



How to Create a Smoky Eye



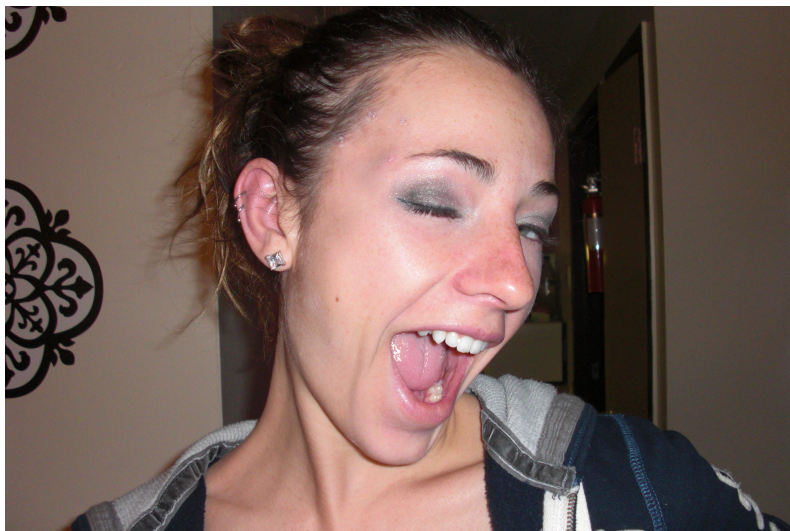
Claudia Hossain
Eng202c

The Elusive Smoky Eye



When it comes to creating a sultry stare, few looks can match the effect of a smoky eye, a look that creates a gradation of color on the eyelids. Smoky eyes can be created for any formal or casual occasion, even for the office, just by altering the tone and intensity of the eye shadow colors. Celebrity make-up artists commonly apply smoky make-up to their high profile clients for its consistently impressive results and image. Even so, with proper application, any woman can create a smoky eye by herself, no previous skill required. The key aspect of a true smoky eye is the gradation of color. Smoky eyes have the lightest colors near the tear ducts, towards the center of the face, and the darkest colors at the outer edges. With a lot of careful blending, the various colors create a multi-tonal look that is classic and always flattering.

The standard smoky eye employs three shades of any color family as long as they are light, medium, and dark tones of the same base color. However with the right blending, even two colors can just be used. The more common families are browns, dark grays, blues, purples, and greens, but any color family can be applied with a little creativity! Creating the perfect smoky eye may take some practice, but with a little patience, you can look like a celebrity just with a few simple tools and techniques.



Getting Started

Tools and Materials:

- A. Wide, base color brush*
- B. Small, angled brush*
- C. Thin, liner brush
- D. Fluffy, blending brush
- E. Three powder eye shadows of a light, medium, and dark tone in the same color family **
- F. Matte, white eye shadow
- G. Eye make up primer
- H. Mascara
- I. Black liquid liner

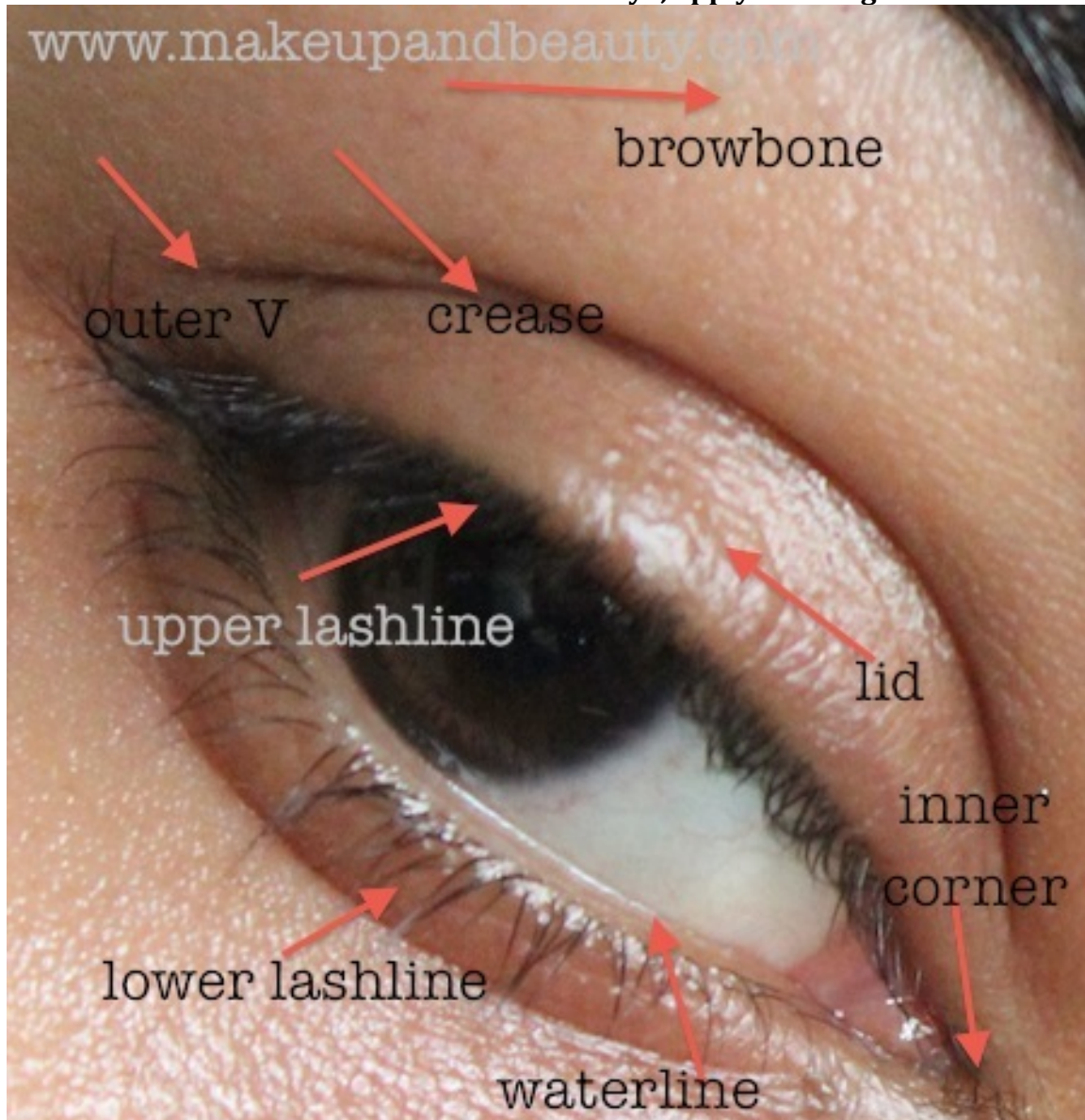


***The A/B brush is dual-ended and serves as a base color and angled brush**

****A complete palette is not necessary. Any three individual shadows or alternate palettes can be used.**

Cosmetic Anatomy:

For reference to the various locations of the eye, apply this diagram.



Credit: <http://makeupandbeauty.com/how-to-apply-eyeshadow-photo-tutorial/>

Getting the Look

Caution: *It is important to not “over-do” the look and use too much make-up, especially when using darker eye shadows. Remember it is easier to darken an area than it is to lighten it. Use a level of intensity that you feel comfortable with and that is appropriate for your occasion.*

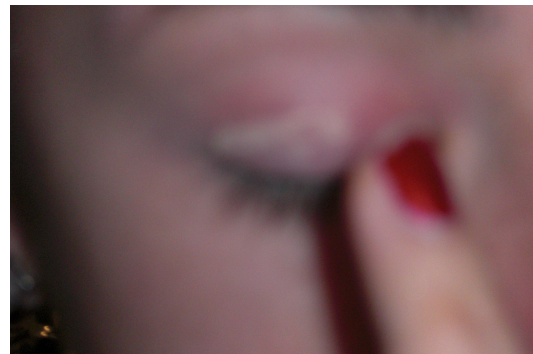


Before

Step 1

Start out with clean, make up free lids and apply a thin layer of eye make up primer to the entire lid from the lash line to the edge of bone beneath the eyebrow.

Just a dot of primer will be sufficient. Primer will create a smooth canvas for your make-up to adhere to and will allow your shadows to be more vibrant.



Step 2

Using the flat, wide brush, take the lightest shadow and apply it to the entire lid extending it upward towards the brow bone.



Step 3

With the small, angled brush apply the medium toned eye shadow in a curved "V" shape around the outer edge of the eye.



Start by smudging a line of the shadow along the crease of the eye from the outer corner to the top of the pupil.



Step 4

To continue the “V” shape, extend the medium toned shadow to the upper lash line just from the outer corner to the middle of the lash line.



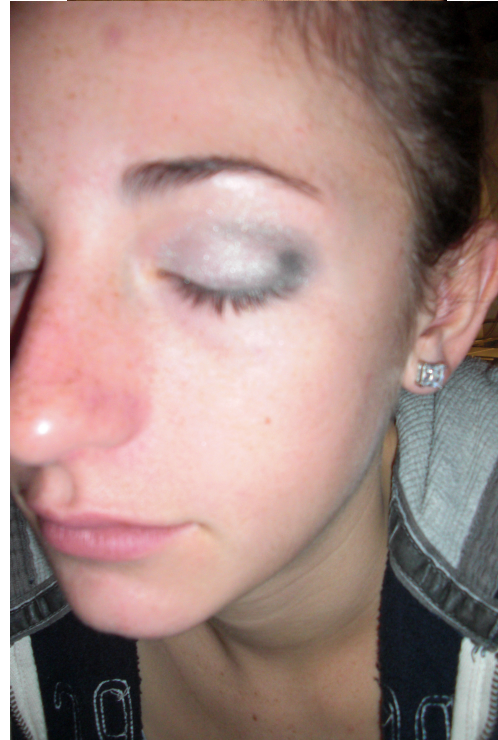
Step 5

Extend the medium toned shadow to the outer edge of the lower lash line and connect it to the edge of the upper lid in a light, circular motion.



Step 6

Dip the small, angled brush into the dark shadow and dot the outer edges of the eye, lightly smudging outwards to angle towards the lower end of the eyebrow.



Step 7

With the fluffy brush, blend the eye shadows starting from the outer corner inwards, making sure to blend the edges of the colors into each other.

The key to a true smoky eye is blending to establish the gradation of color. Make sure there are no harsh edges or sharp angles.



Step 8

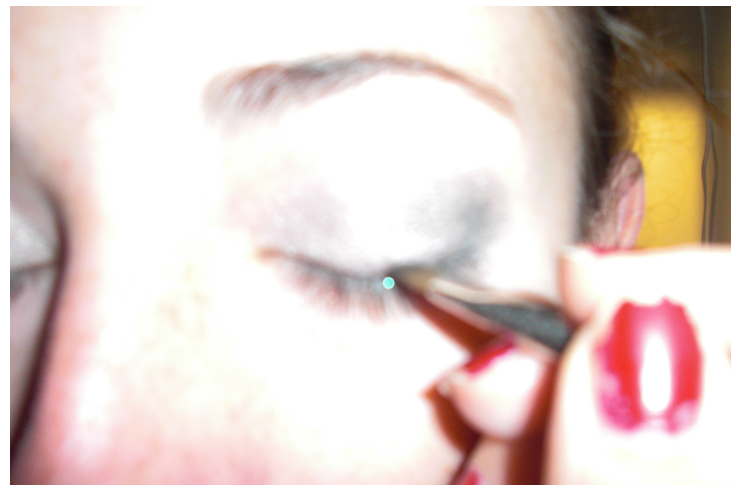
Wipe off any excess shadow off the small, angled brush and use it to apply the white shadow to the inner corners of the eye, extending it to the edge of the lower lash line.

The white shadow placed near the tear ducts will make the eyes look brighter and wider.



Step 9

Run the liner brush under some water to wet the bristles, tap out any excess water, and lightly drag the tip of the brush through the darkest toned shadow. Line the upper and lower lashlines, as close to the edge as possible, with the liner brush. Repeat the step as necessary to get a smooth, edge of color.



Step 10

With the liquid liner, line only the upper lash line, winging out at the corner.

Liquid liner takes some practice to master. If you don't feel like you have a steady hand, make dots along the edge of the lash line and then connect them.

To wing out the liner for a nice "cat-eye," lightly tug horizontally against the skin near the outer corner of the eye and extend the liner about a quarter millimeter out.

Remember less is more and it is easier to extend lines than to start over.



Step 11

Apply two coats of mascara to the upper lashes and a light coat of mascara to the lower lashes.



Step 12

Clean up any loose powder with a fluffy brush, cotton, tissue, or some make up remover if necessary and you have a completed smoky eye look!



After

Photos taken and used with permission of Morgan Penny

Cover Photo Credits: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm1863227>, <http://invisibleblocks.blogspot.com/2011/11/invisible-style-kim-kardashian.html>, <http://www.homebunch.com/jessica-albas-house/>, <http://www.facemaker.ca/page66.html>