

The Best Fingers-Only Base Products

Hands-on beauty.

By [Andrea Arterbery](#)



We've been told pretty much our whole lives not to touch our faces, but that rule flies out the door when it comes to makeup. Even L'Oreal Paris celebrity makeup artist [Sir John](#), who slays the face of Beyoncé on a regular basis, agrees that sometimes your fingers do it best. "Honestly, I don't see anything wrong with using fingers in any circumstance," he says. "I actually encourage this — it is an expert thing to do to put your brush down when applying makeup. This technique helps make things organic and truly makes a difference when creating your look."

But, before you put away the makeup brushes and use these finger-approved products listed, here are few things to remember:

Always make sure that your hands and nails are clean.

"Your hands and fingers pick up so much bacteria throughout the day and this can get on your face and congest pores," Sir John says. If you aren't able to do the traditional hand-washing route, use an antibacterial hand sanitizer such as a PocketBac Sanitizer first before applying.

Blend using your ring finger. "People tend to go for their index finger, but that is actually too aggressive and picks up too much product," Sir John says. He also suggests pretending that you're playing a piano when applying makeup with your fingers. "If you can simulate that with multiple fingers in a tapping motion, you'll get the best blending on the face and lips."

Emollient-based products are always the best to use when it comes to applying makeup with your fingers.

"Emollient based products usually have more oils in it which makes it easier to work with fingers," Maybelline New York global makeup artist Grace Lee says. "They tend to be more malleable due to the ingredients."

NUDESTIX

Powder eyeshadow isn't always best to apply with your fingers. "I've seen women blend their powder eyeshadows on their eyes with their fingers and it looks a hot mess," Grace says. "If it's a creamy eye shadow, that's ok. But, powder eyeshadow should be applied with brushes."



6/12 NUDESTIX Skin Glossing Pencil, \$24. sephora.com

A nude glow is always on trend; so don't be afraid to apply this pencil on eyes, lips, and cheeks before blending with your fingertips.

Photo: Courtesy of Nudestix



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