

Beauty

Make-up brush sets make the perfect Christmas presents for beauty lovers of all ages. There are plenty to choose from, at a variety of price points, on the High Street and online. These are the ones on our wish-list for finding under the tree this year.

Words by Stephanie Smith

1: Cressida Harte Rainbow Unicorn Set

A cute, dressing table ready set of five soft make-up brushes, from new brand Cressida Harte, which specialises in professional quality brushes, vegan friendly and using plush faux leather for the holders. The Cressida Harte Rainbow Unicorn Brush Set can be bought with or without the ombre cylinder case for £35-£45, from cressidaharte.com.



2: Zoeva New Opulence Collection Brush Set

A gorgeously decadent set of 10 vegan professional make-up brushes made of pure synthetic hair. They come in an on-trend deep plum colour with matte black embossment, plus a luxe and stylish burgundy clutch with a lush floral inlay. Buy for £80 or for £98 as part of a gift set with Zoeva make-up palettes. Available from Zoevacosmetics.com.



3: Lily England Marble Luxe Make Up Set

A nine-piece set of classy marbleised vegan brushes – four face brushes, including Complexion Brush, Contour Brush and Sculpt & Glow Brush, plus five eye brushes, presented in a luxe travel container designed to turn into two luxe holders to contain and display brushes at home or while on the go. It's £45 at Lilyengland.com.



4: Barry M Professional Makeup Brush Set

Six essential make-up brushes for eyes, cheeks and complexion with all that you need to create a professionally flawless make-up look. Made with synthetic hair, so vegan friendly, this set contains a Foundation Brush, Powder/Blusher Brush, Contour Brush, Eyeshadow Brush, Angled Eyeliner Brush and Sponge. It's £24.99 at Argos.



5: Bobbi Brown Travel Brush Set

Sleek, red faux-leather case with brushes to match, in a set including Full Coverage Face Brush for a high definition finish, Sheer Powder Brush, Eye Definer Brush, Ultra Fine Eyeliner Brush and Eyeshadow Brush, which lets you apply and blend shadows in one effective step. It's £89 on the Bobbi Brown counters including at John Lewis.



HOW TO GET THE LOOK

Former *Doctor Who* companion Karen Gillan hits the red carpet in LA for the premiere of *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle* with a glossy, distinctive eyeliner look. For similar, try Odylique Eyeliner in black, £12.50 at BigGreenSmile.com. (Picture: Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP)

STEP-BY-STEP TO A FESTIVE LOOK

Parties to attend but barely any time to apply your party make-up? Stephanie Smith tries out Trish McEvoy's eight-step look.

We could, if we wish, while away many a contented hour applying and experimenting with make-up (it's one of my favourite leisure activities).

However, lack of time often prevents this, particularly during the festive season, when some of us, quite frankly, are lucky to leave the house with a washed face and a sweep of mascara in place.

So, a time-saving make-up lesson at Trish McEvoy at Harvey Nichols Leeds last week was long overdue. Trish has come up with an eight-step routine for a festive look, easily adapted to turn a day look into an evening one simply and quickly.

Make-up artist Oksana showed me how to create a classic party look using Trish McEvoy's signature, half-face, first me, then you technique.

Cleansing and moisturising comes first, then Trish always starts with the eyes, to allow face skincare to absorb and so that eyeshadow spatters can be easily removed.

1. Brighten and prime the eyelid with Eye Base Essentials Bare from the centre of the lid to the brow and each corner.

2. Define eyes with black eyeliner, dotting it between lashes on upper

lid, then apply liner and shadow to lower lid and smudge shadow into the upper eye crease, before using liquid liner across the top lid line.

3. Apply Lash Curling Mascara at base of lashes and wiggle through in a side-to-side motion to coat.

4. Use Trish McEvoy's Triangle of Light technique, applying Trace Instant Eye Lift in an upside triangle under each eye out to the temples.

5. Apply foundation first where needed most and blend outwards.

6. Dab and blend Liquid Face Color high on apples of cheeks. Set with Finishing Powder, then sweep a bronzer from forehead to temple to cheekbone. Apply Finishing Powder.

7. Using a brow pencil, comb brows then fill in using short fine strokes to the outer corner.

8. For the lips, use Beauty Booster Lip & Cheek Color Red, then apply a nude gloss, but only to lip centres.

■ See www.trishmcevoy.com for more make-up tips.



PARTY EYES: Trish McEvoy Light & Lift Eye Color Palette. £55 at Harvey Nichols.