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# Trans Women Feminisation Hacks

## Top 25 Makeup Tips for Trans Women



[www.iridis.com.au](http://www.iridis.com.au)

# But First, Hello!



From the very first trans woman who sat in Peta-Gai's makeup chair back in 2013 — the brilliant Belinda — everything changed. It hit PG like a lightning bolt: this was work that mattered on a soul-deep level. Belinda (the gorgeous brunette on the cover) was newly transitioned and preparing for her first ever outing as her authentic self... as a bridesmaid in her best friend's wedding. HUGE. **Being trusted to create her glam and send her out the door feeling confident, pretty, and truly herself was an honour PG has never forgotten.**

And that moment? That's exactly what Iridis does best.

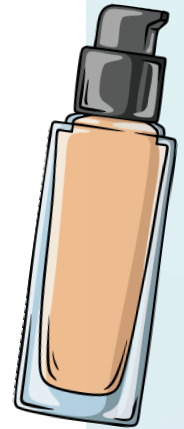
As a queer woman, PG felt an immediate, powerful connection — an exchange of energy that turned into an instant friendship still going strong today. Belinda went on to model in Iridis campaigns, appear in our doco series, and help shape our trans teaching materials. **PG walked away from that first makeover thinking, "I want more of THAT."** She went home, built a new page on her website, and proudly announced:

"Now offering Trans Makeup Services!"

**PG loves every makeover she does, but a trans woman's transformation? That's pure magic.** The moment she reveals a client's beauty to herself — the angels sing, the stars sparkle, and something shifts in both PG and the woman sitting in her chair.

**There's nothing like it.**

And this is why we do what we do. **PG on the brushes,** and **Vanessa — her Studio Manager,** a trans woman, and PG's girlfriend — **running the studio with heart,** care, and fierce support. **Together, they create a space where every trans woman is safe, celebrated, and stunning.**



## Technique/Product

## How to create magic



**1. Silicone FOUNDATION PRIMER** will fill in lines, texture & unevenness, hair or breakouts

It's the perfect base for foundation, it will prevent your foundation from soaking into your pores, which creates patchiness and uneven skin. Makes everything smooth.

**2. ORANGE CORRECTOR** is a necessity for beard shadow cover

The RIGHT orange corrector will counteract the blue tones of beard shadow. Foundation goes over the top.



**3. CONTOUR. CONTOUR. CONTOUR.** All about adding shadows - to Feminise, Minimise, Sculpt & Shape the face.

One Size Fits all contouring like you see on Socials WILL NOT work. You need to know what your face shape is and use a cool-toned contour to create shadows to shape and feminise the face. Contour will create definition or minimise a feature. It can't have shimmer and can't be orange!

**4. HIGHLIGHTING** features is about adding light to the face and is as critical as Contouring

Often overlooked in makeup, highlighting will bring forward features to emphasise them and feminise when done correctly!

**5. One area to NEVER highlight...the end of your nose!**

It's everywhere on Socials but don't do it - it will make your nose look BIGGER which is what highlighting is all about. The right highlight down the bridge of the nose is perfect - the end, no. You're not Rudolph.

**6. Bigger EYES** will always read more feminine, eyeshadow can create illusions of bigger eyes

Using the right eyeshadows, and placement, and using a mix of matte and shimmers, light and dark shades, you can create the illusion of bigger, rounder eyes.



**7. EYE PRIMER** is an essential, but under-utilised tool

Eye primer will keep your eyeshadow on all day and night, blending will be easier, and stop creasing of shadows on the eye.



## Technique/Product

## How to create magic



8. **SKINCARE** for Trans Women is an important topic to get your head around

'AMAB' skin is 30% thicker than 'AFAB' skin. It needs to be dealt with differently, especially as the hormones do their magic. Importantly - HYDRATION is key. Especially to achieve makeup looking lovely.

9. **LIPLINER** is a great tool to have in your lip collection

Lipliners can be used to overdraw your natural lip shape (gently - not drag queen-y) to give the appearance of fuller and lush lips.



10. **BROWS** can make or break a face. Feminising them is an unknown art!

Most beauty therapists don't know how to feminise a brow - it's all about the angles of the arch and the shape of the brow. Thinning out is usually required, but the right brows will WOW. You want a fuller starting point, the correct angle of the brow, then the tail arching downwards.

11. **LIPSTICK** is powerful sorcery when used correctly

Getting the right colour - cool, warm, light, dark and everything in between - is often trial and error! You need a nude, a mid-tone pink and a great vibrant red or deep plum to start with! But then...get them all.

12. **COLOUR CHOICE** of your makeup is everything - do not underestimate the right shades or intensity for you.

Choosing the right shade of ANY makeup comes down to a number of things - eye colour, hair colour and skin colour, plus the wardrobe you tend favour. Complementary tones will always work well. The right colours will make you POP!

13. **LIP GLOSS** is a magical product for glossy gorgeousness

Lip gloss can make your lips look bigger, create shine and sheen, and give some moisture to your lips. It's sheerer, usually, and is easy for touch ups on the go. Gorgeous over the top of lippy too!



## Technique/Product

## How to create magic



14. Keeping your look more **NATURAL** can keep you under the radar

Always stay true to yourself — but as a general guide, a softer, more natural approach will always read more naturally. Too much makeup, the wrong shades, or heavy placement can tip into a 'drag-like' look. Keep it balanced, not overdone.

15. Contrary to above, **DO WANT YOU WANT!**

This is YOUR gorgeous face - do whatever the hell you want.



16. **FOUNDATION MATCHING** must be done on your chest, not your wrist or back of hand... 'test to the chest'!

Pick a few shades of foundations close to your skin and pop a little bit of each on your chest in good cool-toned lighting. The one that blends into NOTHING and you can't see it, is the right one. Double check on your jawline, triple check on your forehead - but sometimes your face and chest won't match in colour. So always match to your **chest** for a more natural look.



17. **POWDER** - less is more and don't 'bake' your face!

If you're over 40 (and even if you're not), too much powder can settle in lines and hair on your face, and just make you look fake. Instead, bounce a big brush over your face with a gentle touch to set your foundation.



18. You don't need to do a '**FULL FACE**' every time!

Depending upon your day, your vibe or the time you have, you don't need to create a full face of makeup every time. Some cis girls will just do mascara, brows and base and that's it! And you don't need to wear makeup everyday if you don't want to! Your face. Your rules.



19. Don't be hard on yourself - **YOU'RE DOING GREAT**

You're DOING it. Don't be critical. Give yourself positive feedback and at least you're giving it a go. You're beautiful. PRACTISE and keep practising - it's the only way you'll get amazing at this skill. KEEP GOING.

## Technique/Product

## How to create magic

### 20. **CONCEALER** is a magic wand



Concealer is an awesome tool to add more coverage only where you need it on your base - it's thicker than foundation, so adheres better to noses, breakouts or dark circles - apply lightly. Choose light-diffusing.

### 21. There's thousands of **EYE SHADOW** techniques - but here's a fail safe one



Add a light shimmer to the lid, a matte nude 'skin colour' through the crease and transition crease, a shimmery cream on the brow bone arch of your eye, and a darker matte cool toned brown on the outer crease and bottom lash line. \*chef's kiss\*

### 22. The principles of good **SKINCARE** need to be in your repertoire



A great routine includes: **CLEANSING** (no foaming wash), **TONER, SERUM, EYE CREAM, SUNSCREEN, & MOISTURISER**. Exfoliate with a non-scrub once a week (go with an AHA or BHA style one). Stick to your routine - morning and night. Not all skincare is created equal. It all comes down to the ingredients.

### 23. **BLUSHER** placement is a fantastic tool for feminisation

Keeping blusher more forward on your face to the 'apples' of the cheek (as opposed to the tops of the cheekbones) will give you a fullness in the cheek and a more femme look.

### 24. **EYELINER** is amazing but can be tricky to do - use this hack instead!



### 25. **FALSE LASHES** give you massive bang for your buck. They're fiddly to make work!

Instead of grappling with a eyeliner that needs to be precise AF, use a dark eyeshadow colour with a firm and short brush to blend on the bottom and top lashlines to create definition without precision required.



False lashes are a powerful feminisation hack — use natural hair lashes, measure and trim them to fit, use quality glue and let it go tacky, then apply with tweezers right along the lash line. When done well, they are pure MAGIC.

# Want to know more?

## We are the Trans Women Makeup Experts.

At Iridis, we **specialise** in helping **trans women** feel **seen, celebrated, and completely at home** in their beauty. Our entire approach is **affirming, trauma-informed, neuro-aware**, and grounded in **decades of real experience** working with **thousands of faces**. We don't just teach makeup — **we teach confidence, self-expression, and the art of stepping into your most authentic feminine self.**

Whether you're **just beginning your transition, refining your look, or craving guidance from experts who genuinely get it**, we're here with **compassion, skill, humour, and zero judgement**. From personalised **1:1 makeup lessons, social transitioning guidance, brows and lashes feminisation**, through to **our full Trans Feminine Immersion Experience** and **upcoming eCourses** — everything we create is designed to help you feel **powerful, gorgeous, and in control of your presentation.**

If you've loved this mini guide...

✨ Do you want to work with us?

**We'd be honoured.**

### Get in touch:

📍 Iridis Cosmetics Studio – Newport, Melbourne

🌈 Proudly queer-owned, trans-affirming, cruelty-free

✉️ [hello@iridis.com.au](mailto:hello@iridis.com.au)

☎️ 0416 048 487 & 1300 474 347

🌐 [www.iridis.com.au](http://www.iridis.com.au)

📷 @iridiscosmetics

**Come join us. Let's create your most breathtaking, empowered, feminine self — together.**

# THE IRIDIS OATH

In a world that wants us to believe we aren't pretty enough,  
Iridis is the POSITIVE VOICE that shows YOU that



*You are your own  
kind of beautiful.*

We are the sisterhood who show women the reasons  
their faces and bodies are beautiful, even when they've forgotten.

*We see beauty everywhere,*  
and we live and breathe enhancing that beauty so YOU see it too.  
We are PASSIONATE ABOUT THE POWER OF MAKEUP. We teach.  
We share. WE IMPART OUR CONSIDERABLE MAKEUP EXPERTISE.

*We LOVE what we do.*

We know our STRENGTH IS IN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS.  
We empower and enhance.

*We are kind to our own reflections.*

We pledge to RAISE THE VIBRATION, SELF-ESTEEM AND  
SELF-WORTH OF EVERY WOMAN we meet.

We create the gorgeous life we lead. We sparkle, we shine  
and we own who we are. Authenticity is at our core. We don't let  
others put us down and *we rock our gorgeousness.*

We dare ourselves and others to NOT GIVE A DAMN ABOUT WHAT  
OTHERS MAY THINK ABOUT US. We know we are a  
*fabulous work in progress,* and we take the lessons  
and move on, our heads held high. We find reasons to laugh,  
even in the face of adversity, WE HAVE FUN AND WE CONNECT;

*one lipstick at a time.*

