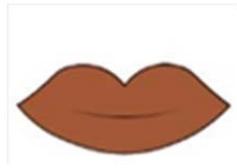




June Pigment of the Month: Naked

On sale for \$22.00, regularly \$27.00



Face Inks Naked has become one of our most popular lip pigments, mainly due to its neutrality. I often get requests for a natural lip color and the first color that comes to mind is Naked. It heals beautifully natural on both warm and cool complexions. Although it appears slightly warm, once it is tattooed into the lips it cools off to a neutral shade.

I use Naked straight on Fitzpatrick 1 & 2's whose lips are also 1 & 2's on the Beau Blue Index. I also mix it with several other colors when I want to soften them.

- Half Vintage Rose and half Naked is a great way to soften and neutralize the pink in Vintage Rose.
- Half Naked and half Apricot Crème is also a great combo. This will heal on the warm side.
- Three quarters Naked and a quarter of Nearly Nude create a deeper and beautiful natural lip shade.
- I also use a few drops of Naked to soften some of the brighter colors such as: Java Mauve, Plumberry, Lovers Coral, Peach and Cayenne. It lends a fleshy, natural tone to these shades.

Naked is great for those from 1 to 3 on the Fitzpatrick Scale. It may not be deep enough for darker complexions but can be mixed into a deeper shade to soften and/or lighten.

Note: Always mix your lip formula, place directly onto the vermilion and allow it to dry. If it is drying too cool, lighten your color or add a drop or more of Pumpkin.

The BBI:

Face Inks has created a Beau Blue Indicator Scale (BBI) for Lips that simply ranges from 1-6 much like the Fitzpatrick Scale. A BBI 1 would describe very pale lips with very little color or blue and a BBI 6 would indicate very deeply pigmented lips.

Remember...always view lips separately from one's complexion. A woman's complexion may be a #1 on the Fitzpatrick Scale but her lips can be a BBI 4, having a great degree of blue. Always, see them separately.

The suggestion for the use of these colors regarding the Fitzpatrick Scale describes how the person's complexion will look in the color. The BBI describes the degree of blue in the lips.

Always pre-mix your color and spread it over the actual lip tissue and wait for it to dry. This allows you to see how your color will mix with the degree of blue in the lips and prompt you if you need to add Pumpkin or New Pumpkin to your formula.

When I am tattooing lips that are greater than a BBI-4, my theory has always been to add Pumpkin just to be safe and eliminate it on the touch up visit if I didn't need it. Lips that heal a bit too light or too warm are easy to deepen or cool...*lips that heal too blue require a color correction.*

Needle Tips...

When I am using a light color such as Naked, I will often use a 3-Liner to outline the lips. I will then do a row or two of tight circles with it and then go to a 4-Flat or a 5-Slope and then shade it in toward the center of the lips using the side of the needles.

I don't do full lips very often with these fleshy, earthy shades. By shading the color into the lip interior, you will create a lighter interior which makes the lips appear fuller. Sometimes, tattooing the entire lip with color narrows them. My goal is that I want my client to be able to wear *only* a clear or tinted gloss. This procedure allows exactly that with maximum fullness.

If you are not trained to use a Slope needle, a 3-Liner or a 5-Round will also create a great lip line. Then, you can go to a 4-Flat or 9-Magnum for the shading.

Topical Anesthetics...

Presently, we pre-numb with 5% Lidocaine for a good 20 minutes, mix the color, remove Lidocaine and draw the lip shape. I then immediately trace both top and bottom lips with my needle and pigment selection then layer Duration Ultra, Super Trio and a coat of Vaseline over the lips. I also keep on hand, Magic and Numbpot Gold. If I find that this combination is not completely numbing, I may switch them up. I am always looking for the combination of topical anesthetics that work best for that particular client.

I can then go back to the top lip and generally find my topical anesthetics have numbed it enough to proceed with strengthening my top line and proceeding to complete my desired effects on the entire top lip before continuing and completing the bottom lip.