

Hair Talk

BY CELIA SHATZMAN

What is it about women and their hair? Wanting to understand this complex love-hate relationship—and get a few good tips—we went to hair pro Eva Scrivo, celebrity stylist, owner of two eponymous Manhattan salons, host of Sirius radio's *Beauty Talk with Eva Scrivo*, and creator of her trademark haircut, the Uncut. Here, Scrivo dishes her best style advice with three criteria in mind: weight, age, and trends for real women.

Q What's a good cut if you have weight to lose?

An overweight woman should opt for an A-line bob that is shoulder length or slightly shorter. Unlike a straightedge bob, the A-line is longer in front and shorter in back, at the nape of the neck. This look elongates the neck, adding the illusion of height, so that a woman looks taller and thinner.



Color can also help: Adding lowlights (a shade or two darker than the hair's base color) around the face creates shadowing and depth, making the face look thinner.

Q How do you choose the best cut for each client?

We consider the shape of the client's face, the texture of her hair, and the

amount of time she wants to invest in her hair routine each day. We stress that it's not about trying the latest celebrity trend; it's about what look will flatter her most.

Q How can women over 50 best give their stylists direction?

In terms of length, you should ask for a cut that ends at the very bottom of the neck. It's ideal because it's long enough to have movement and feel sexy, but it still highlights the neck. You may also want to ask for sideswept bangs—they're flattering on many women because the asymmetry cuts the face in thirds, making it look slimmer. Bangs also soften a large forehead and make the nose seem a bit smaller. Just stay away from severe straight-cut bangs: They can look childlike and lack the sophistication of sideswept bangs.

Tell us the truth: Can we really wear hair accessories if we're over 30?

Absolutely. For starters, headbands are a great trick that women of every age can use to help hide roots between colorings. Right now they're very modern. For a more flattering look, wear the headband closer to the forehead and ears, not pushed too far back from the hairline.



All About Eva

Hometown Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

What's always on my iPod is alternative rocker Chris Cornell's old and new stuff—I love his album *Euphoria Morning*.

My go-to fashion designer is Dries Van Noten, for his clean, interesting design and eccentric view.

I can't wait to go back to Hong Kong, where I got engaged.

If I could book a lunch with anyone, it would be actor Eric Bana (soon to be seen in *The Time Traveler's Wife*) because he's gorgeous and a fantastic actor. I think we'd have great chemistry.

I've known I wanted to be a hair stylist since I was about 12. I'd tag along to the neighborhood salon where my mother and grandmother got their hair done.

Q What's the story behind the Uncut?

When my clients came back 3 or 4 months after a cut, I was inspired by how their hair had grown out—it was so natural. I wanted to re-create that feeling in a new cut, so I created the Uncut. I achieve that grown-out look by cutting the hair with a razor. The razor's edge produces a zigzag effect, and the hair doesn't look too perfect or freshly cut. Plus, the razor removes bulk from the hair, making it easier for clients to manage their hair at home.

Q What's the best way to prep hair for coloring?

For highlights, don't wash your hair the morning of your appointment. Washing strips the natural oils from your hair, making it more prone to the chemicals' drying effects. On the flip side, if you're getting permanent color or covering gray, wash your hair in the morning with a clarifying shampoo to remove any product buildup and get better coverage.

Q Winter weather is wreaking havoc on my hair. How can I combat static electricity?

Brushing your hair with a natural-bristle brush exfoliates the scalp, increasing oil production and carrying the oil through the hair shaft. This helps keep hair moisturized in dry winter weather. In addition to brushing when you style, brush for 5 minutes every night before bed to prevent dryness. Brushing with a boar-bristle brush can also smooth the hair's cuticle, helping to reduce static electricity.

