. Now the hair is thoroughly dried and if henna is used the hair is dipped into the henna tea. The tea is made by taking two ounces of henna leaves and pouring on them a quart of boiling water. Put the leaves and water in a preserve jar, seal and let stand over night. Heat the liquid when ready for use and dissolve in it a tablespoonful of the following:

Powdered henna, 2 drams.
Acetic acid, 1 dram.
Powdered rhubarb, 1 dram.
Rinse the hair in this and then dry to the sun. This method applies to drab-brown hair.

The dark brown locks require to be rinsed in half peroxide and half water after being washed and dried for the first time. After they are dried for the second time the simple henna tea, without the powder, is poured over them, and the roots of the hair soaked with it for a few moments.

The safron tea is for dead brown-looking hair, the kind that has a grayish gleam to it without there being any real gray hair visible. The safron tea is made of an ounce of safron to a pint of boiling water. The infusion should stand over night, covered and be heated again for use like the henna. The hair is rinsed in this tea after being washed and dried, and the last application is dried in the sunshine.

When the tinting has been overdone and a too vivid color produced, the ef-

fect can be toned down by smoothing the hair with a few drops of olive oil on the palm of the hand. But the reddish glint is no longer either beautiful or becoming when it becomes vivid enough to call in the services of a specialist, who makes her living at undoing the mischief done by the woman who dyes her hair not wisely but too well.

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