



1
the no-mess tan

what is it? Clear Solutions tan (from £20) by California Tan.

the promise 'Applied as a clear solution which gradually develops, allowing a quick lunch-break treat without the "I've just had a spray tan" look.'

the application My therapist begins to spray me in fluid strokes across my whole body. The solution is clear with no sticky after-feeling and the colour develops best if left on overnight.

the results Next morning, after my shower, my skin is a natural brown and there are no messy tan stains on my PJs. Being very pale, one application is enough to give me a subtle glow.

Enq 0800 587 2583

★★★★☆

4
the treatment tan

what is it? Gold tan (£40) by Fake Bake.

the promise 'Ensures a healthy, deeper, longer-lasting tan that won't turn skin orange.'

the application The therapist exfoliates my body from top to toe, then sprays moisturising oil all over my skin. Once I am clean, smooth and dry, the tinted liquid tan is applied by hand. The colour is very dark and looks patchy so I dash home so no one can see me.

the results I am told not to shower until the next day and when I do so, I have become a lovely deep and even bronzed colour. There's no hint of orange and I look as if I've just spent a few days in the sun.

Enq 08 700 54 4455

★★★★☆

2
the scented tan

what is it? Urban tan (from £30) by Ergoline.

the promise 'Blended to create the perfect results for your skin and personalised with a fragrance.'

the application Available at home or in-salon, I opt for a home therapist, who arrives with a tent-like booth. I select the chocolatey Celebrity shade and Linen scent from the extensive range.

the results After showering the next day, I have a natural tan that's not as Wag as I'd feared.

Enq (020) 8498 7266

★★★★★

3
the luxury tan

what is it? Auto-Bronzant (from £36.50) by Guinot.

the promise 'Gives a natural looking result and keeps your skin super-soft.'

the application My therapist rubs me with a mango and grapefruit scrub, then applies a fine layer of brown tan.

the results The colour develops a bit too dark for my complexion and is streaky around the hands and wrists, even though I was thoroughly moisturised. I have to wear long sleeves at work to cover the patches, although the rest of me glows.

Enq 0800 590094

★★★☆☆

DOES IT WORK?

professional tans

Is the glow really better when someone puts it on for you?

5
the at-home tan

what is it? Prestige Plus system (from £35) by St Tropez.

the promise 'Delivers a fast, seamless tan with a natural healthy colour in the comfort of your own home or office.'

the application The travelling therapist arrives with a small St Tropez spray booth. I have already exfoliated and she immediately gets to work with a spray gun, covering every inch of my body. Less than five minutes later, I am dry and a dark golden colour, which deepens further over the next six hours.

the results A real hit with celebs such as Victoria Beckham and I can see why – this tan gives a long-lasting and even colour.

Enq 0115 983 6363

★★★★☆

6
the techie tan

what is it? MyMyst (£25) by Mystic Tan.

the promise 'Computerised, voice-activated booth tanning for those who prefer a private tan experience.'

the application I prep my skin with barrier cream and step into an automated booth in the salon. Different foot positions are marked on the floor and the machine tells me what numbers I need to stand on and when I'm covered in a fine mist of tan from top to bottom.

the results My body looks lovely and golden, but my hands are stained where I didn't apply enough barrier cream.

Enq (020) 8498 7253

★★★★☆