



A winter wardrobe that works for you

We helped two readers get ready for winter with fashion and beauty tips suitable for the work environment.



Meet the reader

Nicola Auret (27) from Randpark Ridge in Gauteng works as a production coordinator. She loves wearing T-shirts and jeans on days when she's not feeling very energetic, but enjoys putting together eclectic outfits when she feels more creative. She prefers minimal make-up and only wears the basics. Her favourite is a cheek stain, which she says keeps her looking fresh faced, even late at night.

Our ideas for Nicola

Hair Shelene Shaer, master stylist at Tanaz Hair Design, suggested Nicola make the most of her naturally wavy hair by cutting it in soft layers. The colourist, Roxanne Mathias, then added highlights to complement Nicola's skin tone and freshen her appearance. Her hair was blow-dried by the stylist only using her hands, which allowed the hair to take its natural shape. Only the fringe was styled and some of the bottom sections were flicked out. The overall style is relaxed and natural, and Nicola will also be able to do it herself.

Make-up Nicola has lovely skin so we used only a light foundation to even out her skin tone after applying a little concealer to the slight redness around her nose. We used eyeshadow in natural colours to echo the understated look, and worked with shades of brown to create depth. A soft brown eye pencil was used as a brow filler. (Apply very little pressure when using a brow filler to avoid drawing harsh, visible lines in the existing brows.) Red-tinted lipgloss completed her make-up.

Clothes Nicola doesn't have to dress formally for work so we decided to bring her creative side to the fore. The grey cardigan combines the hottest fashion colour of the season with ribbon detail that will also be very big this winter. We chose a slimming pair of flared jeans with pressed creases in a dark shade to dress up the denim, and balance the quirky items that make up the rest of her outfit.

'I'm amazed that a pair of everyday jeans can look so flattering.'