
UNDERTONE ASSESSMENT

- Warm undertone: Lip tissue has golden, peach, or coral base — select warm pigments
- Neutral undertone: No dominant warm or cool cast — widest pigment compatibility
- Cool undertone: Lip tissue has blue, purple, or mauve base — select neutral-warm pigments to counterbalance
- Always assess undertone on bare lips in natural daylight — artificial light distorts

COLOUR WHEEL CORRECTORS

- Orange corrector: Neutralises blue-grey tones (common in dark lip correction)
- Peach corrector: Neutralises blue-purple tones (lighter skin, mild hyperpigmentation)
- Yellow corrector: Neutralises purple-red tones
- Red/warm corrector: Adds warmth to ashen or grey-toned lips
- Rule: Corrector is applied BEFORE target colour — never mixed into target pigment

FITZPATRICK SCALE & PIGMENT INTERACTION

- Types I-II: Pigment heals approximately true to applied colour; risk of over-saturation
- Type III: Slight warm shift during healing; moderate predictability
- Type IV: Noticeable warm shift; pigment may heal 10-20% darker than application
- Types V-VI: Significant melanin interaction; always assume pigment heals darker; test patch essential
- Dark lip correction (V-VI): Requires corrector phase before any colour introduction

HEALING COLOUR SHIFTS

- Days 1-3: Colour appears 40-60% darker than target — this is normal oxidation
- Days 4-7: Peeling phase — colour looks patchy and light as epidermis sheds
- Days 7-14: Ghost phase — colour may appear to have disappeared; pigment is settling in dermis
- Days 14-42: True colour emerges gradually as skin heals over settled pigment
- Final assessment: Minimum 6 weeks post-procedure before evaluating result or planning touch-up