



COSPLAY MAKEUP

TIPS AND TRICKS

Kinpatsu
cosplay



About

My name is Tayla aka Kinpatsu Cosplay! I am a Cosplayer from Johannesburg, South Africa. I have been Cosplaying since 2012 and love making costumes both big and small for video games, anime and cartoons. Cosplay for me is an amazing way to express your creativity and have fun doing it! I have a passion for crafting and creating and over the last few years I have made over 100 costumes, you could say I'm a little bit of a Cosplay addict!

I try to make a new costume every month and create tutorials and booklets like these in order to help other crafters and Cosplayers in making their own amazing creations! I hope these small pockets of techniques and knowledge will come in handy and be useful! Thank you for your support!

Happy crafting xxx

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Tools

• Brushes and Sponges

Aside from the makeup itself these are your most important tools! Sponges and brushes allow you to apply your makeup and there are so many different kinds with different uses and benefits! My favorite tools are my blending sponge and angle brush



• Primer

Makeup primer helps prep your skin for makeup. It helps cover any imperfections in the skin, helps your makeup go onto your skin more evenly and makes it last longer throughout the day! The primer I use is the Coverall wet n wild primer.



• Concealer

Concealer is exactly what it sounds like. It helps cover up blemishes and dark marks. Concealer can help color correct the skin and hide things like dark circles under the eyes. It is similar to foundation but often thicker so that it has more coverage. My concealer of choice is the color correct pro conceal from LA girl and the essence long lasting concealer



• Foundation

Foundation is the base of your makeup, it is used to create and even, uniform complexion on the skin and hide any flaws. Foundation comes in a liquid and powder form which are often used together with each other with the liquid as the base and the powder to set it. My favorite foundation is MAC studio Fix powder and fluid.





• Highlighters

Highlighter is a powder or liquid which catches the light and helps to make the skin glow and pop. Makeup highlighters attract the light and give the illusion of brightness and it can be used to highlight certain features and contour the face making parts stand out. My 2 highlighters of choice are a highlight powder from Kryolan and Luminous Glow highlighter from LA Girl.



• Camouflage Makeup

Camouflage makeup is a much thicker, more opaque foundation which is used to completely hide and conceal things like scars, tattoos and any other dark spots. I use Kryolan Dermacolour Makeup to cover my own tattoos for cosplay.



• Body Paint

Body paint is paint that is safe for use on the skin. It comes in every color under the sun and there are various different kinds of paint including water-based, grease based, alcohol based and airbrush paints. For my cosplay I use a combination of Grease paint and water based paint both from Kryolan.



• Eyeliner

Eyeliner is used to draw around the eye and comes in various colors. Eyeliner is normally used to draw attention to the eyes by making them pop more! There are also various different kinds of eyeliner including pencil liners, liquid liners and pens. My favorite pen liner is the Finesline eyeliner from LA Girl.



• Lipstick and Lip Gloss

Lipstick and lip gloss can be applied to the lips to change the color, add shine or even just to moisturize. There are tons of different colors and types of lip cosmetics including the traditional lipstick, lip glosses, tube lipsticks and even lip stains which can last a few days.



• Lip Liner

Lip liner just like eyeliner is used to line and draw on the lips and make them pop or change the shape. Very often in cosplay with different characters we will need to change the shape of our lips and lip liners are very helpful and handy at having control over the shape!



• Blush

Blush or Rouge is a pinkish foundation which is often used on the cheeks to give them more color and give your face a glow.



• Setting Spray

Once your entire makeup is complete you need to lock it in place. Setting spray will keep your makeup in place and let it last longer throughout the day. It also helps protect makeup against smudging. I use the NYX setting spray.

• Collodium

Rigid Collodium is also known as scarring liquid. It's a fantastic and super easy way to add cut and scar effects to makeup. When Collodium is painted onto the skin it dries and wrinkles the skin pulling it in and making it look like scar tissue. I use Collodium from Kryolan.



• Mastix

Mastix or Spirit gum is a kind of body adhesive which can be used to glue on anything including gluing down lace-front wigs and adding prosthetics. Mastix should be removed with a Mastix remover so you do not hurt your skin. My Mastix is also from Kryolan.



• Tooth Enamel

Tooth enamel is a kind of tooth paint which can be applied to your teeth for various effects including making it look like you lost a tooth or for a bucktooth effect. It comes in a few colors and is very easy to remove with a toothbrush. My tooth enamel is once again from Kryolan.



• Fake Blood

Fake blood is normally a liquid inside of a bottle which resembles the color and consistency of blood. It is used for gore and injury makeup and there are hundreds of different kinds of fake blood available for you to choose from depending on what you want the blood to look like.



• False Lashes

False lashes are a fantastic way to make your eyes look bigger. Lashes come in all kinds of styles and sizes and are normally on a strip which can be applied to the top of your lash-line with a bit of lash glue.



• Pros-aide

Pros-aide is another kind of prosthetic and body adhesive. It is very similar to mastic but I find it much less messy and a little bit less strong. I love to use a small amount of pros-aide to apply my lashes. Just don't use too much!



• Fangs

Fangs are another neat makeup trick to change the shape and appearance of your teeth. Just like with everything else there are many different brands and kinds of fangs to choose from. My go-to fangs for cosplay are scarecrow fangs which are super easy to use and come in a variety of shapes and sizes.



• Contact Lenses

Contact lenses are lenses which change the colors of your eyes. Contact lenses come in various different styles and sizes with some completely covering your eye for a black out effect. Before wearing contact lenses be sure to chat to your doctor and make sure you use a reputable lens company.



Prepping your Skin

One of the most important steps when it comes to makeup is making sure your skin is prepped and ready for application! Having a good blank canvas to work on will enhance your final results!

Skin can sometimes get oily or flaky, I know if I don't prep my face before I apply makeup I look like a lizard shedding it's skin! So by cleaning and moisturizing before makeup is applied it will remove all the dead skin and dirt and leave your skin soft and smooth which will make applying makeup much easier.

There are several different types of skin and each skin type might need slightly different products that work best but here is a basic look at makeup prep!

Exfoliate

The first thing I recommend doing when prepping for makeup is to gently exfoliate your skin! exfoliating will remove any dead skin cells and dry skin that make your makeup look rough.

Just make sure you don't exfoliate too much or press too hard on your skin or you may cause some red spots, you just want to take off the outer layer of dirt and impurities.

Wash your Face

I then wash off the exfoliator and just rinse my face with some warm water and a face cloth. The facecloth also helps remove any remaining dead skin cells that might be hanging on!

I don't like to use a harsh face wash before I do my makeup because it can sometimes irritate my skin which is why I just use water.

Moisturize

I then apply a nice thick, gentle moisturizer to my face. This makes your skin nice and soft and if there are any dry spots it will fix this and make sure your makeup doesn't catch on them! Give the moisturizer about 5 minutes to properly soak in before starting your makeup



Foundation

Foundation is the basis of your entire makeup look, it will make your skin look even and glowing and fix any imperfections you may have! If your foundation is good then the rest of the makeup that you build on top of it will be much easier.

Before applying any makeup I highly recommend using a makeup primer! Primer is used to combat shine, even out the skin and create a smooth surface for you to apply your makeup onto. It will also make your makeup last longer during the day. Just apply it evenly all over your face with clean fingers or a sponge.

Once you have applied the primer you can then start applying your liquid foundation!

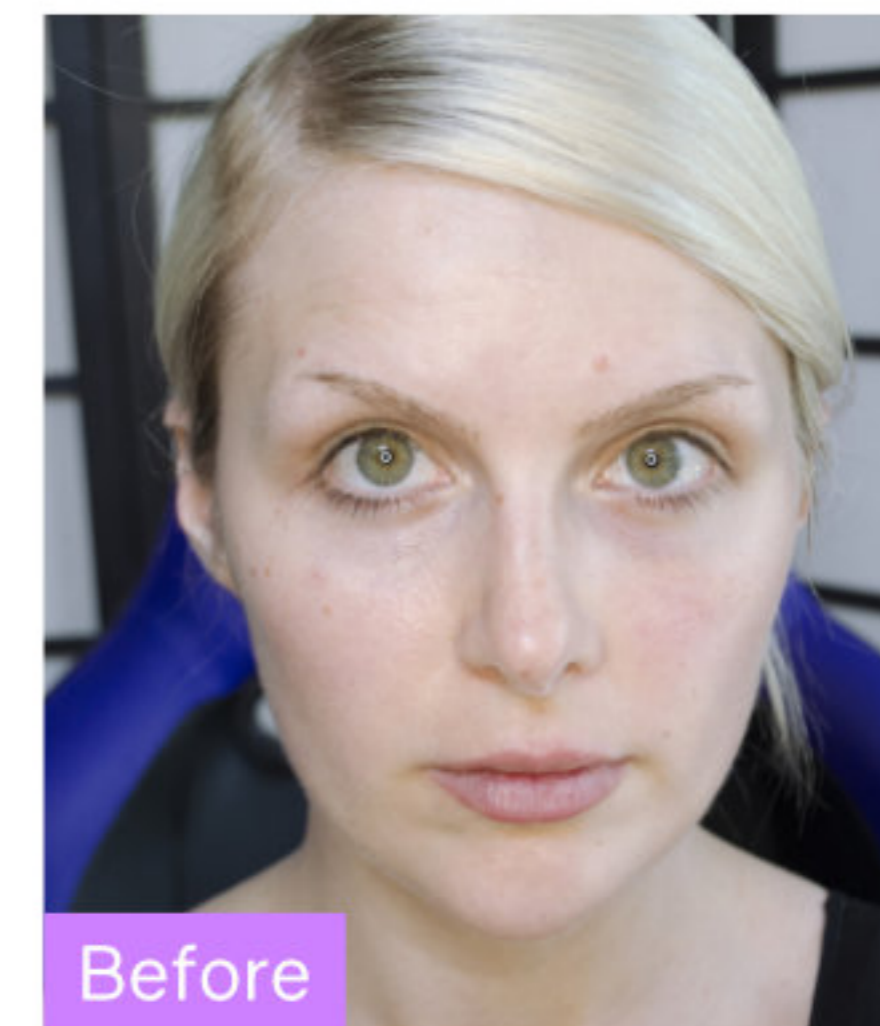
While most of my other makeup I'm happy to just get at a chemist or buy whatever is cheapest, foundation is something I like to make sure is really good quality as its important to get the foundation nice and smooth.

My favorite foundation is from MAC I use the Photo fix fluid and photo fix powder which both have very good coverage!

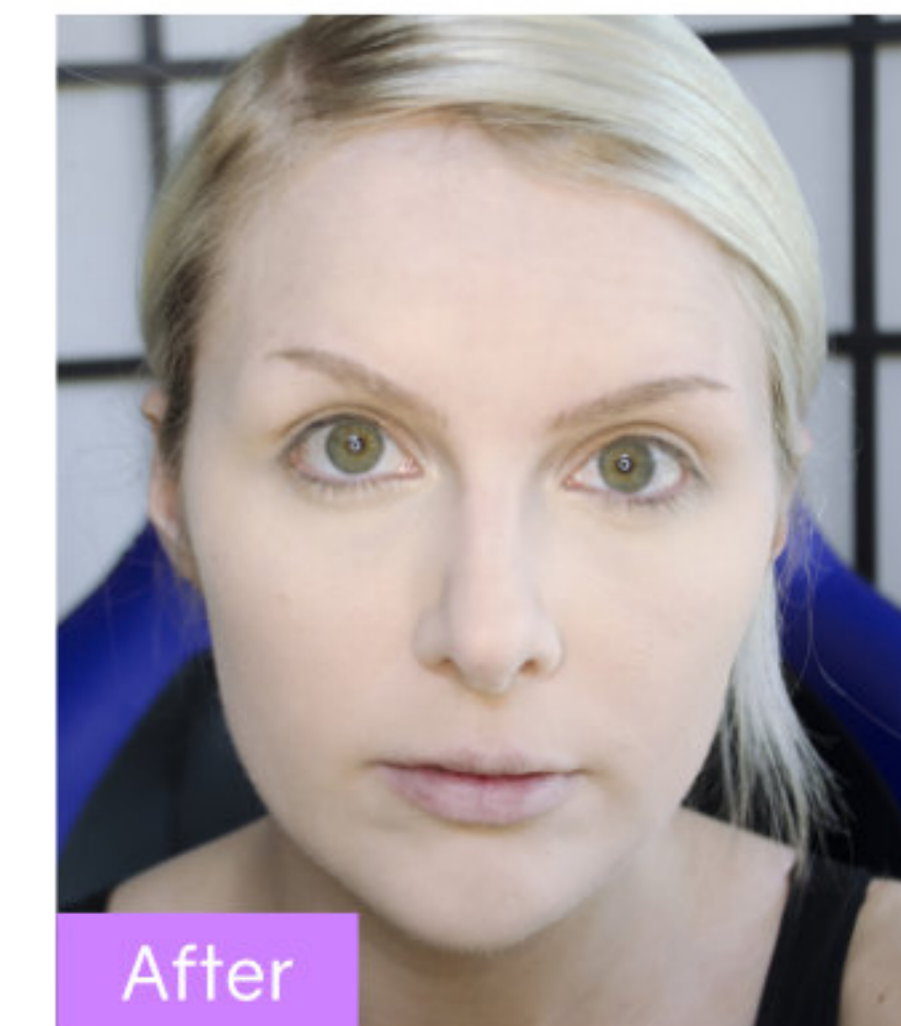
I put a few dots of liquid foundation all over my face and then using a large blending sponge I dab the foundation all over my face until it's nice and evenly spread.

Tip:

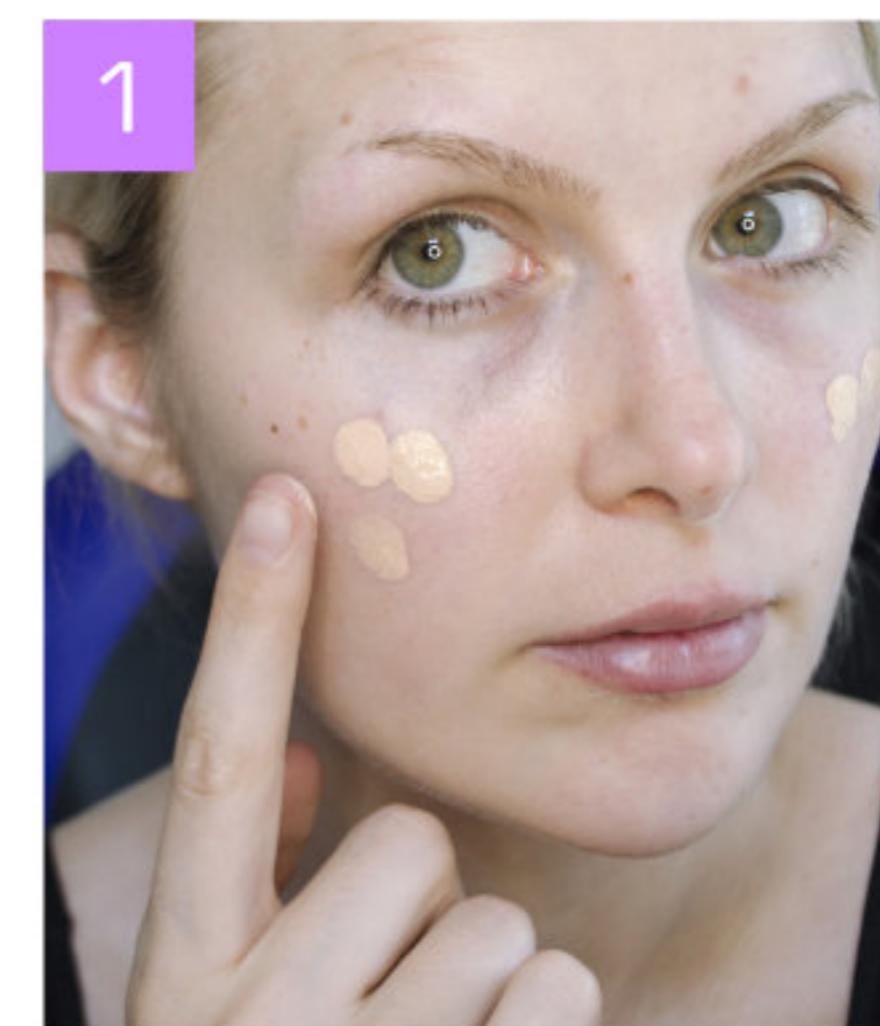
If you make your blending sponge damp before you use it to apply your liquid foundation I find it goes on smoother and the sponge will soak up less of the product, leaving more of it on your skin.



Before



After



The next step is to lighten up underneath the eyes. For many people like myself the skin underneath the eyes can be very dark, adding a lighter concealer will brighten this up and hide any dark circles. I use a color correct concealer from LA GIRL and apply it underneath my eye in a kind of banana shape.



I then take a small blending sponge and just like before with the liquid foundation I dab and blend out the color until it's nice and smooth.



Now that we have applied all the liquid makeup we need to set it in place and stop it smudging. To set this and add a little bit more coverage I use my Mac powder foundation I mentioned earlier and using a dry blending sponge I apply it all over my face, patting it into the liquid makeup and setting it in place.



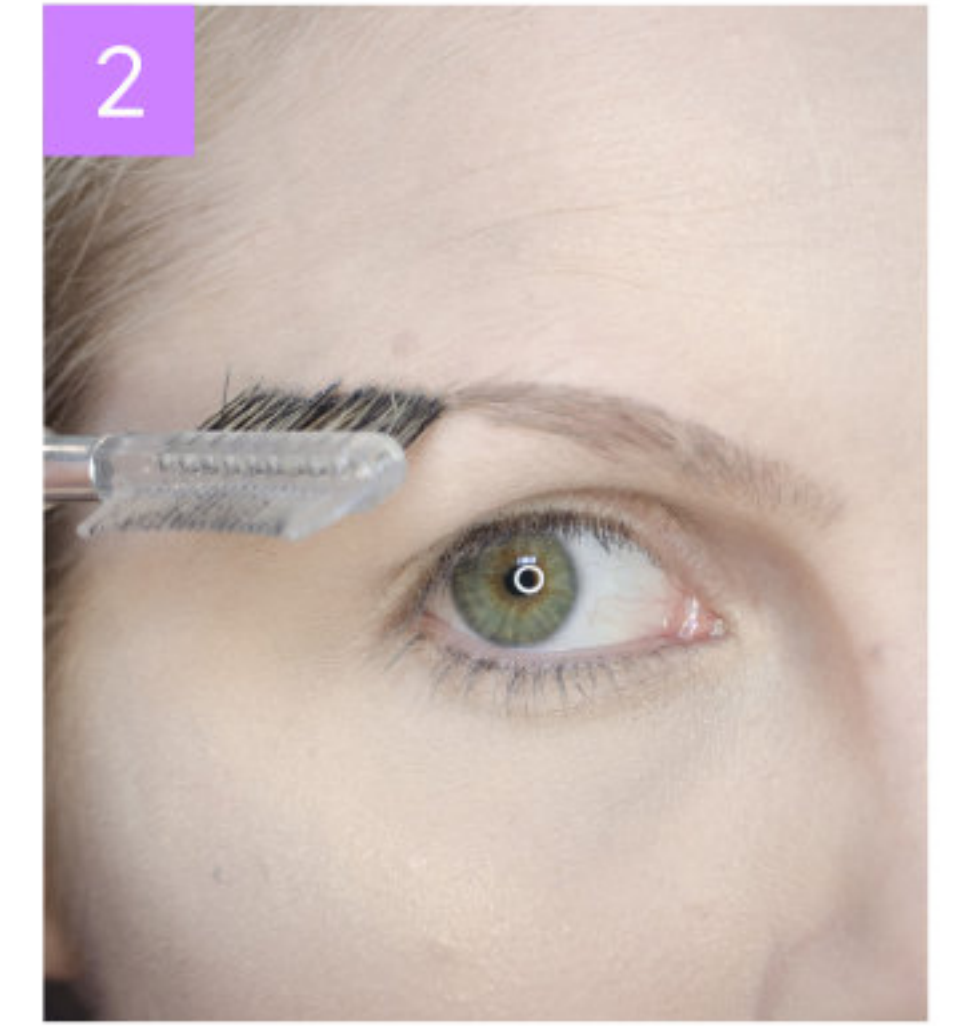
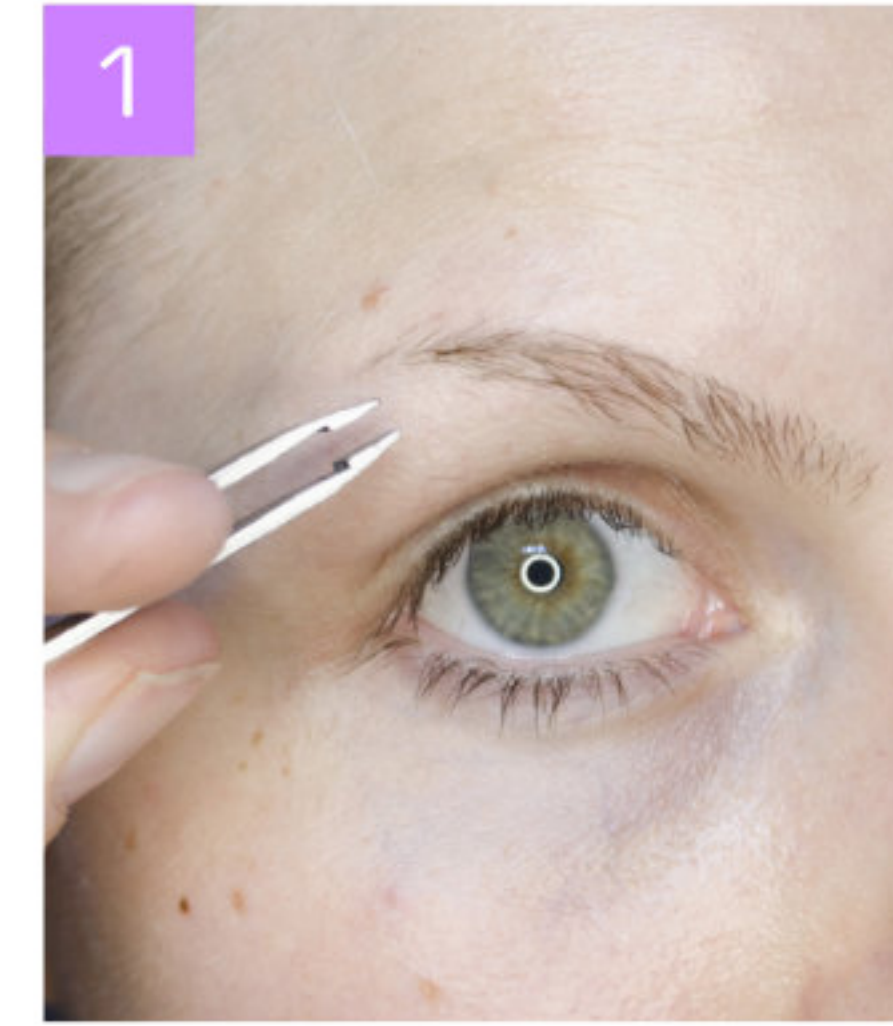
The powder foundation will also take away any shine there may be from the liquid makeup.

Tip:

Start with the powder underneath your eyes right after you do your concealer. The sooner you set the concealer under your eyes the less chance there will be of the makeup wrinkling and forming lines under your eyes.

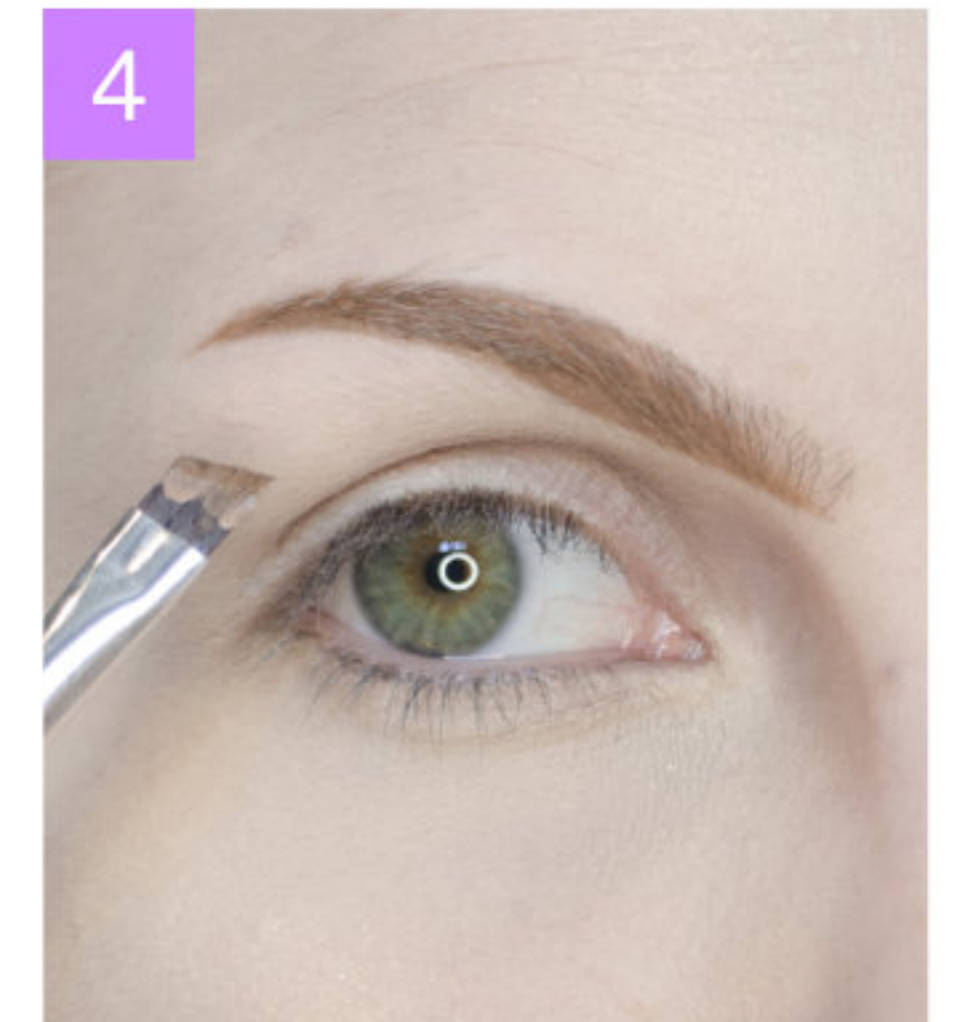
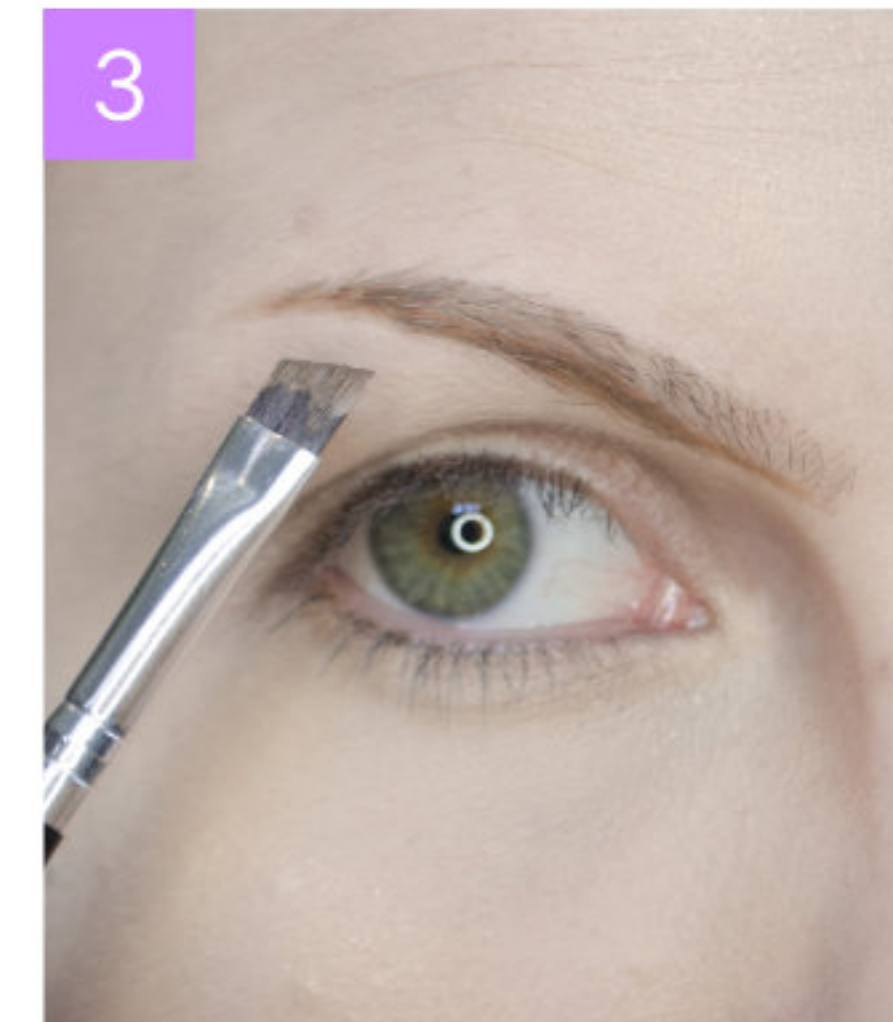
Brows

One of the most defining features of a character can be their eyebrows! Whether it's a villain with a super arched brow or an anime girl with little comma brows or even a blood elf with crazy brows that grow out long to the side there are so many variations! Here are some basic tips for achieving some different looks with your brows!



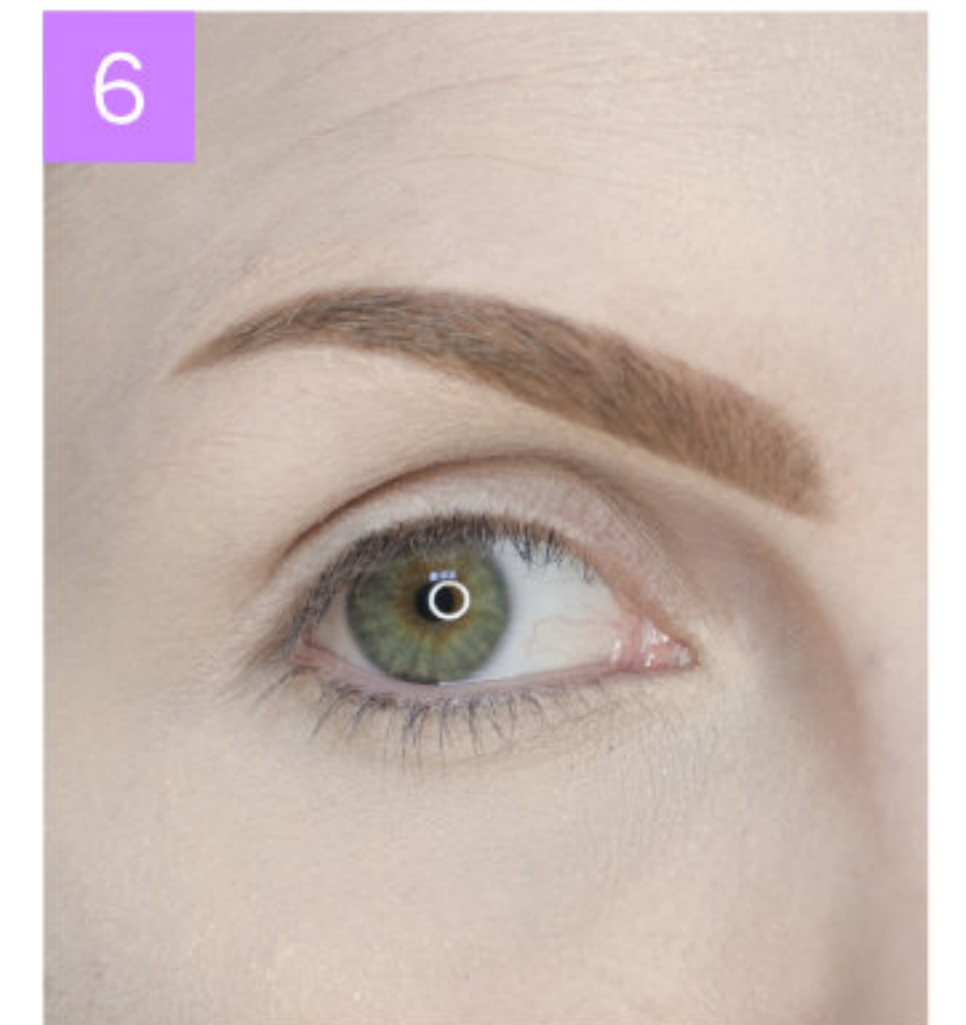
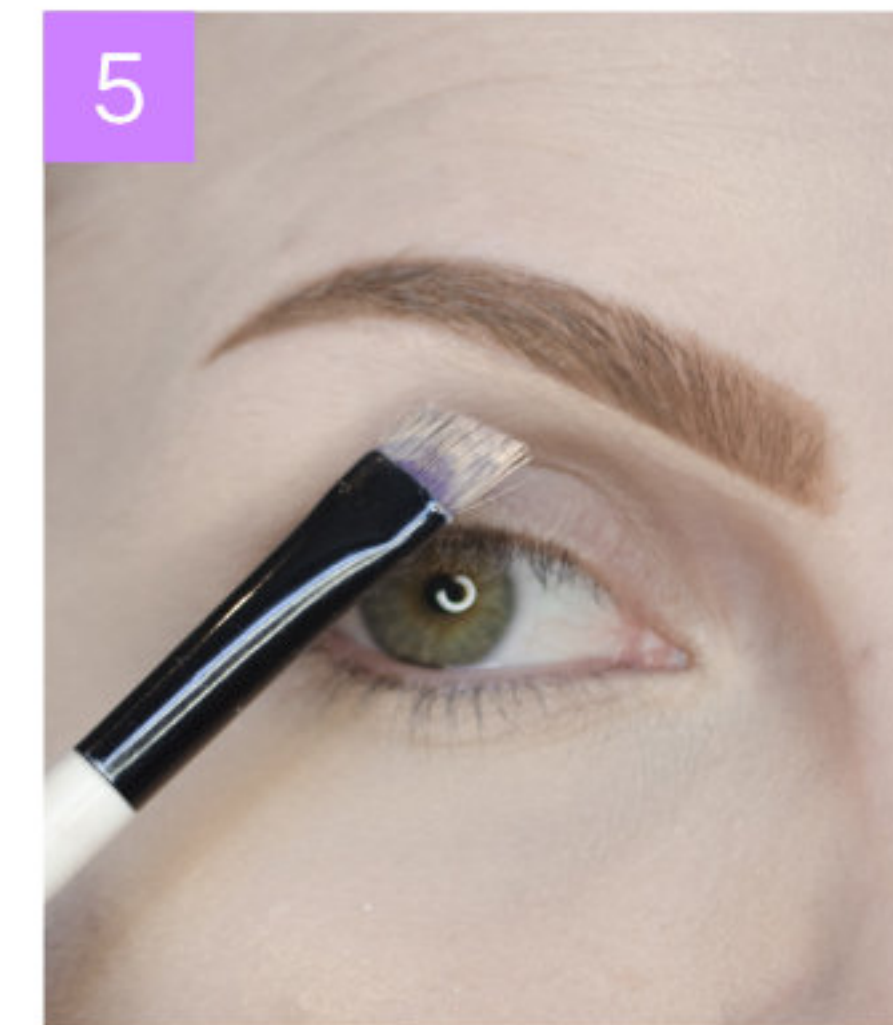
Basic Brows

Before I start doing my eyebrows I make sure that I have plucked out any stray hairs with some tweezers and cut the hair short with some scissors. Having neat eyebrows makes drawing over them much easier!



I then used a small brow brush to brush all the hair into the right direction.

To fill in my brows for natural characters I like to use either a brown eye shadow or a brown cream based makeup. I also use an angle brush so that I can get a nice neat line.



To start drawing on my eyebrows I take my brush and draw on the shape of the line I want at the bottom of my eyebrow. Once I have the bottom shape I can then start to slowly fill in the brow.

I like to work from the end point of the brow inwards. So I draw out the tail of the brow and then slowly build up the color and work my way back to the base of the brow. When I get to the base of the brow I also try not to make a harsh dark line at the end. Keeping the end of the brow a little bit lighter / softer at the base makes it look more natural.



To neaten up the edges of the brow I use another angle brush and my concealer, I just line around the edges which makes the lines really neat and perfect.



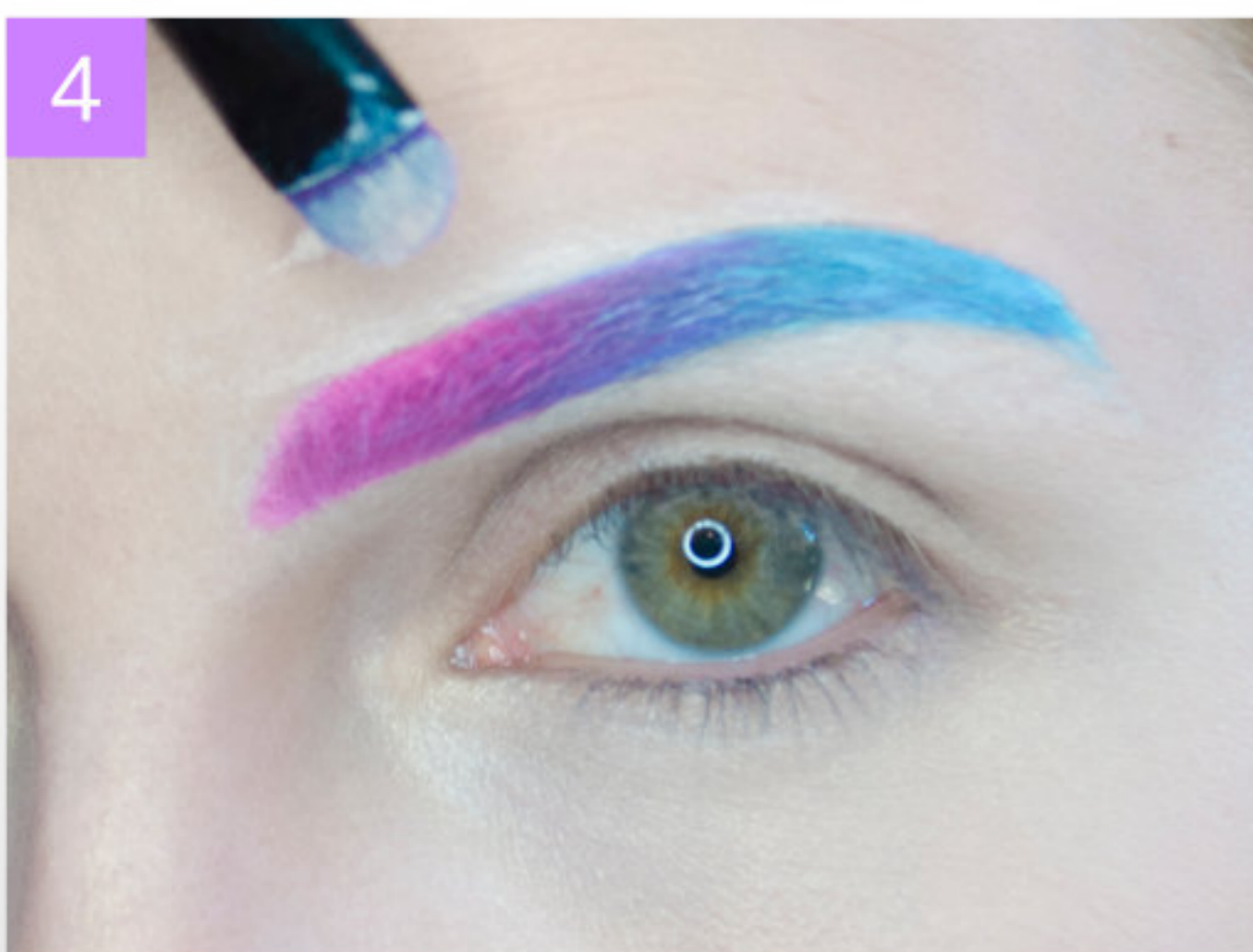
Changing Brow Color

Many characters from Games and Anime's have strange unnaturally colored eyebrows which can be hard to match especially if you have darker brows.

If you do have dark brows the first thing you'll need to do when changing your brow color is put down a white base, You can either use a white eyeliner pencil or white body paint to do this and go around your eyebrow in the shape you want it to be with an angle brush.

Once your white base has been put down you can set it in place with some translucent powder and start applying the color.

My favorite thing to color eyebrows with is body paint! It's normally very pigmented and brightly colored, so I just take a bit of paint on my angle brush and start to slowly fill in the eyebrows. If you don't want to use body paint you can also use brightly colored eye shadow.



Covering Brows

Does your character have completely different eye-brows to your own? Or just no eyebrows at all? Here's how you can cover your own brows and start from scratch without shaving them off!

So the first thing you want to do is take some alcohol and clean your eyebrows and your skin so that there's no oil on them.

The next step is taking your glue stick, the purple glue stick is apparently the best for this but you just need any kind of glue stick that is relatively smooth.

You are then going to take the glue and apply it onto your brow and mush the glue into your hair, then using an eyebrow brush or a spoolie you are going to start to brush and flatten the hair in the direction it grows, spreading the hair out into a kind of fan so it lays as flat as possible.

Once your eyebrows have been flattened you then need to take a makeup wipe and remove any excess glue around your eyebrow, this is really important so that you don't have a seam where the glue is.

You are going to let the layer of glue dry completely and then repeat. You will take the glue stick and run it over your eyebrow, flattening any other hairs and then removing the excess around the brow with the makeup wipe.

It normally takes about 5-8 thin layers before the hair is completely covered.





Applying lots of thin layers will give you a much smoother look, I know it can be very time consuming to do this but it will be worth it in the end!

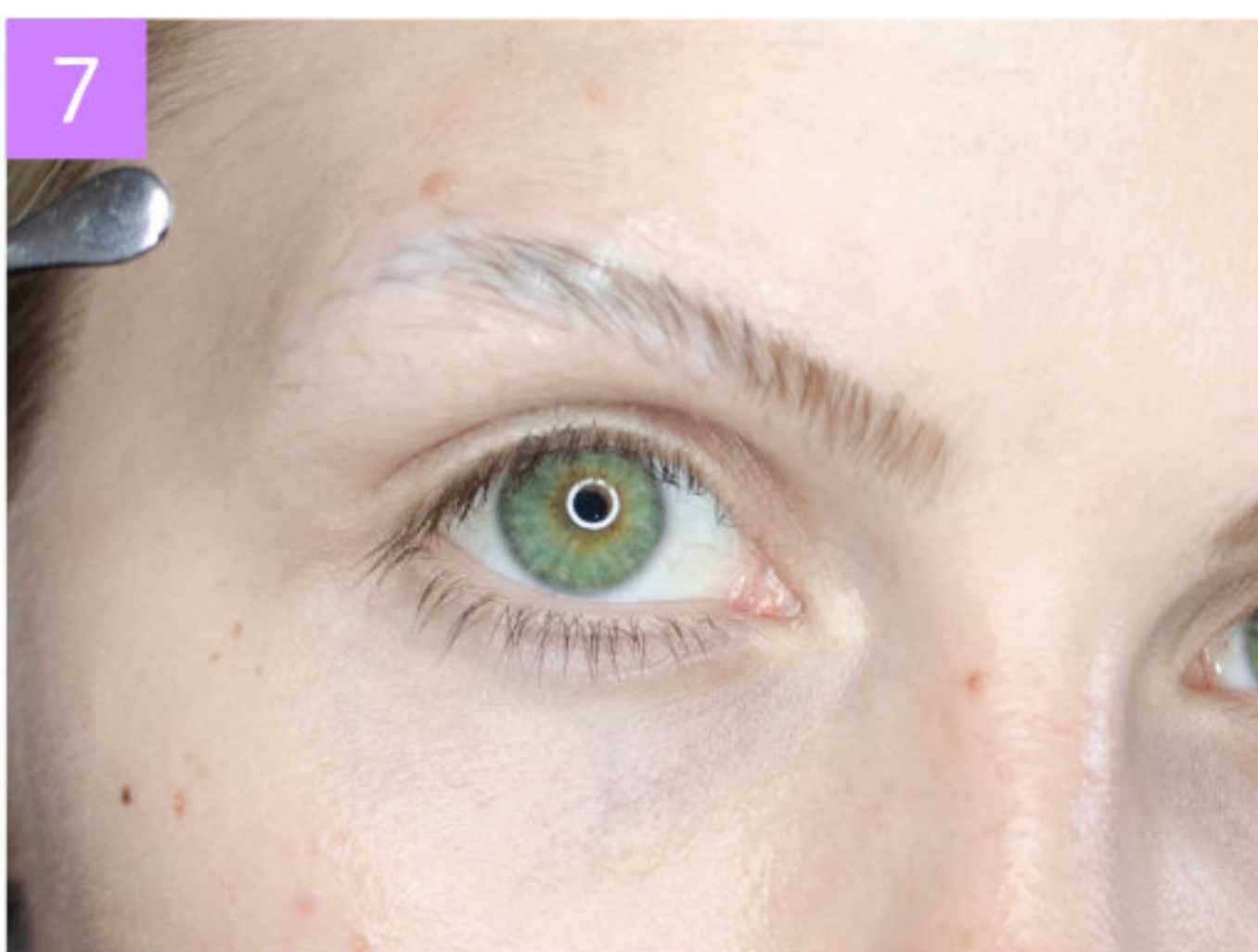
If you have thicker brows and need more coverage you can also use a spatula to get some extra glue from the glue stick and then flatten it over your brows to hide the texture, using the same spatula to spread the glue evenly.



Once your brows are now covered you will then let the glue dry completely. When the glue is dry it won't feel tacky or sticky.

This can take about 10 minutes but you can speed up the process with a hairdryer on a cool setting.

When the glue is fully dry you can now take some loose powder and press it onto the brows.



This is known as "baking" and will set the glue in place and remove any moisture so that you can apply your makeup over the glue without making it sticky.

Leave the powder on for about 2 minutes and then you can brush any excess powder off.

You'll notice you can still see the color of your brows under the glue.



To hide the dark color you need to color correct before applying your base.

To correct the dark eyebrows you can take an orange tone concealer, camouflage makeup or even eye shadow and apply this just over the dark color of the brow.

You will then use your translucent powder again to set the orange makeup in place. The orange makeup will cancel out all the dark tones of your brows and when you apply foundation over it will be completely concealed.

Now that the brows are color corrected you can take concealer and apply it over the brows with a makeup sponge.. I recommend using a fairly high coverage concealer so that you make sure everything is hidden.

The final step is then to apply your powder foundation and set your liquid makeup in place! Now your eyebrows will be completely hidden and you will look like an alien! You can draw and paint on top of them with whatever shape you want.

This is a very hard technique to get right and can take some practice to get used it and perfect it so if it doesn't work perfectly the first time don't get too despondent!





Lips

Nude Lips

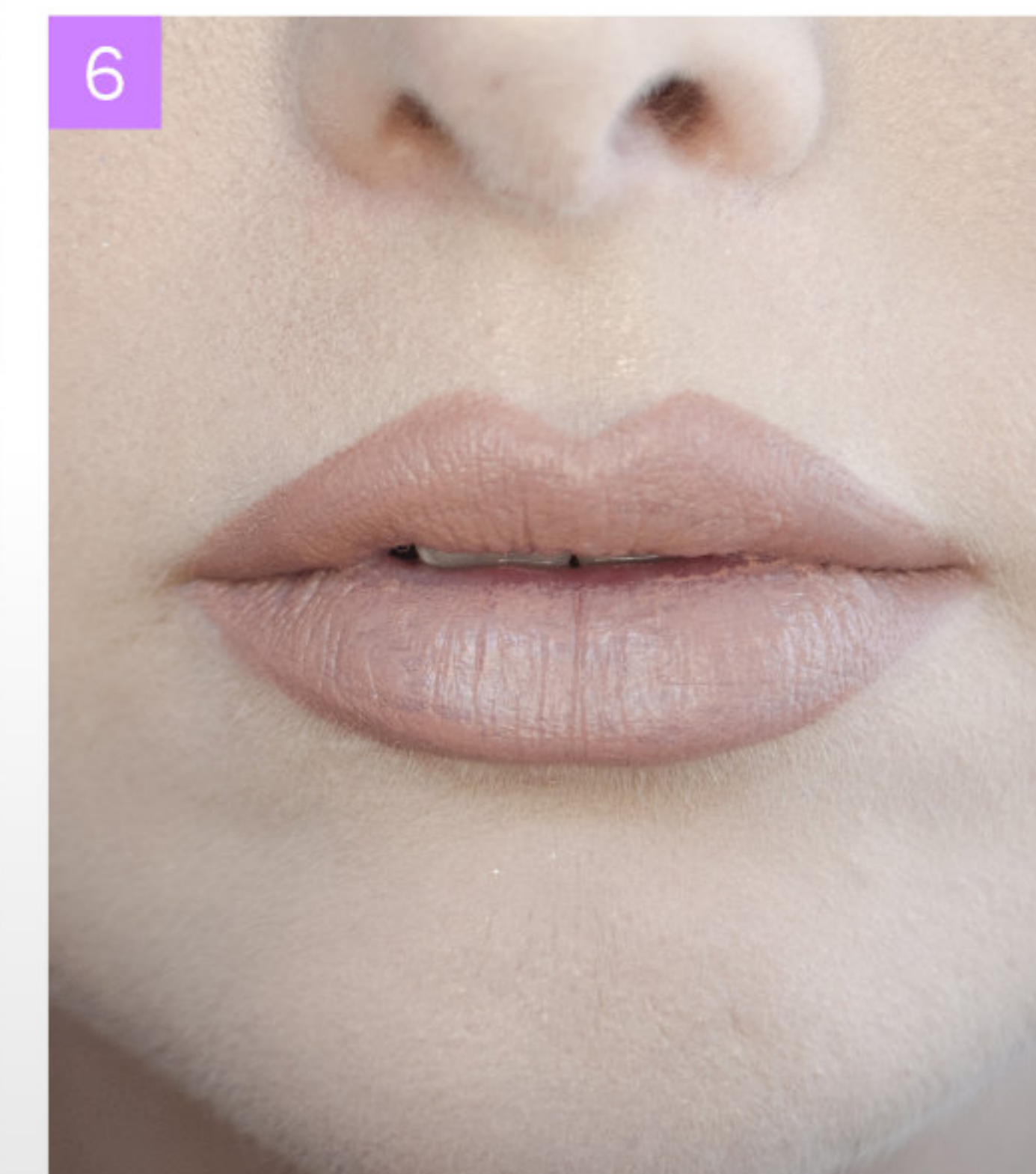
To start my lips I'm going to be lining around them with a nude color lip liner.

My upper lip is pretty small so I like to add extra volume by over lining my lips. Over lining is when you line outside of your lips giving the illusion that your lips are fuller.

Once I have drawn on the basic shape that I want I can now add some matte nude lipstick a apply a little bit onto my top and bottom lip. Don't worry about going right to the edge or covering your whole lip with this step.

To get my lipstick all the way to the edge of my lips and make it super neat I use a small flat makeup brush.

I take a little bit of the lipstick on the brush and paint around the edge of my lips, evening out the color and correcting all the lines so that they are perfect. I have much more control with a brush compared to the lipstick right out the tube.

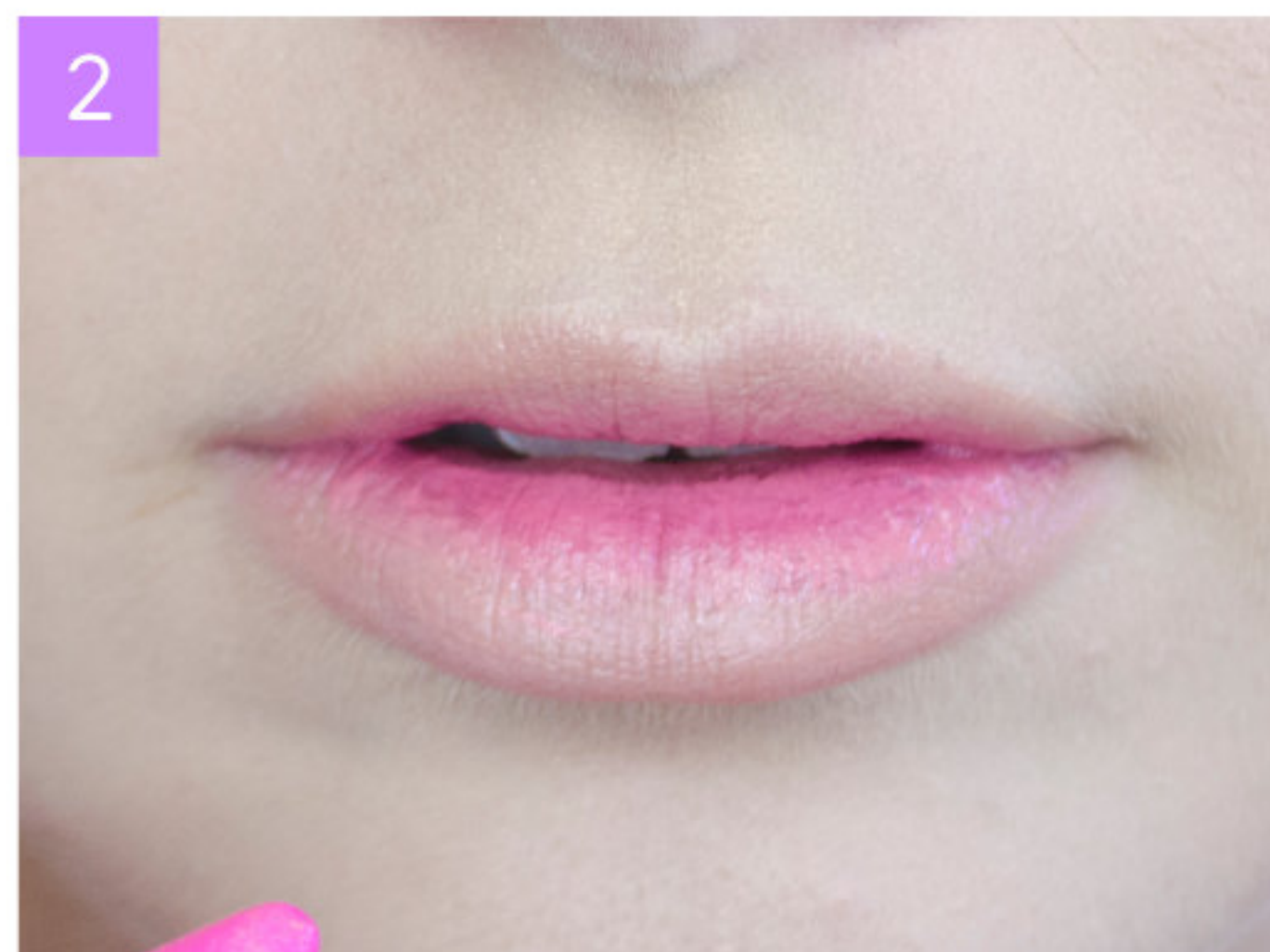




Anime Lips

For my anime lips I like to keep them very soft and gentle! Most anime characters don't have a super defined lip shape and only have a bit of color on the inside of their lips that's what I'm going to try recreate here!

I start off with a matte nude lipstick and apply it to my natural lip shape.



I then use a soft pink lip pen and draw some color just on the inside of my lips to give them a bit of a gradient.

My natural lip shape is a bit wide for most anime characters so I use an angle brush and my concealer and paint over the corners of my mouth bringing it in more to be a smaller shape.



Then finally I apply a nice super shiny lip gloss over my lips so they catch the light!

Tip:

If you struggle with texture on your lips you can exfoliate them with a toothbrush before you do your makeup. This will remove any dead skin and leave them nice and smooth.



Bold Lips

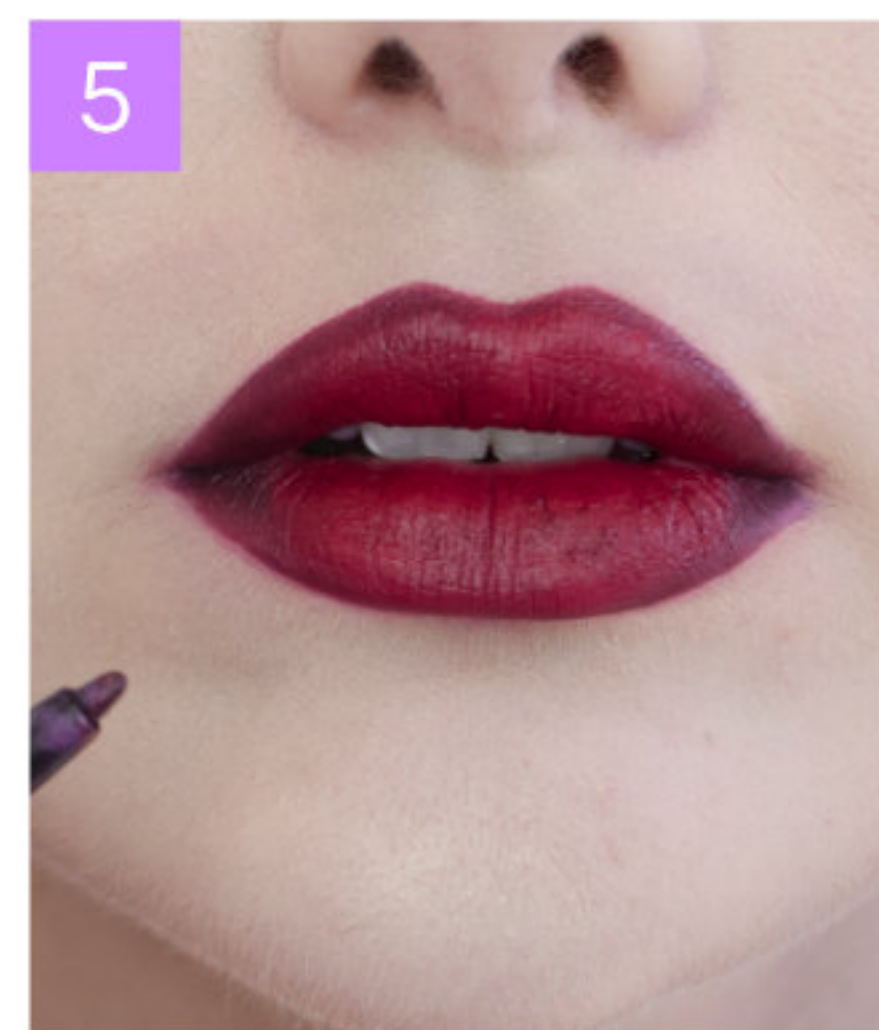
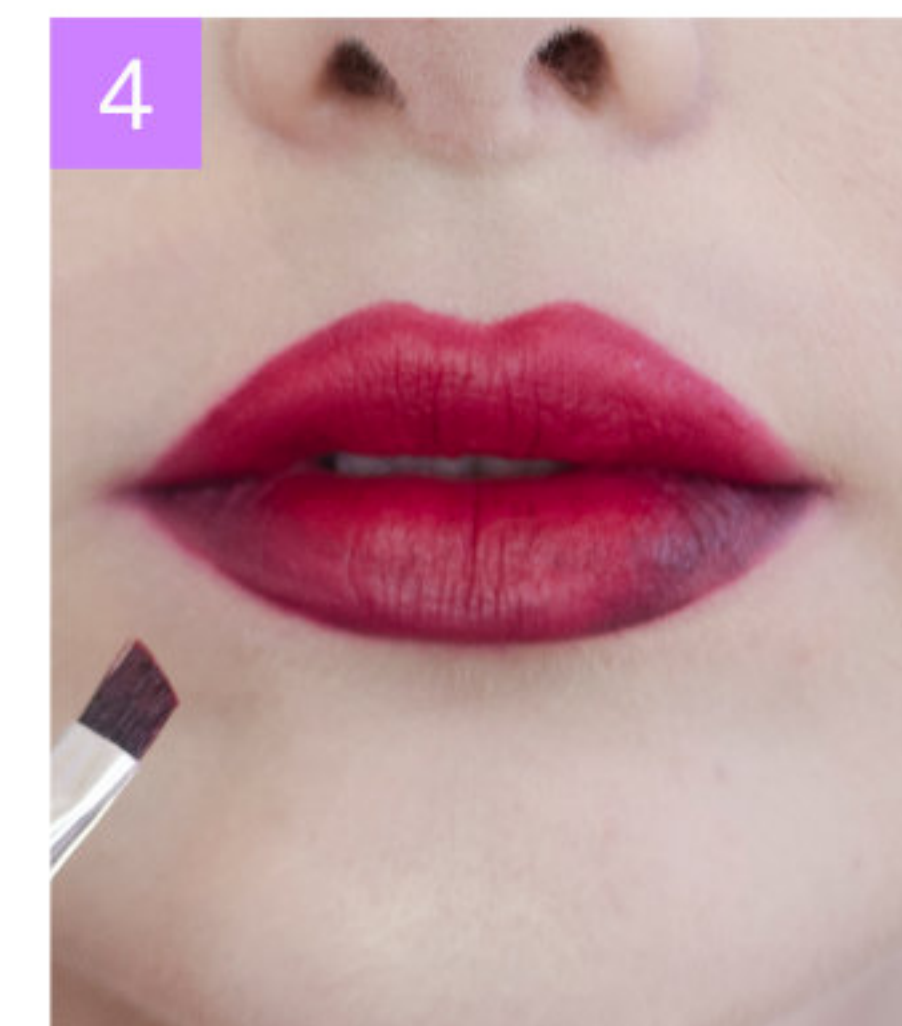
Many characters have super sultry and voluptuous lips! Here's how to create a really nice full lip look with some lip contouring!

So to start off I'm taking my red lipstick and applying it onto my lips, I don't have a lot of control over lipstick straight out the tube so the next step is to take a small brush and paint on the rest of the lips, I'm making the lips really big and full so I'm lining around my natural lip shape to make it look fuller and have more shape.

Its still not 100% neat so I'm also taking a sharp brush with some concealer and fixing up any mistakes I made by going around the edges of my lip.

If you just want red lips you can stop right here but I want to take it to the next level and give the lips some dimension so I'm going to be adding extra light and shadows.

I'm taking a little bit of black eye shadow and an angle brush and going around the corners of my mouth and the edge of my lips creating a dark gradient. You can also use black eyeliner for this step. The final step is to add a bit of highlighter powder to the center of my bottom lip, you can just blend it in with your finger and now you will have really bold lips!





Liquid Lipstick

Liquid lipstick is a really nice easy and neat way to apply lipstick! My favorite kind of liquid lipstick is the matte finish pigmented gloss from LA girl. It dries completely matte and smooth and the best part is the dark colors do not smudge or move at all once dry!

To apply liquid lipstick take the stick from the tube and carefully start to paint around your lips, be careful to make sure your lines for the edges are neat and tiny,

Unlike tube lipstick the brush from lipstick will give you a lot more control and I personally find it much easier to apply and get a neat finish in just seconds!

Once you have finished applying your lipstick you can then neaten up the edges with a brush or concealer if you really need to.



Eyeliner

Eyeliner is a really easy way to change the shape of your eyes and give your makeup a certain mood! Here's 2 different eye looks to show the difference it can make!

Subtle Wing

I absolutely love winged eyeliner! It's a really easy way to elongate your eyes and make them really pop!

To do a subtle or standard wing I normally start by taking my liquid eyeliner pen and drawing out the angle of the line I want and how long I want it to be.

I then take the same pen and line around the top of my eye as close to the lash line as I can.

I can then come back to the wing and connect the lines and add on and make the wing slightly larger.

For this look I also use a white eyeliner pencil to line the inside of the eye.

Using white eyeliner will make your eyes look bigger and brighter! Perfect for anime characters and Heroes!



Dramatic wing

For a more dramatic darker wing I start of the same way!

I take my eyeliner pen and draw out the angle of the wing I want and how long I want it to be. I then start to build up the wing slowly with more eyeliner, and more and more until I'm happy with the thickness.

My eyes are a little bit hooded, meaning I have a very deep set eyelid which folds inwards so for my eyeliner I can't ever do a straight wing. A trick for hooded eyes is to draw the wing into the crease of the eye and form a pointed shape, where your eyelid will fold. This way when you open your eye the wing will look like it's straight but actually it is sitting in the crease of your eye and the eyelid and the crease are just matching up!

This can take some practice but if you have hooded eyes like me it will help so much with your final look!

For this look I also used a dark eyeliner on the inside of my eyelid. This makes the eye look a lot slimmer and super sultry.



Eye Shadow

There are endless possibilities when it comes to eye shadow! Here are 3 very different looks and techniques for bright colors, cut creases and super smokey eyes!

Super Bright

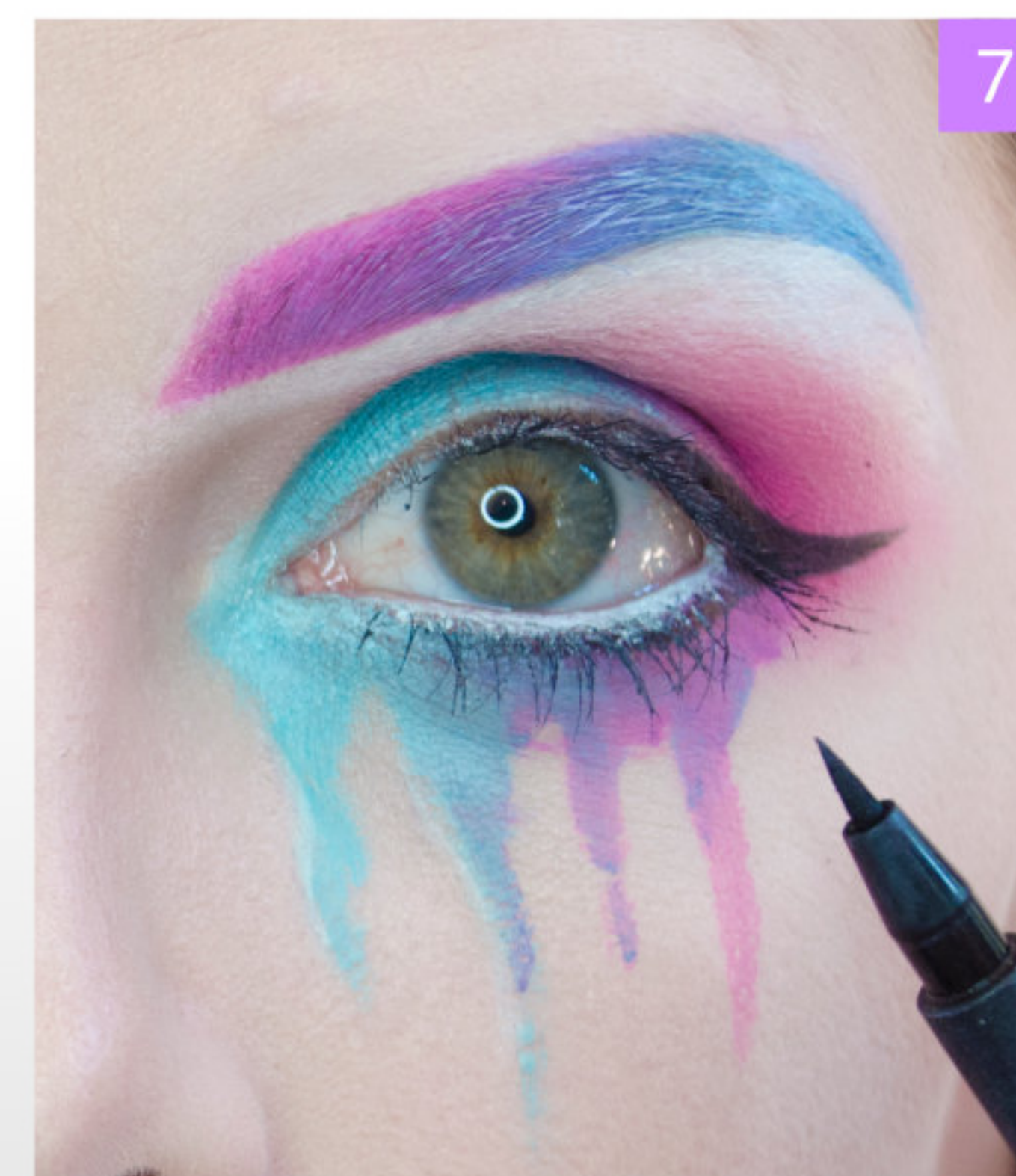
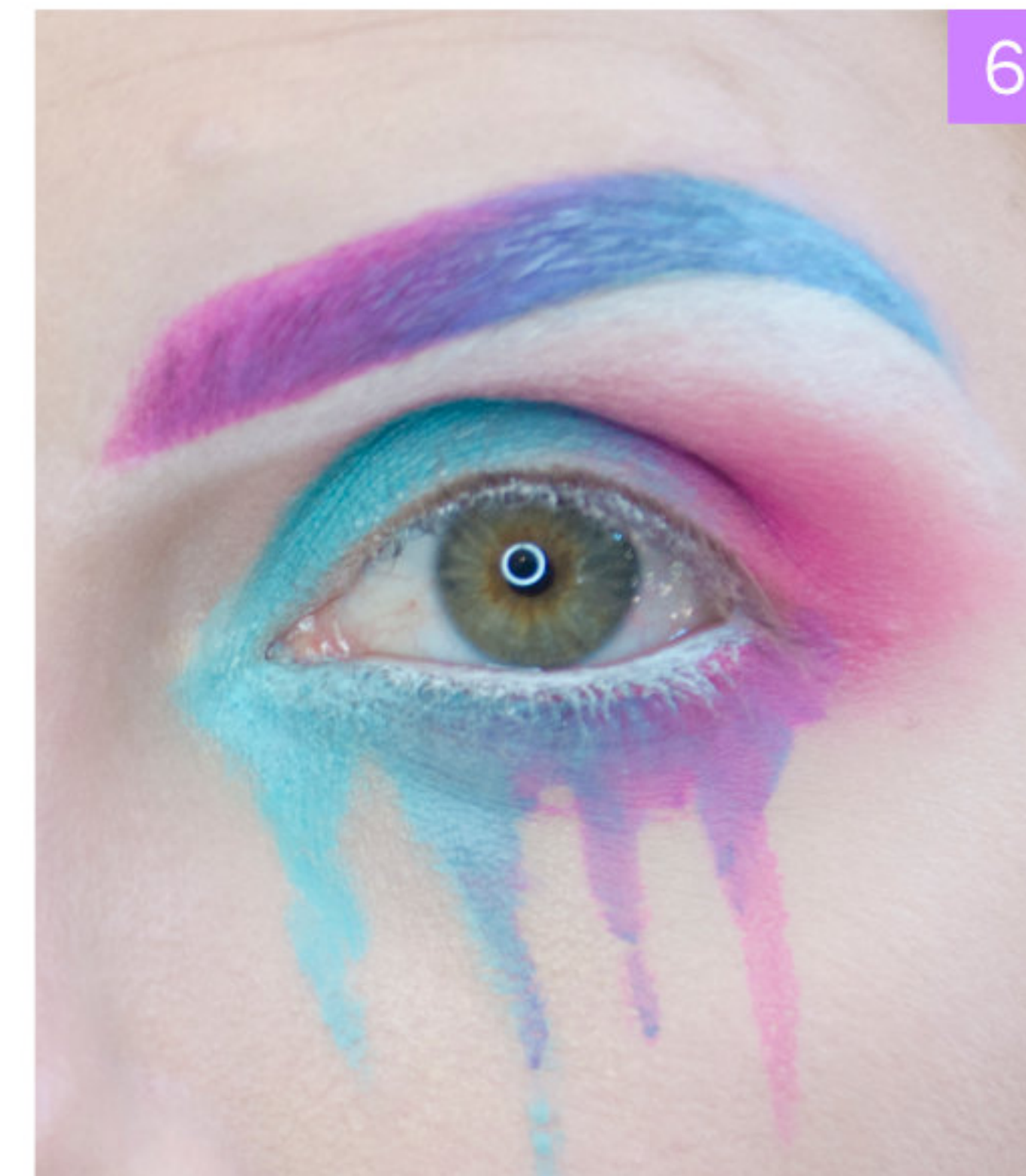
For very bright looks I like to use body paint because it is very opaque and pigmented but you can also use a bright eye shadow instead!

I start by taking some of my pink body paint and an angle brush and applying it on the corner of my eye. I then take a small blending sponge and some more paint and blend it out.

Small blending sponges are fantastic for eye shadow because they can get the shadows very smooth and perfect!

I then take some blue paint with an eye shadow brush and apply it to the inner corner of my eye and again use my blending sponge to add more blue to the top of the eyelid, blending the colors together by dabbing and patting the sponge against my skin.

You can also use an eye shadow brush or any small brush to add cool effects like tear stains with paint really easily!

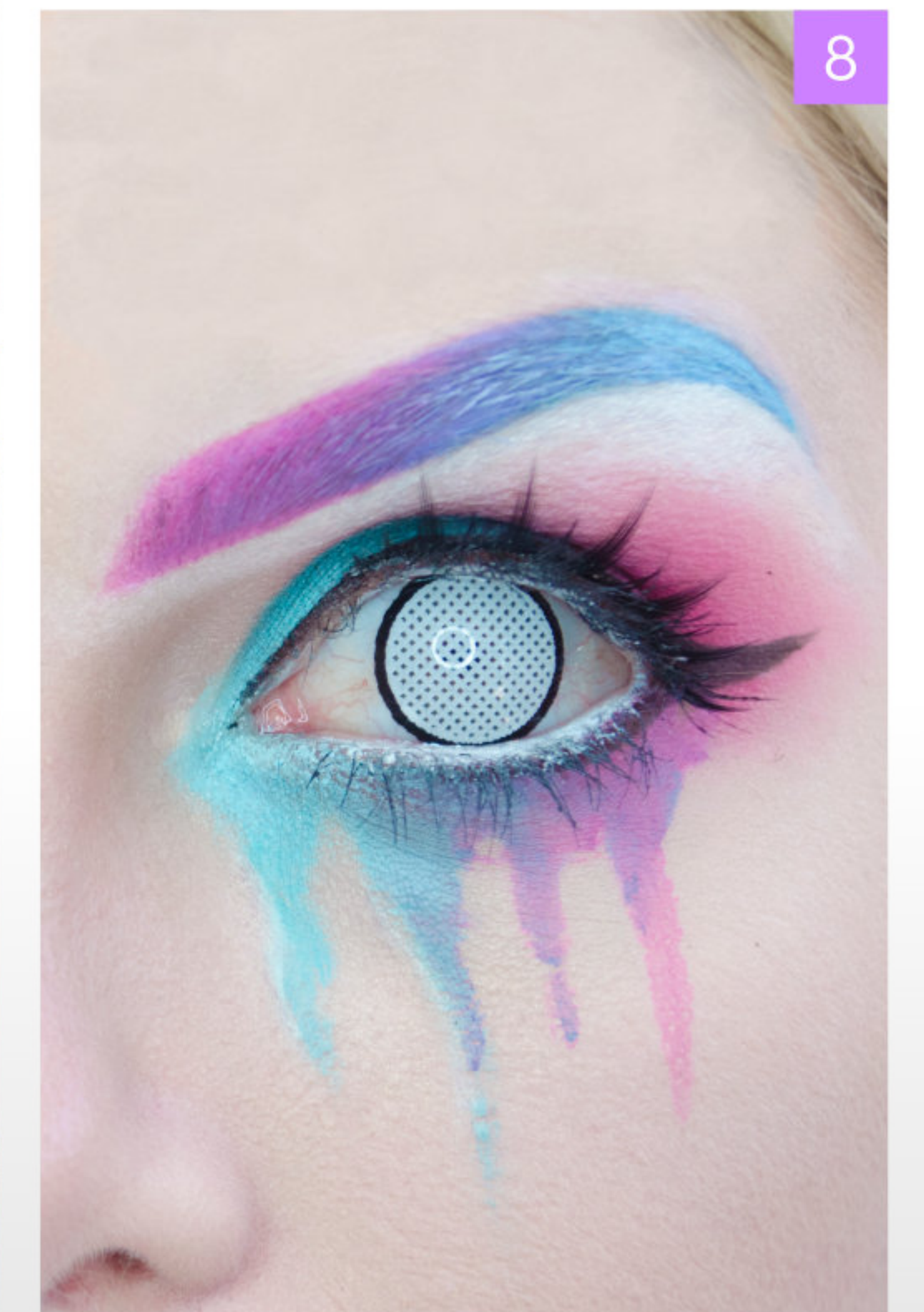


I've lined the inside of my eye with some white eyeliner to make the eye look bigger and brighter and I've also used a bit of white body paint and an angle brush to apply the white just underneath my eyebrows to highlight it.

Now that all the color has been applied I can take my eyeliner pen and draw in a wing and line just underneath my eye.

The final step is to apply some false lashes and pop in my contact lenses!!

I'll be explaining more about false lashes as well as contacts later in this book!



Cut Crease

A cut crease is a style of eye shadow where you create what looks like a false eyelid crease with light and dark contrast to make the eyes look bigger! This is perfect for characters like Jessica Rabbit!

To start I'm going to be taking a soft makeup brush and some dark shadow and blending it into the crease of my eye.

I'm then taking an eye shadow brush and adding even more dark eye shadow.

Once I'm happy with how dark my shadow is going to be I'm going to start creating the crease.

Cut creases are normally done just above your eyelid to make



the lid look larger.

So I'm taking my concealer and an angle brush and I'm painting on the light color all around my eyelid and creating a hard line just above where my eyelid crease is.

You will probably need to open your eyes and check where the crease is falling while you do this.

Just work slowly and build up the light color, carefully creating your line for your crease.

Once you are happy with your crease you can then take some shimmer or highlight powder and apply it to the light area to make it pop even more!

If you want to define the crease further you can also go back in with an angle brush and more dark eye shadow and draw around the crease to make a darker line and create more contrast.

To finish up the look I'm adding some dark eyeliner all the way around my eye with my eyeliner pen.

I'm bringing the corner of my eye into a point to make the eye look elongated.

I can then add my false lashes and my contact lenses and the look is complete!

Dark and Smokey

I started this look after I did my really dramatic eyeliner earlier but you can also save the win for the end!

The first step is to take some black eye shadow primer and apply it liberally to your eyelid.

I can't apply the eyeliner primer very smoothly out the tube so I take another makeup brush and blend it out.





2

I'm then taking some black eye shadow and my eye shadow brush and building the shadow onto the eye shadow primer, building up the color so that it goes super dark!

I then go back in with even more black eye shadow and a soft brush and blend the shadow out.

This is now 3 layers of black so its super dark!

Working with dark eye shadow sometimes you may drop some powder on your cheeks so I'm also taking my blending sponge and applying more foundation over any powder I may have dropped to cover it.

The last step is to add some white highlight under my brow and add a little bit of light gray to my eyelid to give the eye shadow more dimension, sometimes flat black can look a bit boring so adding in a few more tones can make the eye shadow more dynamic!



3



4



5



6



7



Contour and Highlight

Contouring and Highlighting are great tools to help shape and sculpt your face to be perceived in a certain way, whether its raising your cheekbones, making your nose look thinner or just adding a little bit of glow to your cheeks it can take your makeup to the next level and really make it pop!

Highlighting

Highlighter powder is a super shiny powder used to brighten up parts of the face and draw attention to them!

Highlighter is normally used to emphasize the cheeks, the inner corner of the eye, the top of the nose as well as the upper lip and under the brow.

If you want a certain part of your face to be brought forward or have attention drawn to it highlighter is the way to do it!

It's perfect for adding a really bright glow to your face.



Contouring

Contouring the face is normally done with colors a few shades darker than your own skin depending on how dark you want the shadows to be.

It's hard to say where you should contour as it will always depend on the character you are doing, you will need to look at their features to understand how you wish to change your own but a few standard contouring tricks are to contour under the cheekbones to make the face look slimmer or more structured. Contouring under the jawline and neck to make the jawline look more pronounced and change the shape of the jaw. Contouring around the nose to make the nose look slimmer or fix any asymmetry in the nose and contouring under the bottom lip to make it look fuller.

To apply the contour shadow I use a big fluffy brush and build up the color slowly.





Before



After



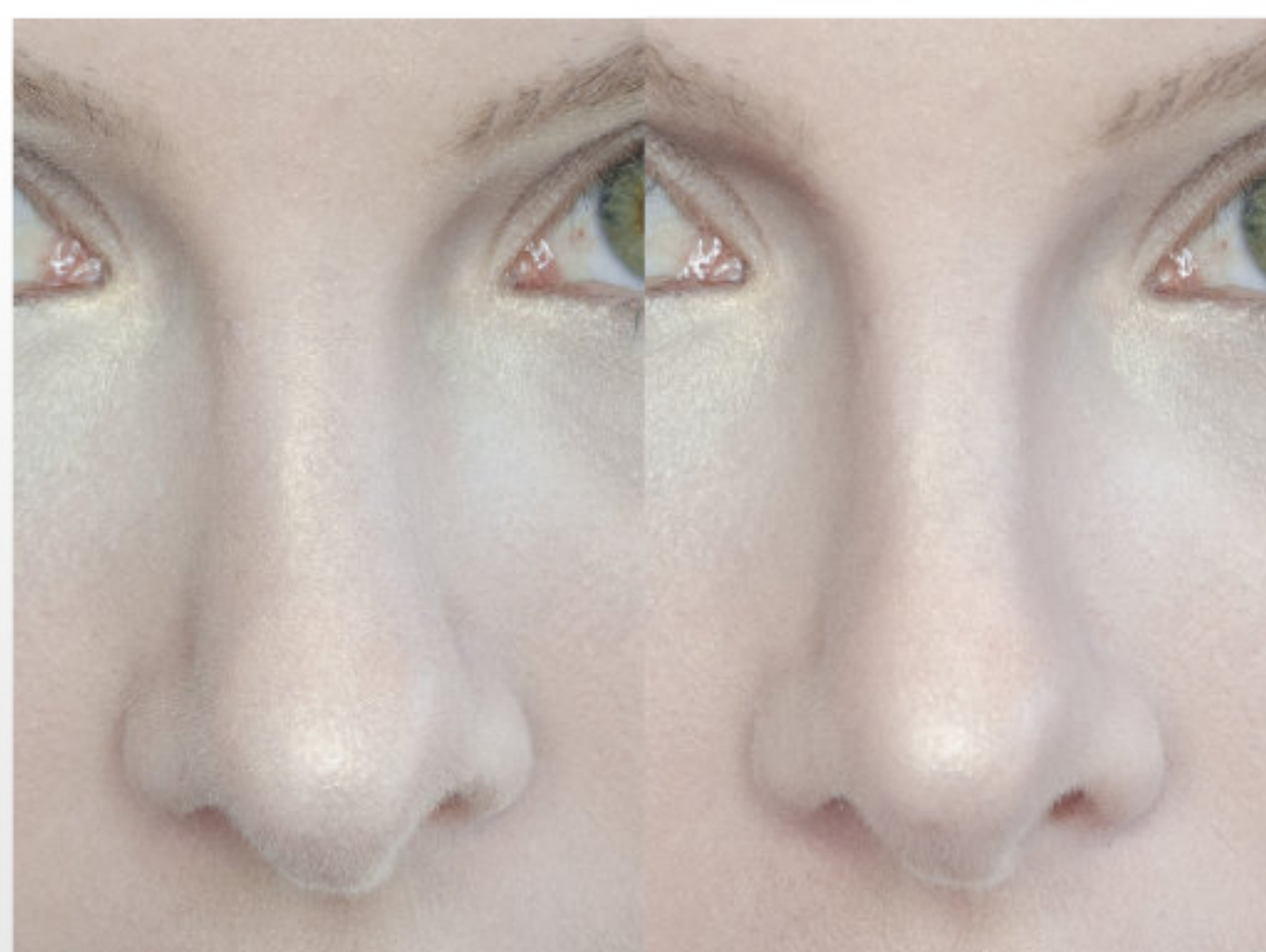
Once the shadow has been applied you can also use a blending sponge to help even out the color or make the shadow less pronounced.

To the left I have contoured the sides of my nose with a bit of shadow to make my nose look more structured and slightly thinner.

Just be careful not to go too dark as the shadows can build up very easily. You want the contouring to be subtle and an illusion but not a noticeable shadow.

Another thing to keep in mind is the color of your shadow. Very often contouring products can be very orange which doesn't look very natural especially if you have ashy skin like mine!

I prefer to use eye shadow for contour as you can pick the colors you want and choose the tones for your skin.



False Lashes

False eyelashes are a great way to make your eyes look bigger and there are so many different kinds of lashes that can add different effects to your eyes!

There are more pointed ones that I love to use for anime characters because they look a bit more stylized and super voluminous ones which are perfect for sultry characters. But applying eyelashes is the bane of my existence! It has taken me ages to learn some tricks to apply them and I'm going to share them with you now!

In order to apply your lashes you will need some eyelash glue and either eyelash applicators or tweezers. If you do not have eyelash tweezers I would also recommend using lens tweezers which have a soft silicone end on them so that you won't hurt your eye.

Standard strength lash glue has never really worked for me, so instead I prefer to use something called Pros aid which is meant to be a prosthetic adhesive,

Applying

I apply a little bit of pros aid all the way along the lash and along my lash line on my eyelid. Don't apply too much, you don't want it to come off at the end of the day!

Then I leave it for a bit to get tacky and carefully with my lash tweezers I line the end of the lash up with the end of my eyelid and press it from the side of my eyelid to the corner of my eye.





Body Paint

Body paint is one of the coolest and most exciting parts of cosplay makeup! There is so much fun that can be had with body paint whether its completely painting yourself blue, adding on intricate markings or just doing some small details on your makeup, But Body paint can also be one of the most frustrating parts of cosplay too! Here's a few tips for body painting including how to apply it and set it!

Aqua Paint

Aqua paint body paint is a water based body paint. This means it mixes with water and can be applied with water and dries fairly quickly. Water based paint does not smudge very easily and can look very smooth! However there are some issues with water based paint. Such as cracking and coming off when you sweat.



- Water based paint
- Not waterproof
- Dries quickly
- Can sometimes crack
- Requires a few layers

Grease Paint

Grease paint is an oil based body paint. This means it is waterproof and will not come off when you sweat. Its easy to apply like other cream based makeups however it needs to be set with a powder and it can sometimes smudge and if it's not set properly it can go onto everything you touch!



- Cream paint
- Waterproof
- Does not dry, must be set
- Can be messy
- Very good coverage

Applying Aqua Paint

I like to apply aqua paints with a large brush. I take the brush and dip it in some water and then mix the top of the paint to activate it.

Once I have enough paint on my brush I then paint on 1 layer of paint trying to keep the strokes in 1 direction. Let the layer of paint dry completely and then you can apply a second layer of paint, this time painting the strokes in the opposite direction.

With aqua paint you will need to build up thin layers to get the color you want and painting in different directions with each layer will help the paint look nice and even!

Tip :

If you want your colors to be a bit brighter start with a white base coat before applying the color over it.



This will dry the paint out and stop it from being greasy and oily which is what makes it go on everything. The powder will also make the paint matte and take away the shine.

Now that the paint has been set with the powder I also like to set it with some setting spray or some hairspray. This is an added layer of protection to stop the paint rubbing off and going on stuff.



Applying Grease Paint

For grease and oil based paints I like to use a sponge for application. I take my makeup sponge and wipe some paint out of the container.

I can then take the sponge and press it onto my skin, dabbing the paint around to that it spreads evenly.

Because grease paint doesn't dry its very easy to blend colors together and make gradients with the paint. Here I combined a purple and blue and just used my sponge to dab and press the paint until it blended evenly.

The other nice thing about grease paint is that it is very opaque so you will only need about 1 layer for full coverage.

The problem however is that If you touch the paint it will go everywhere and without setting it can smudge!

To fix the paint and set it in place I use a translucent powder and a sponge and press the powder into the paint.



Painting Hands

Painting your hands can be really weird and a little bit annoying! But here's a method that Phaleure Cosplay taught me to stop your paint on your hands going everywhere!

So to start you want to spray your hands with some hairspray. This sounds really weird but the hairspray will make the surface sticky and the paint will cling to it better!

I then take some aqua paint and a sponger and start to dab and apply a thin layer of paint on my hands. Let the paint dry completely and then spray another layer of hairspray and repeat!





The hairspray is the real trick here! Not only will it lock the paint in place but because the surface is sticky the body paint will stick to your hands better and not rub off quite as much throughout the day!



Colorful Stockings

If you're like me and your really don't like body paint you try to avoid it at all costs! One of the alternatives to body paint is colorful pantyhose!

Welovecolors tights are fantastic for making arm stockings which you can use for cosplay!



The arm stockings will make it that you don't have to paint your arms and your armpits, and trust me if you have ever had to paint your armpits before its not fun! I used a combination of stockings and body paint on my chest and face for my death guard cosplay. As long as you match the body paint to the stockings nobody will know the difference!



Tattoos and Tattoo Cover

This section of the book is going to be looking at tattoos and cosplay! Whether you want to quickly and easily apply a fake tattoo to your body or your want to cover one of your own tattoos up for a certain character here's how to do it!

Tattoo Paper

Tattoo paper is a really quick and easy way to make tattoos for cosplay and it also looks really neat and professional.

You can buy tattoo paper online, I like to use the silhouette tattoo paper. The paper comes with 2 kinds of sheets. The white one which you will print your images on and the green one which is actually a sticky film.

You can take the sheet of white paper and print out your tattoo designs on it with your printer at home or you can take the paper to a print show and ask them to print onto the paper for you. The silhouette paper is 8.5X11inches which is a bit smaller than standard A4 paper so make sure your print settings are set to this size

Tip :

Make sure your images you print are inverted or reversed on the paper! When you apply the onto your skin they will flip and be in the right direction! So if you are doing tattoos with words you must make sure the words are mirrored or backwards on the print so that they transfer properly.

When you have finished printing your designs you can now take the green sheet and peel off the trip at the bottom exposing the sticky side. Line this up with the edge of the paper and then peel off the rest of the green film and press the sticky side against the print.

Make sure you press out and air bubbles under the film. If there are bubbled the film won't connect with the paper and won't transfer the sticky stuff onto it.

Once the sticky film is on the paper you can cut out your tattoo design, cut as close to the design as you can.

You can then peel off the clear film to reveal the sticky tattoo and press it onto your skin where you want it to be placed.



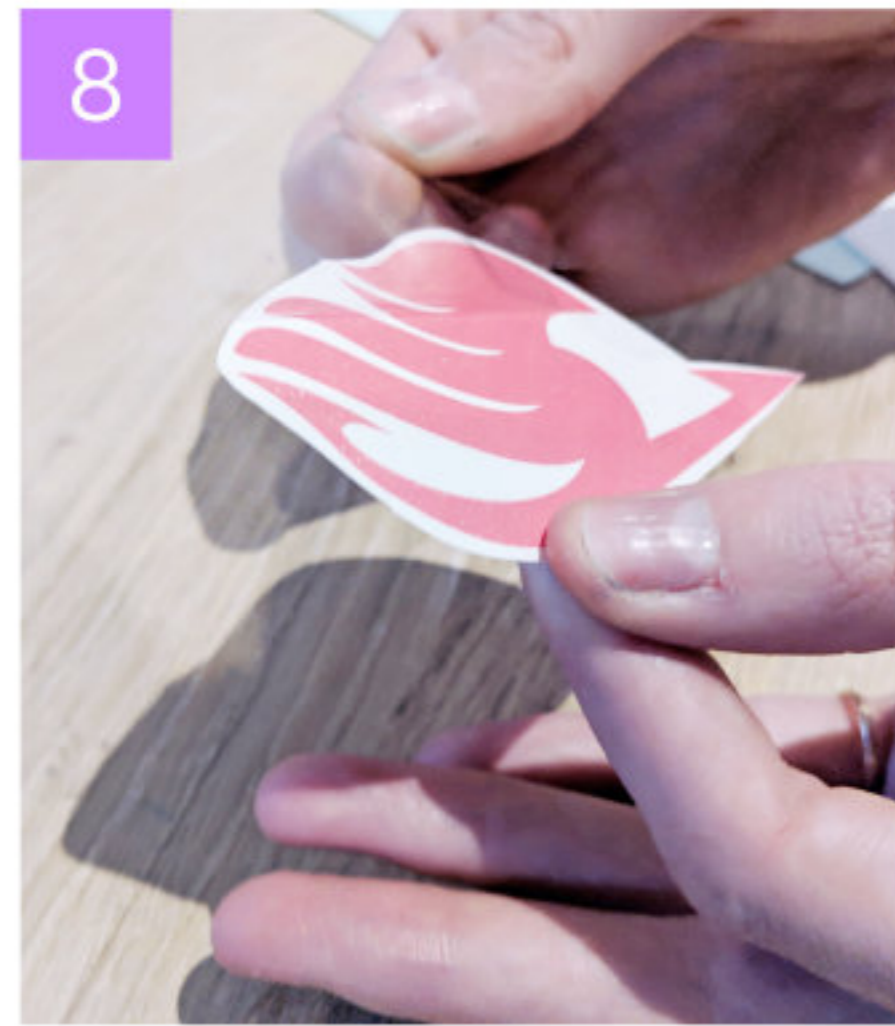


To get the tattoo onto your skin all you need is water! Take a wet cloth and hold it over the tattoo for about a minute.

Check that the tattoo is sticking to your skin by gently lifting the white paper,.

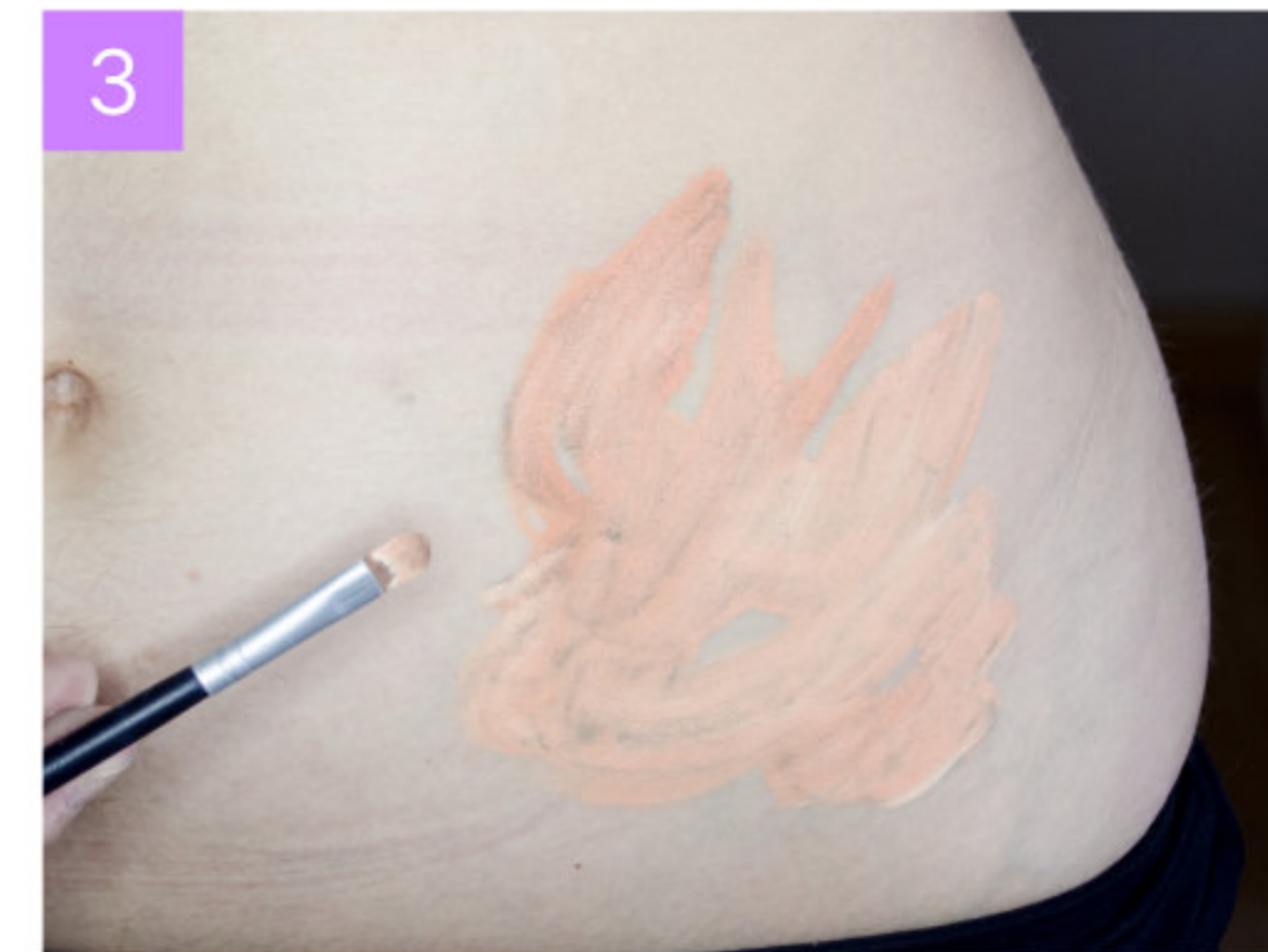
If the tattoo is wet enough it will have transferred to your skin.

You can then peel off the rest of the white paper and your tattoo should be done!



These tattoos are really strong and can last up to 3-5 days which makes them great for a long day at the convention.

If you want to remove the tattoo you can carefully peel it off or your can also remove it with some oil.



Tattoo Cover

So now that you know how to add tattoos to your body what happens if you need to cover your own tattoos up? Here's how I cover my stomach tattoos for costumes!

I use Kryolan camouflage makeup which is a very opaque thick makeup which can cover anything and is made for exactly this purpose.

I start my color correcting the tattoo. If you have black or dark tattoos your will need to use orange color correction, if you have red tattoos like my flowers you will need to add green color correction. I apply the color correction over the tattoo with a brush to cover all the blue.

Then I use a loose setting powder and a sponge to set the orange makeup. I press the powder into the makeup until it is dry to the touch. Now I can apply the concealer. Make sure you match your skin tone, I have to use a combination of 2 colors to match my skin. I apply a thick layer of concealer over the orange makeup and then once again use the setting powder to set the makeup in place. You can repeat this step of concealer and powder a second time to make sure everything is really covered!



Teeth and Fangs

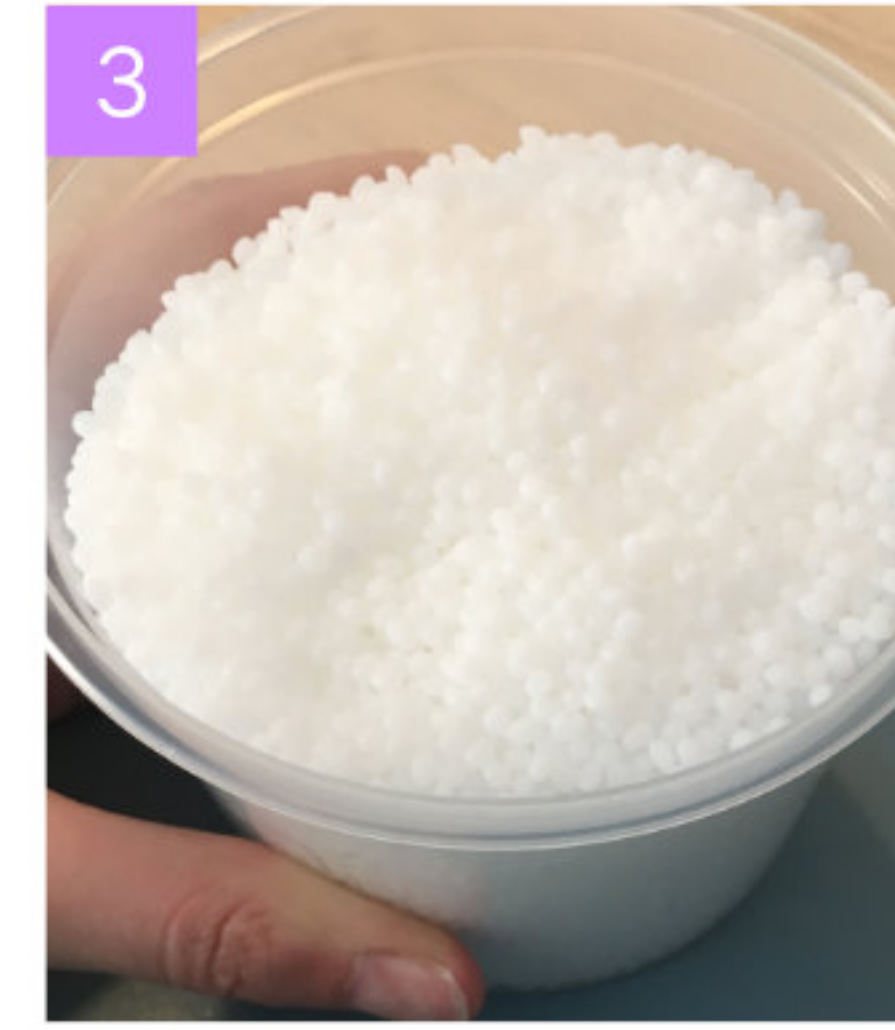
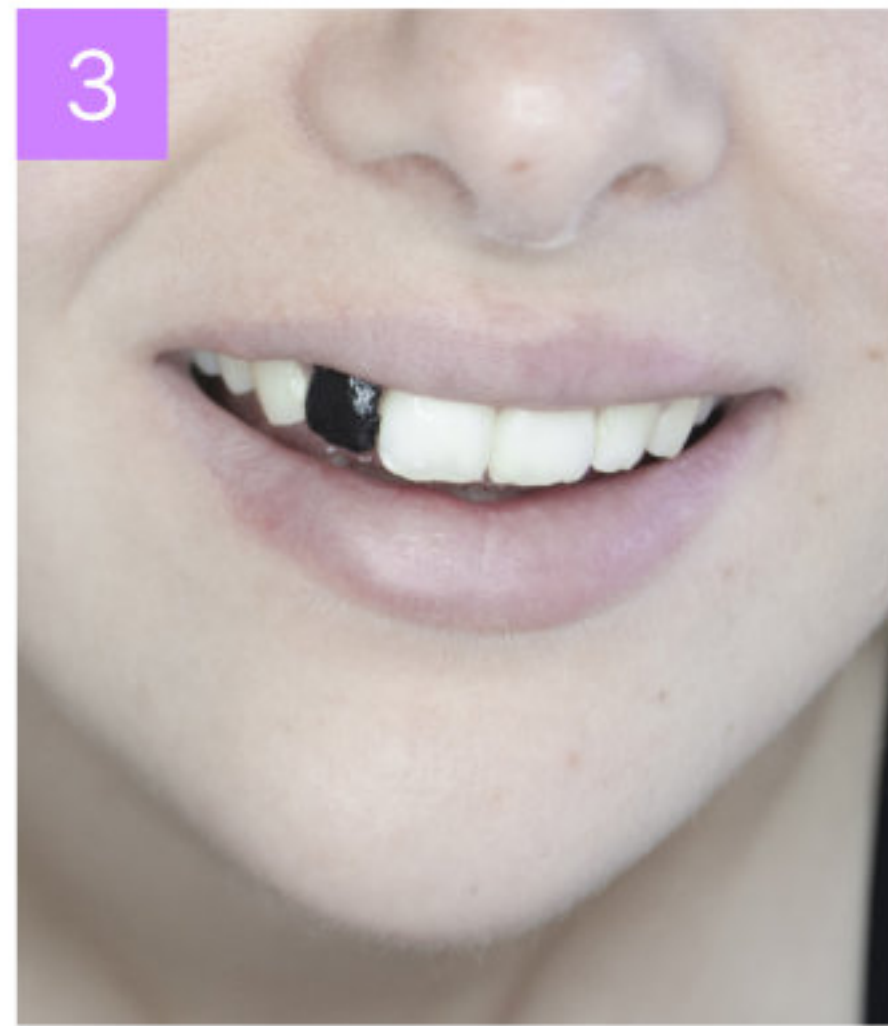
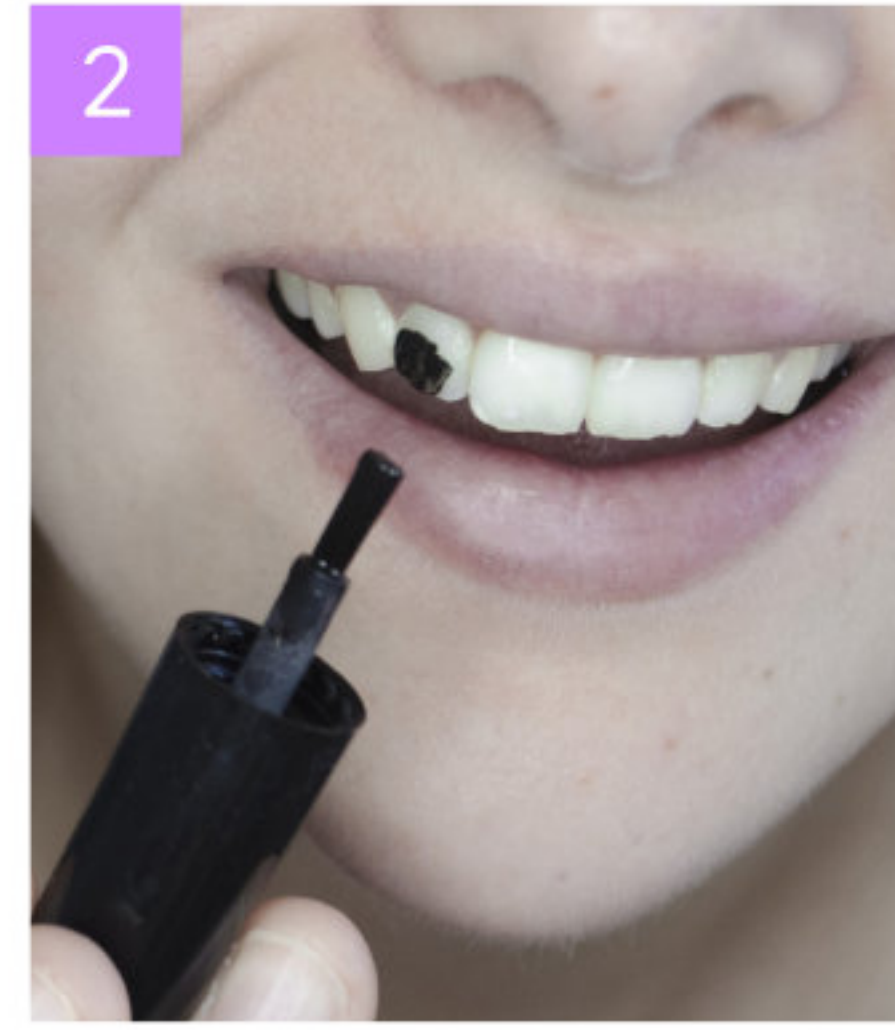
Makeup isn't just for your skin! There's also a few cool things you can do with your teeth!

Tooth Enamel

Tooth enamel is something I only really found out about recently! Its a make up that is safe for use on your teeth!

It comes in a small bottle like nail polish and you can dip the brush in and paint it onto your teeth for different effects! It can make you look like you are missing a tooth or you can use it to create a gap in your teeth which is perfect for characters like princess Tiabeanie from Disenchanted.

To take it off just use a toothbrush and water!

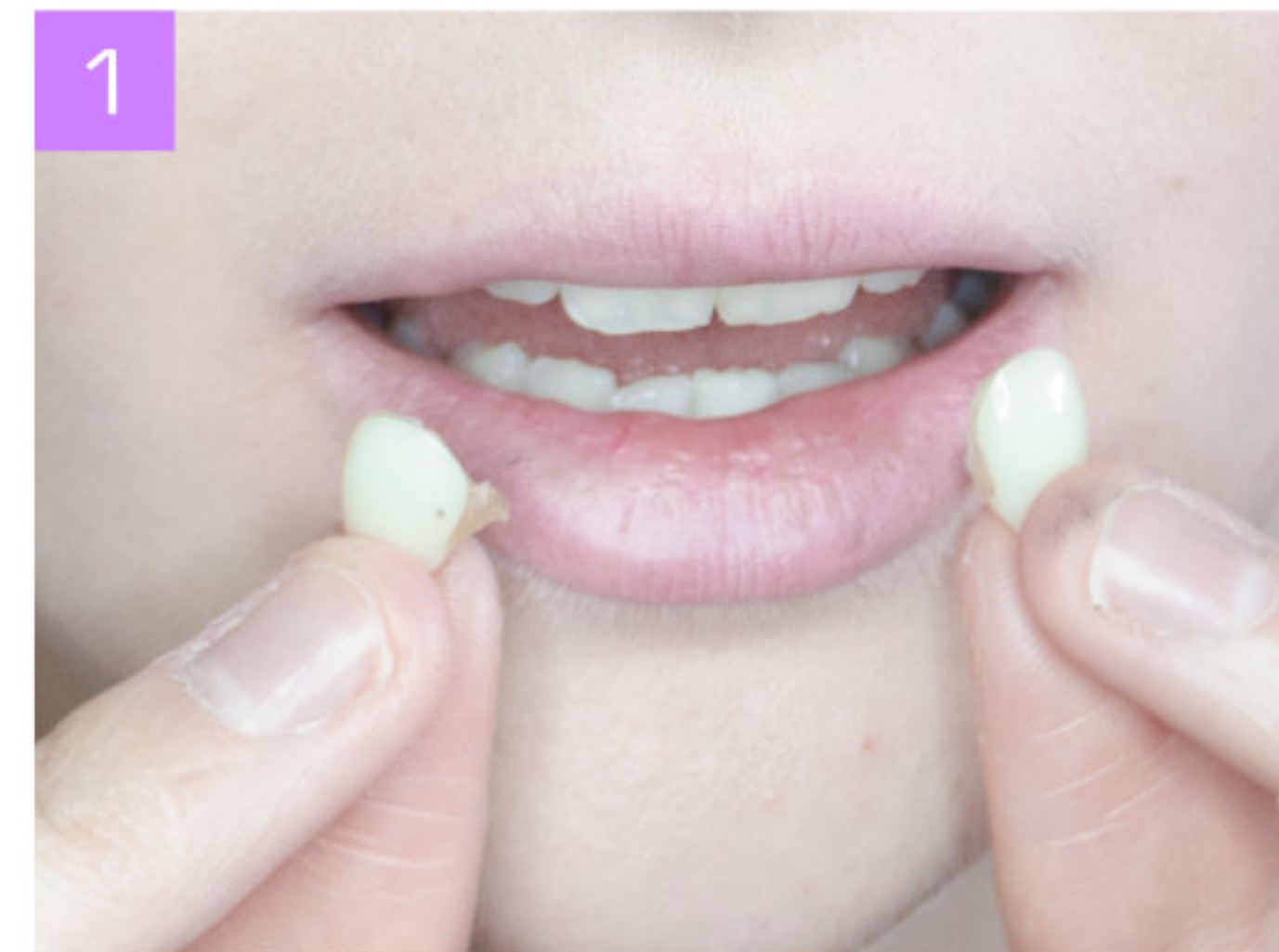


You can also create your own custom fangs at home from a material called Deco art beads! Deco art is small plastic beads which can be heated up with a heat gun and when they melt they can be sculpted and molded.

Once they cool they are then hard and white again.

To make your own fangs you can heat up the beads and then carefully mold and press them around your teeth to fit your mouth.

Just be careful not to burn yourself! Let the beads cool down before removing them and you will then have custom fangs! I made these cool troll fangs using this method!



Fangs

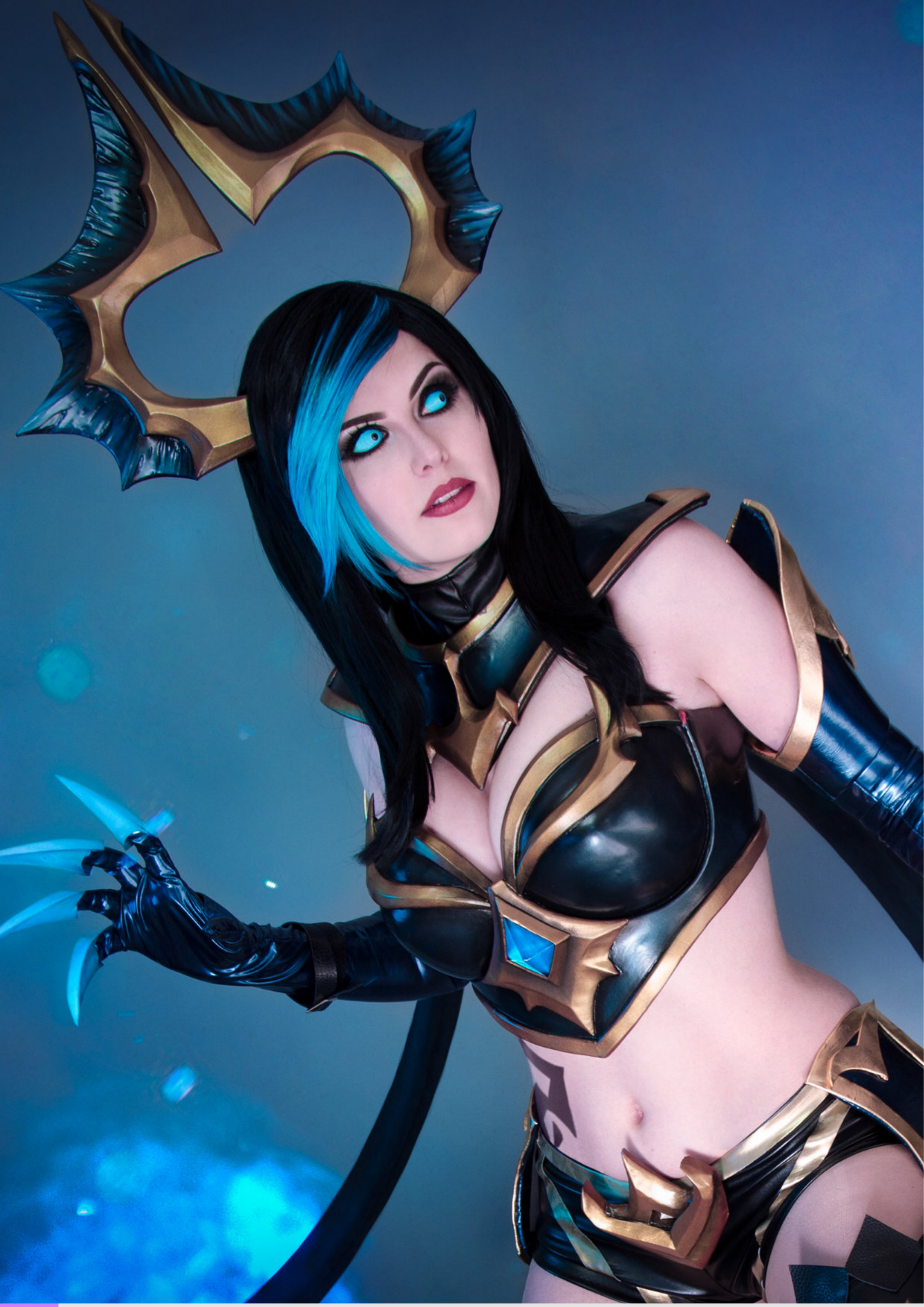
Fangs are another great trick for makeup effects!

There are hundreds of brands and styles available. My personal favorite brand for fangs is scarecrow fangs.

They sell a few different styles of fangs and they are very easy to use and each set comes with instructions for how to customized the fangs to fit your teeth with their molding powder.

Once you have molded the fangs to your teeth they can pop on and off really easily and stay in snugly without glue.





Contact Lenses

While contact lenses certainly aren't compulsory for cosplay they can be a really cool edition to your makeup and costume to take your look to the next level! Cosmetic contacts come in a huge range of colors and styles, with ones that are made to make your eyes look bigger, lenses that make your eye look completely blind and even lenses that cover your entire eyeball!

Tools

Lenses

Contact lenses are small plastic lens that can be placed onto the eye. Lenses are normally used to correct visual defects but can also be used to change the color of the eye.



Lens Case

Lens cases are small plastic containers with a spot for each lens (Left and right) to be stored with lens fluid to keep the lenses clean and safe.

Lens Fluid

Lens fluid is used to both clean and store contact lenses. Lenses need to be kept wet so they do not dry out and shrivel up.



Lens Tweezers

Lens tweezers are soft tipped tweezers that can help with picking lenses up and taking them out your eyes without using your fingers.

Lens Plunger

Lens cases are small plastic containers with a spot for each lens (Left and right) to be stored with lens fluid to keep the lenses clean and safe.



Lens Safety

There is an inherent risk associated with wearing contact lenses so we would suggest that you do seek advice from a qualified professional about wearing contacts. Wearing the wrong lenses, wearing them incorrectly or even wearing lenses when you shouldn't could cause irreparable damage to your eyes, so please make sure you are doing everything you can to be safe.

Standard Lenses

These are your average size contact lenses that cover the Iris or the color of your eye. They come in a large variety of colors and designs.



Circle Lenses

Circle lenses are slightly larger than standard lenses and extend past the iris, making your eyes look much bigger and wider.



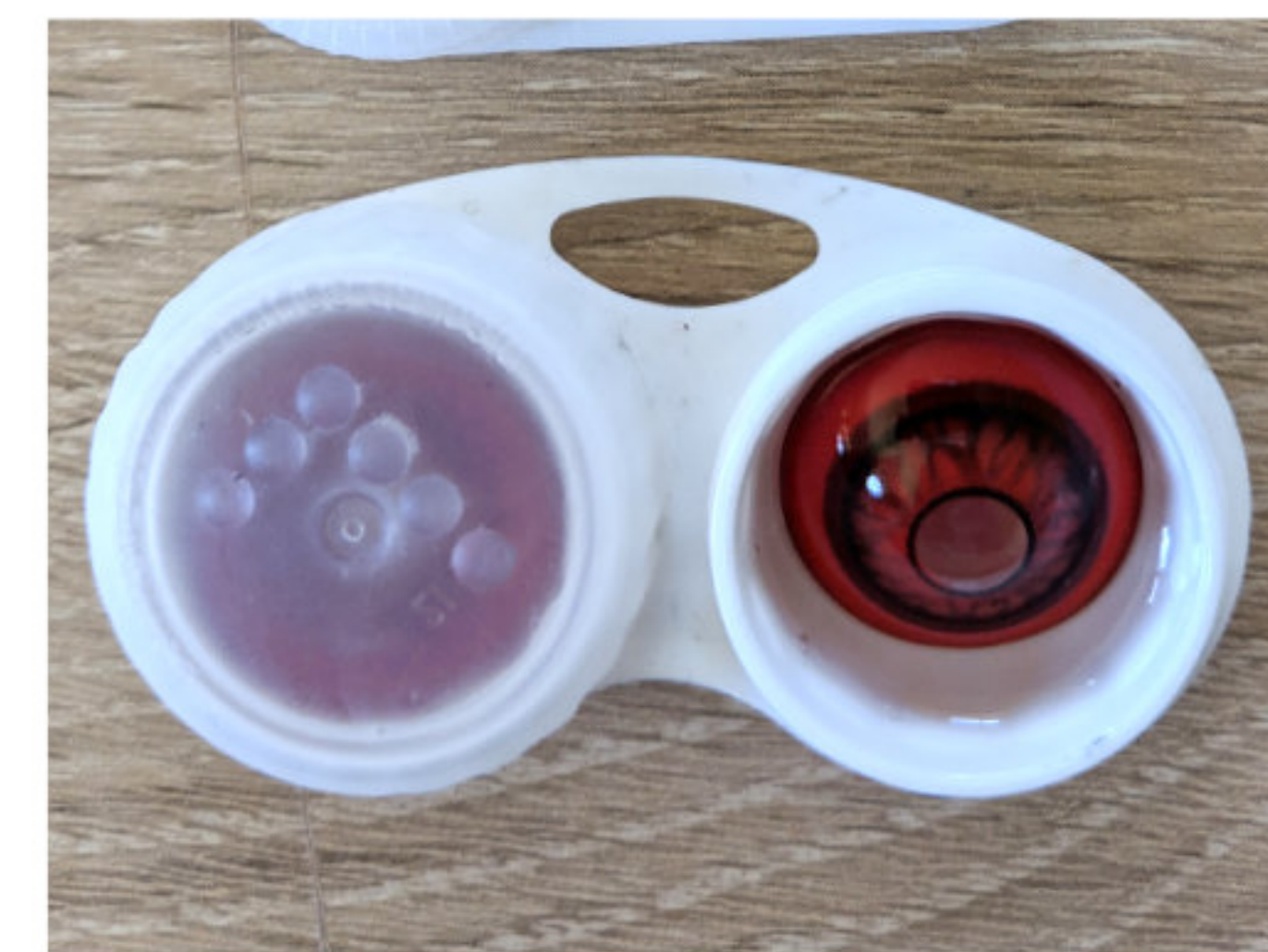
Mini Sclera

Mini sclera lenses are about 17-19mm in diameter, they are larger than your circle lenses but still smaller than a full covering sclera



Sclera Lenses

Sclera lenses are very large lenses that are made to cover most of your eye, they are normally about 22mm in diameter. They are also slightly thicker than normal lenses.



Circle Lenses

Standard Lenses



Mesh Lenses

Mesh lenses are lenses that completely cover your pupil giving your eye a blind effect. They have a fine mesh texture with small holes throughout the lens so that you can still see through them while wearing them. You will not be able to see through them completely. It's almost like looking through a white mist.



Putting Lenses in

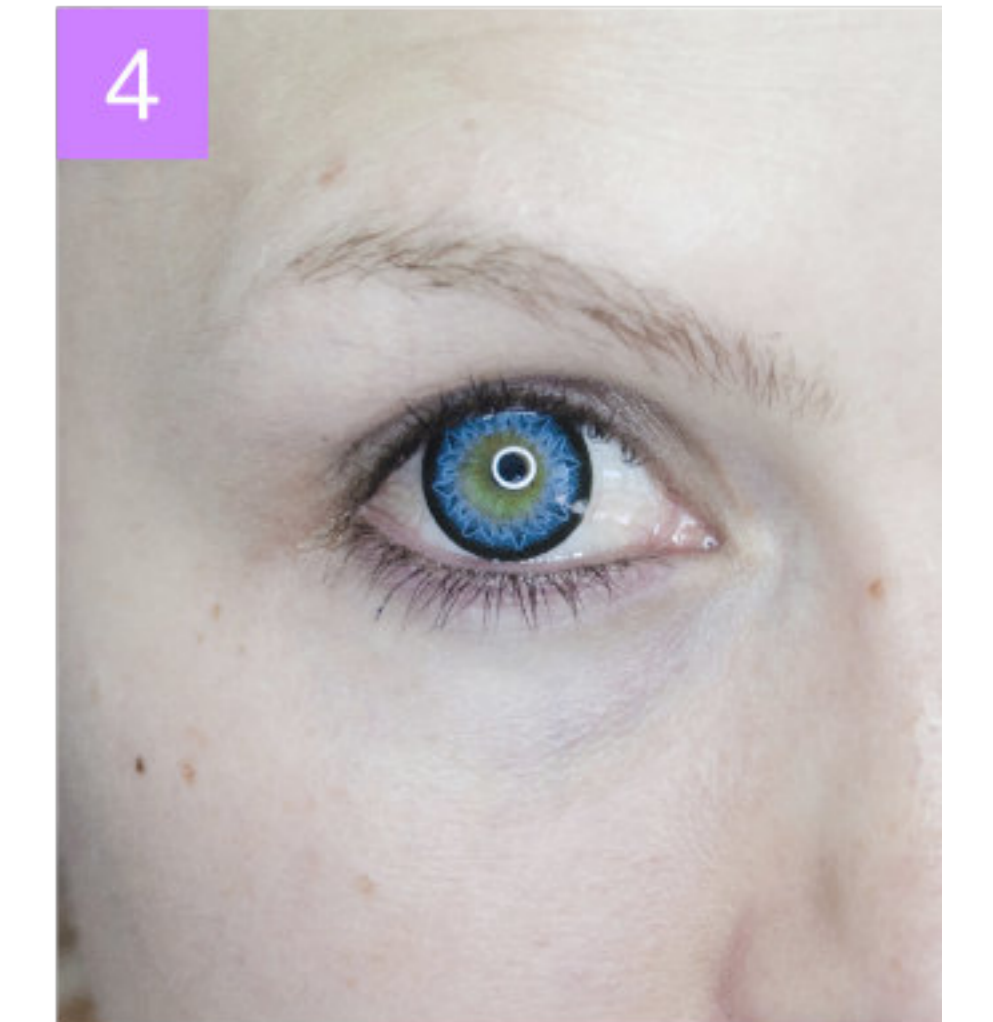
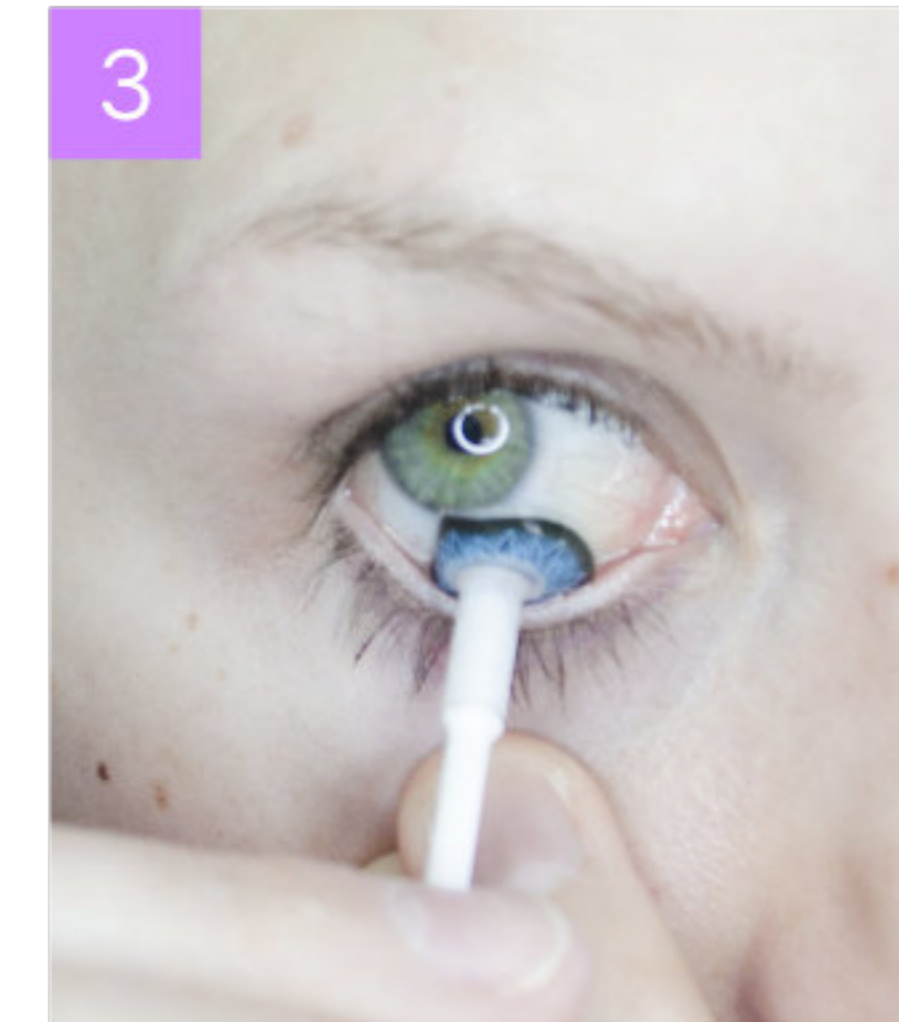
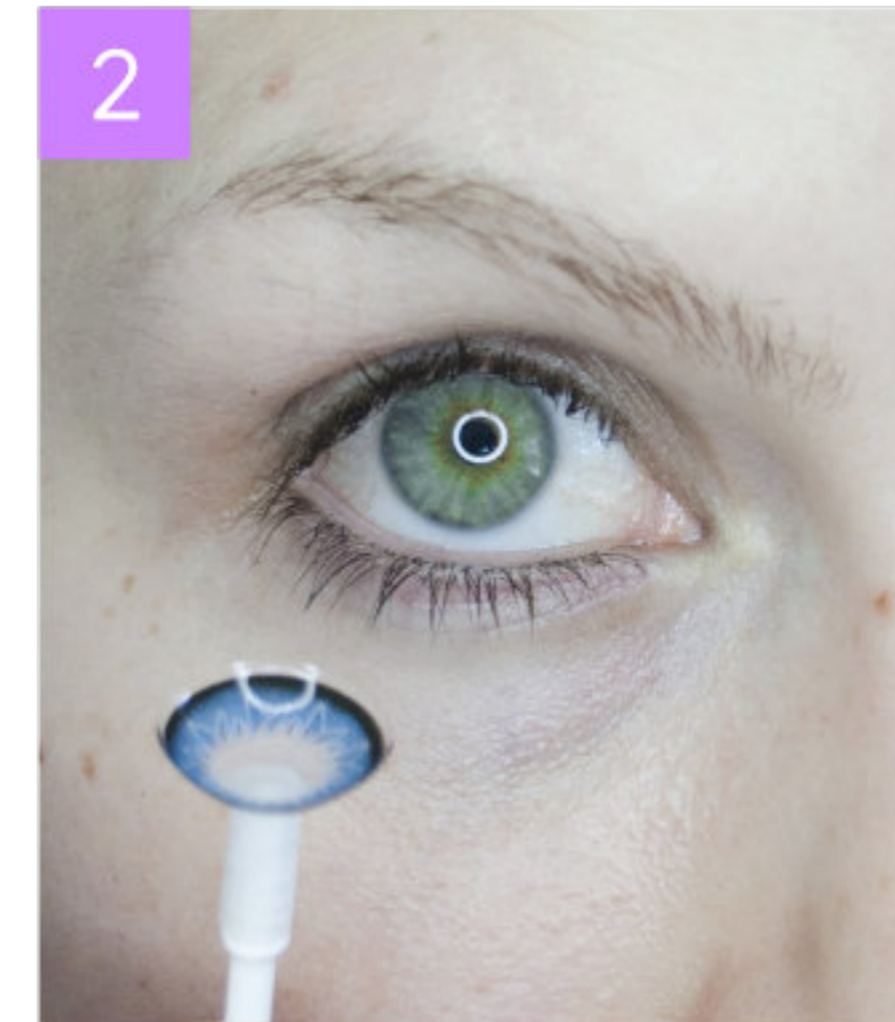
Learning how to put lenses in and getting your eyes used to wearing them can take a bit of dexterity and be a little difficult at first but with some practice it will become really simple! The first time I put lenses in my eyes it took me at least 10 minutes to get one of them in and my eyes started to water and I couldn't keep them open! But now I can even get sclera lenses in within seconds and wear them for most of the day at a convention no problem!

So the first step before putting your lenses into your eyes is to make sure you have thoroughly cleaned your hands or your lens tweezers and plunger. You do not want any dirt going in your eyes or on the lenses. The next step is to lightly clean and rinse your lenses with some lens fluid before you put them into your eyes.



1 You are going to take your lens tweezers and lift the lens out of the solution, then you can take the lens and put it onto your lens plunger.

Pull down your bottom eyelid and gently push the lens against your eye. Make sure the lens is against your eyeball properly and then you can remove your plunger and carefully blink the lens into place.



Cleaning

Cleaning your lenses regularly is very important, lenses should be cleaned once a week and the solution should be changed. Lenses need to be cleaned because protein builds up on them as they sit in their cases.

Before cleaning make sure you have thoroughly washed your hands and dried them with a lint free towel.



2 Take the lens and place it in the palm of your hand, then pour some lens solution into your hand with the lens. Do not use anything other than lens solution or lens cleaner, things like water or saline will not disinfect the lenses properly.

Once you have poured the solution into your palm use your finger to gently rub the lens for a few seconds.



3 Once you finish rubbing the lens you can then rinse it with more lens fluid, and then place it back into your clean, contact lens case with more clean lens fluid inside it. Do not use old lens fluid, always replace it with new fluid and make sure the lens case has been cleaned too.

Cleaning lenses can be quite a task if you have many sets, but properly caring for your lenses can ensure that they last longer. Keep your lenses sealed nice and tight in their cases and store them in a cool area so that they do not dry out.



Cleaning Devices

There are also some devices available to help with the cleaning and care of lenses. Including ultrasonic lens cleaners and USB powered cleaners. These little devices essentially vibrate and shake the lenses in order to help remove the proteins and assist in the cleaning process



Sclera Care

Sclera lenses are cleaned the same way as standard size lenses, just use a bit of fluid to gently rub the lenses and replace the fluid in the case. Sclera lenses will normally come with a slightly larger case with cages to keep the lenses in place. You can open the cages, place the lenses inside, then close the cages again and put it into the bottle with lens fluid to store them





KDA Ahri Makeup

- Glam Makeup
- Whiskers

KDA Ahri's makeup look is very glam with lots of highlighter, dramatic eyes and even some whisker!

Contouring

For Ahri's makeup look I did some minimal contouring and a lot of highlights! I added some contour in a few shades darker than my skin just next to my nose in a pointed shape and under my chin. I then added some super shiny highlighter under my brows, on my cheeks, the inner corner of my eyes, on the tip of my nose and just a little bit on my top lip and chin.

Eyebrows

For Ahri's brows I did a pretty simple natural looking brow. I drew my main line at the bottom and then filled it in with some more brown eye shadow, then using some concealer and angle brush I neaten up the edges of the brows to make them look nice and clean.





3

Eye Makeup

For the eyes I'm using my white Eyeliner and putting it on the inner rim of my eyes to make them look brighter.

As I mentioned earlier in the highlight section I also took some highlighter and put it just under my eyebrow and the inner corner of my eye.

Now I can start to add some color so I'm taking an orange/reddish eye shadow and a soft brush and putting a bit into the crease of my eyelid and just under my eye, blending it out into a pointed shape.



4

I then take a smaller brush with some black eye shadow and start to add a bit more shadow underneath my eye and pull it out into a wing. Once I have the base of my eye shadow done I can then add my eyeliner on top.

So I take my fine eyeliner pen from LA girl and draw on a line to determine the direction I want my wing to go and how long I want it to be. After I have my basic direction and length then draw out the rest of the wing shape I want and fill it in with the same eyeliner pen.



5



7



6



8

When the base of the wing is done I then take my eyeliner pen and draw all around the top of my eyelid and bring the shape into a point by the corner of my eye. I also line around the bottom of my eye as well stopping in the center.

I then use some mascara to apply to my lashes to make them fuller and darker but that's not quite dramatic enough for Ahri, so I also use some big pointed lashes to add more volume and make my eyes look super feminine.

I just take the eyelash and apply a bit of pros aid to the lash, let it get tacky and then apply it onto my eyelid with my lash tweezers pressing it into place.



9



10



11



12





1



2

Lips

Ahri had really nice full lips so I take my lip liner pen and over line my lips to make them look a bit bigger and give them more shape.

After I have drawn the shape of the lips on I then use some matte lipstick to fill in my lips and get the color nice and even.

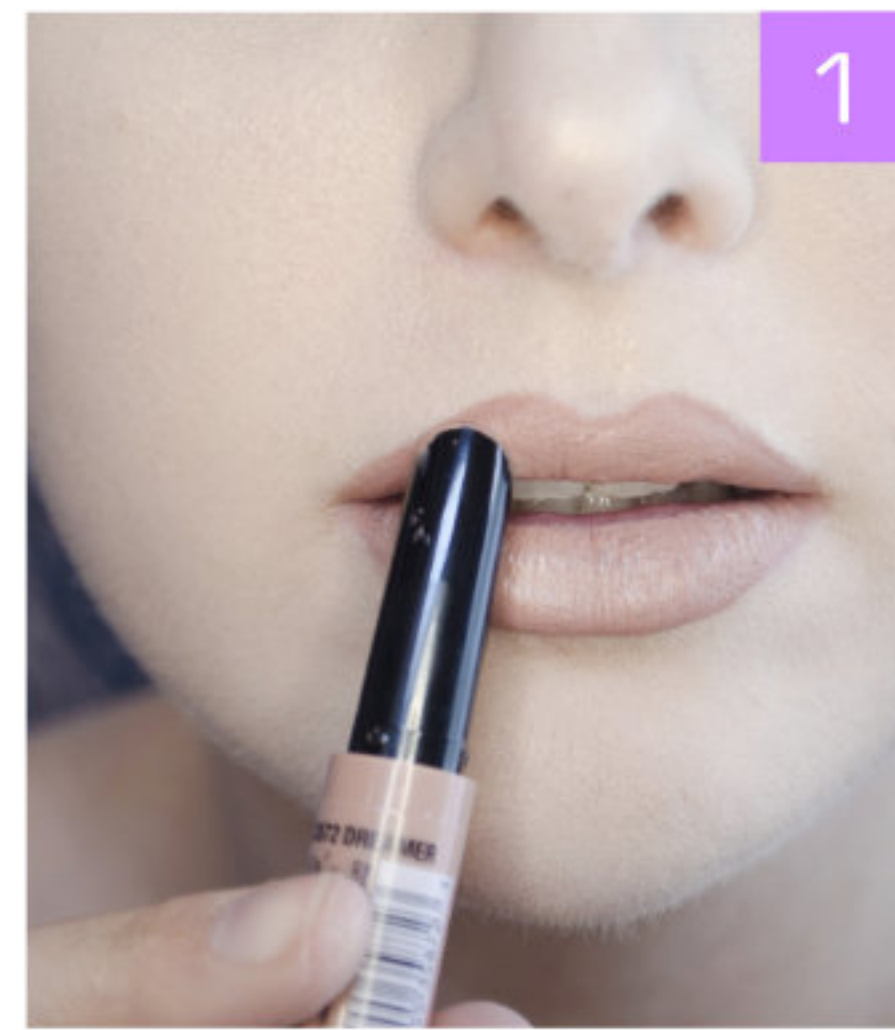


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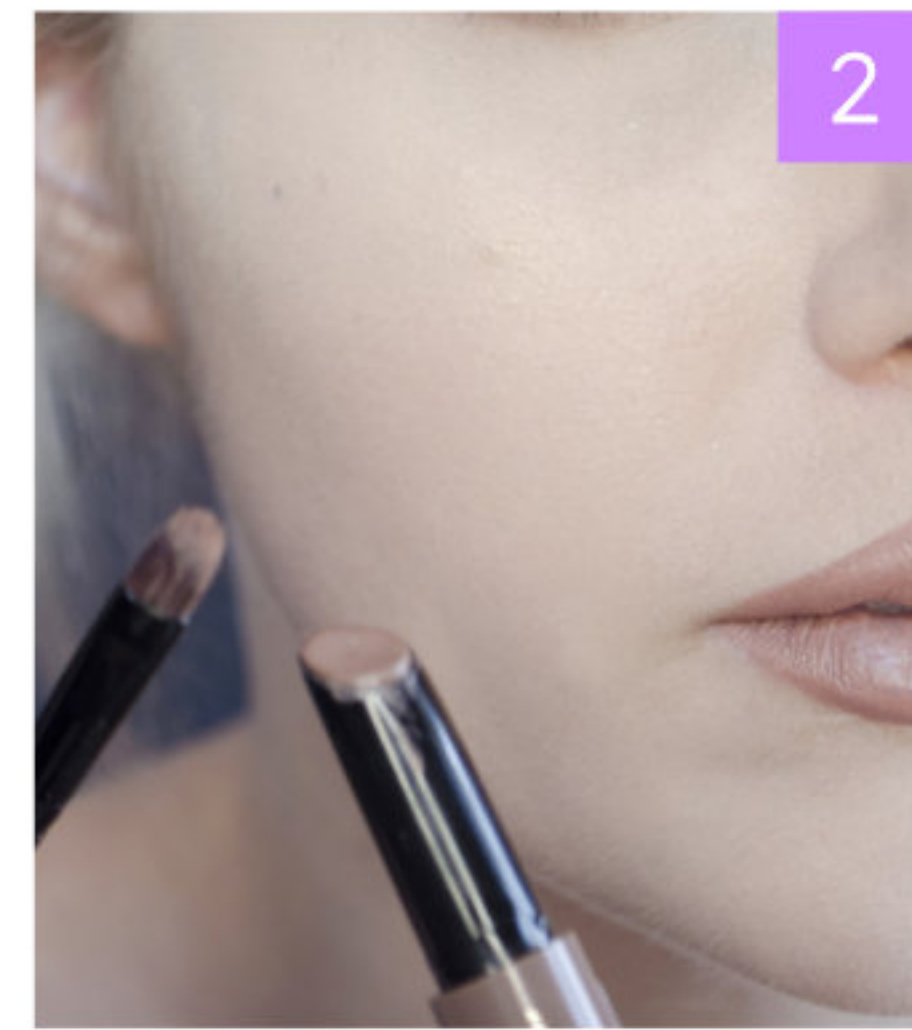
Finally to finish them off and make them look very neat I take a small brush with some more lipstick on it and paint around the edges fixing any uneven lines and edges

Whiskers

For my Whiskers I used the same lipstick and the brush as before for the color. I then drew on a line to position my whiskers and get the general length I want them to be.



1



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3



4

Once I have the line drawn on I can then start to build up the shape and make it wider at the base and more pointed towards the end.

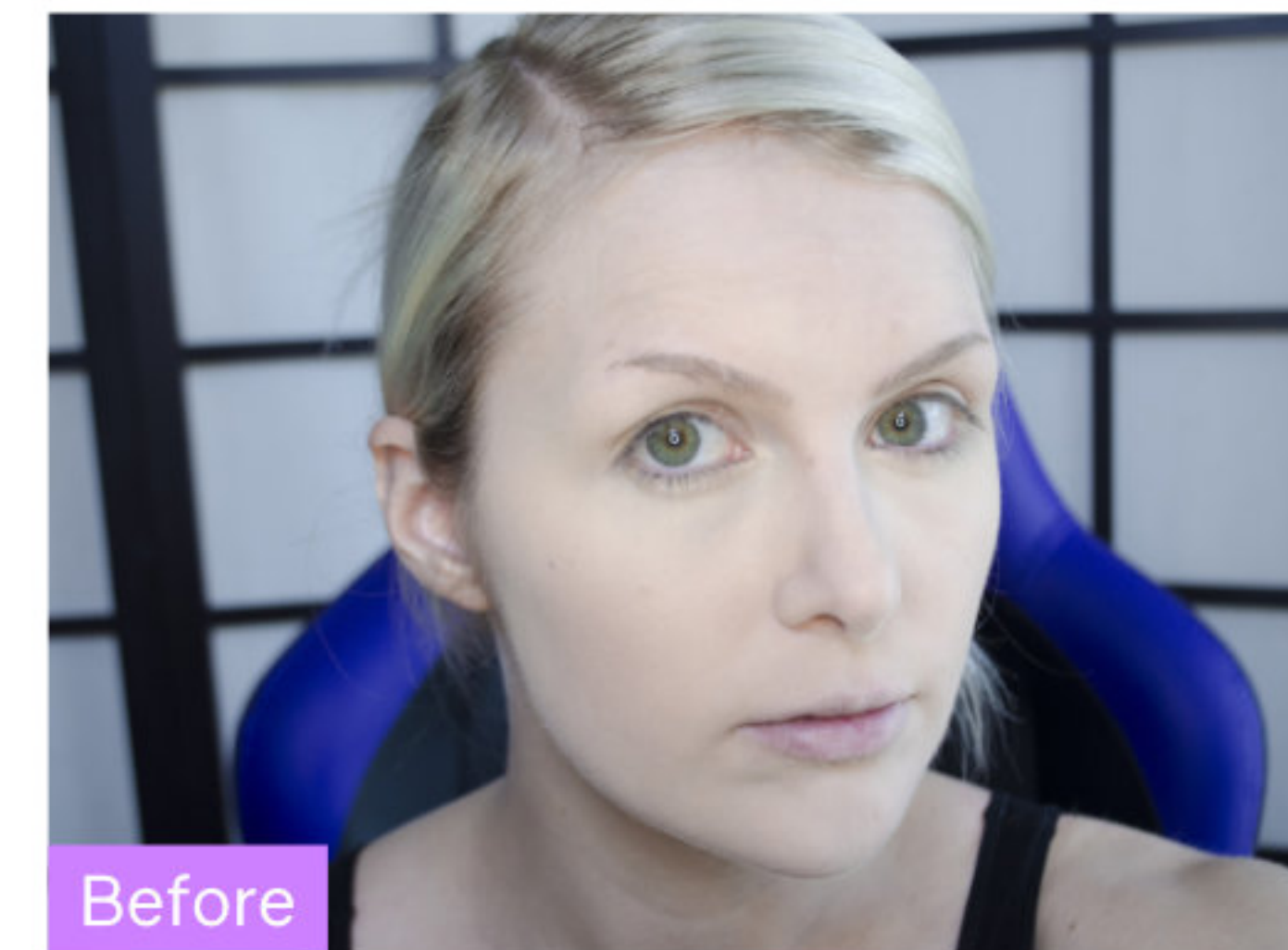
When I've finished drawing out the whiskers I then use my concealer and an angle brush to add some highlights around the edges and make them pop!



5



6



Before



After





She-Ra Makeup

• Natural Soft Makeup

She Ra's makeup is very light, soft, and gentle. Almost like she's not wearing makeup at all! Here's how to create a very subtle makeup look!

Foundation

To start off I did my foundation just like I showed in the start of this book. I used my color correction concealer and put a fair amount of it under my eyes, blended it out with a sponge and then applied some of my liquid mac foundation over it with my blending sponge. I then set the makeup in place with my mac powder foundation.

Highlighter

She-Ra is super shiny and sparkly! So I did a LOT of highlighting and didn't do any darker contouring for this look so it was nice and bright!

I used my LA Girl highlighter powder and put it all along the top of my cheeks, by the corner of my eyes, under my brows and on my nose, lip and chin.



 HIGHLIGHT



1

Eyebrows

She-Ra's brows have a natural look but are pretty thick! So I drew in my basic outline for the shape I wanted on my brows with an angle brush and some brown cream makeup .

I lined further around my own brows and made them thicker towards the inside and then used my angle brush to fill them in with the color so they looked nice and even.



2



3

Eye makeup

For the eye makeup I wanted to keep it very light and simple! I used some mascara and applied it to my top and bottom lashes, no false lashes for this look as it just ends up being a bit too dramatic! T

hen I used a small flat brush with some dark brown eye shadow and applied a light shadow at the very edge under my eye and in my crease of my eyelid. Finally I just lightly lined around the top of my eye with my eyeliner pen.



1



2



3



1

Lipstick

Just like the rest of the look the lips are also very light and simple! I just used a nude matte lipstick and applied it onto my natural lip shape. I

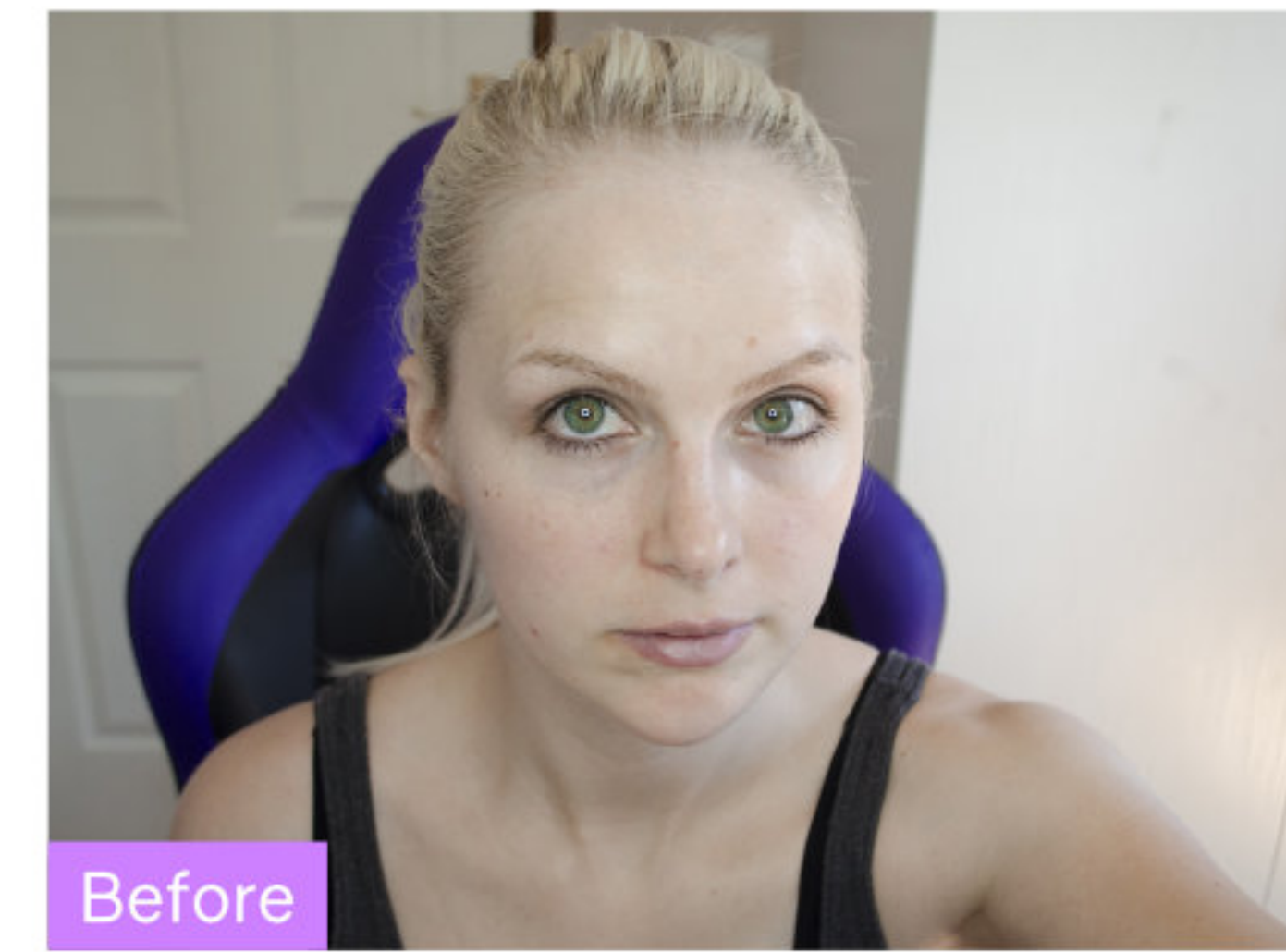
then used an angle brush to neaten up the edges. This is a very bare, very simple look but sometimes less is more and it is perfect for certain characters who are very natural!



2



3



Before



After





Shego Makeup

- Face paint
- Evil Makeup

Shego is one of my favorite childhood antagonists, she is bad-ass and she knows it! Here is how to do a makeup look perfect for any villain!

Foundation

To do Shego's face paint I used a combination of white and green grease paint which I mixed together and applied to my skin using my blending sponge.

I then set the makeup in place with some white translucent powder.

Shego doesn't have a lot of contouring on her face but I am going to add a shadow under my chin to make it stronger and more defined.

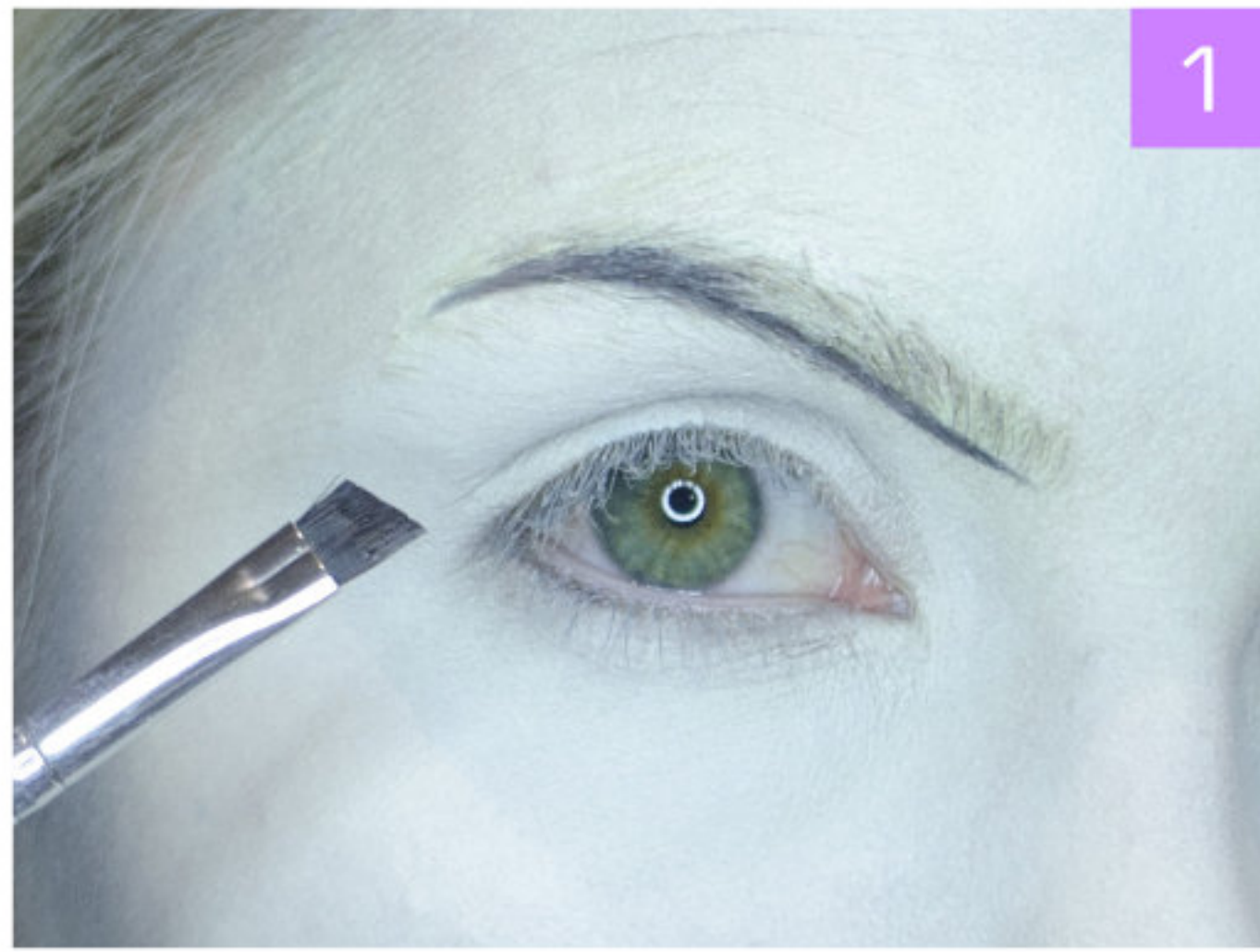
I'm also adding a contour to my cheeks to make my face look a bit slimmer.

I'm using a black and gray eye shadow to do the contour and applying it with a big fluffy brush to make sure it's soft and blended out.

Be careful when using black and gray to contour, it can be very easy to go too dark too quickly with such dark colors.

Just slowly and gradually build up the shadow until you are happy with how dark it is, don't throw too much color on at once or it can look too contrasted.





1

Eye Makeup

For my eyebrows I'm using a black eye shadow and applying it with an angle brush. I'm drawing along the underneath my brow creating a nice arch, then I'm coming back from the end of the brow and filling in the color working my way to the inside again.

Shego's cartoony eyebrows have a small swish on the inside of them which makes her eyebrows look like she's in a constant scowl and is always angry.

I'm going to draw on the little swish with my angle brush to try emulate her brows and add more character to the look.



2

Now for the eyes, I'm going to be taking a black eyeliner and lining the inside of my eyes to make them more defined and slimmer.

I'm now going to start creating some shadow around my eyes, using an angle brush and some black eye shadow I'm drawing along the bottom my eye and starting to create the shape of my wing for the eyeliner.



3



4

I'm then taking an eye shadow brush and some more black eye shadow and applying it to the crease of my eye, the corner of my eye and blending it out into a smokey tail.

I'm making sure to avoid my eyelid and keep that section light.

I'm also using the same eye shadow brush to add more shadow underneath my eye and make it dark and smokey.



5



6

Once my eye shadow is done I can now take my black eye-liner pen and liner around my eye, I'm lining around the bottom of the eye, the corner, all the way around the top and coming into a wing on the side.

I can then apply some black mascara to my eyelashes and finally add on some false lashes to complete the look.

I'm also popping in some green werewolf contact lenses to match Shego's super green eyes.



7



8



9



10



1

Lips

The Iconic Kim possible lips!!

This lip style is where only the top lip is dark and the bottom lip remains light just like in the cartoon!

So I'm taking some black eyeliner and starting to draw in the shape for the top of my lip.

2

Then I can then come back and start adding more and more black to the lip using black eye shadow or body paint until its as dark as I want.

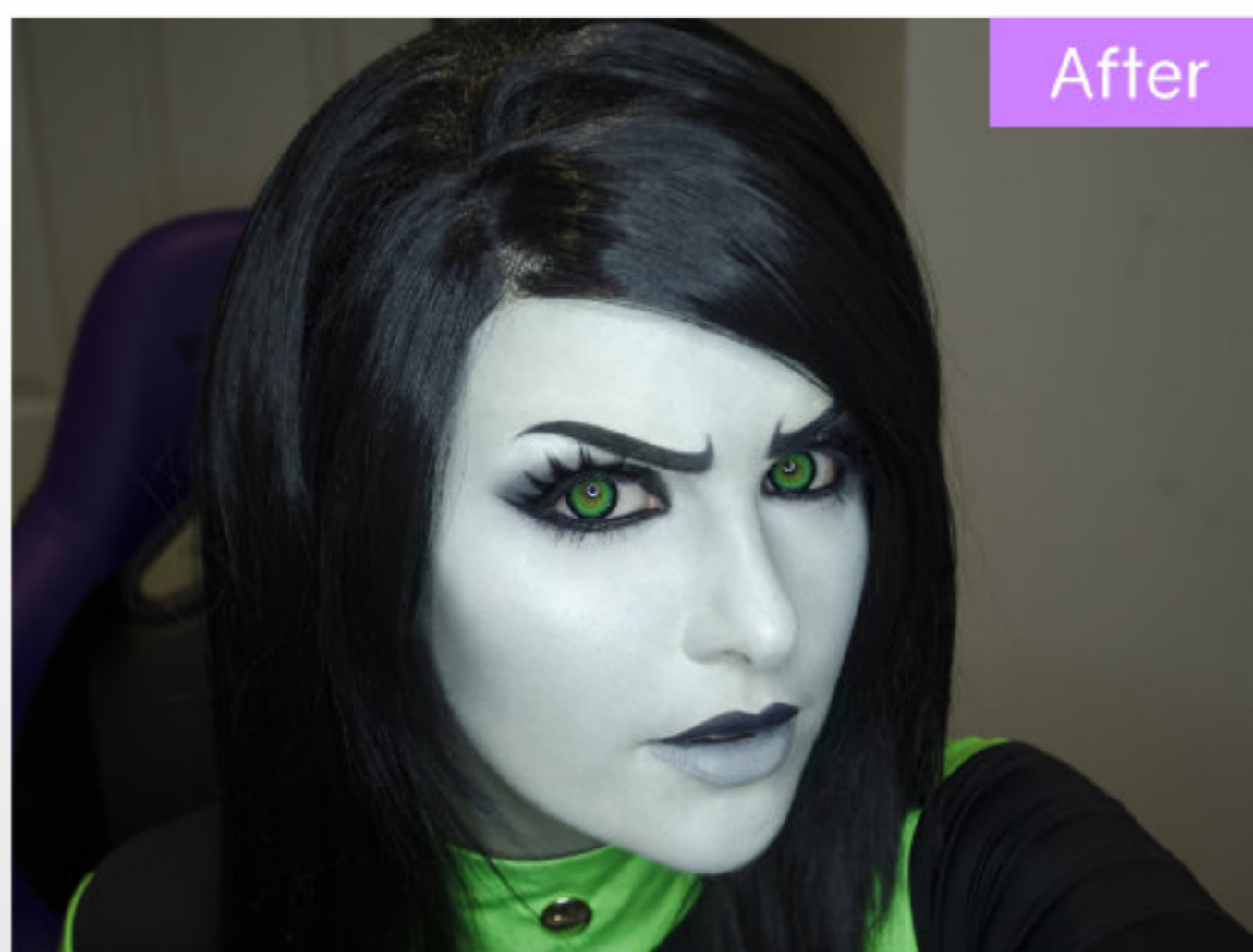
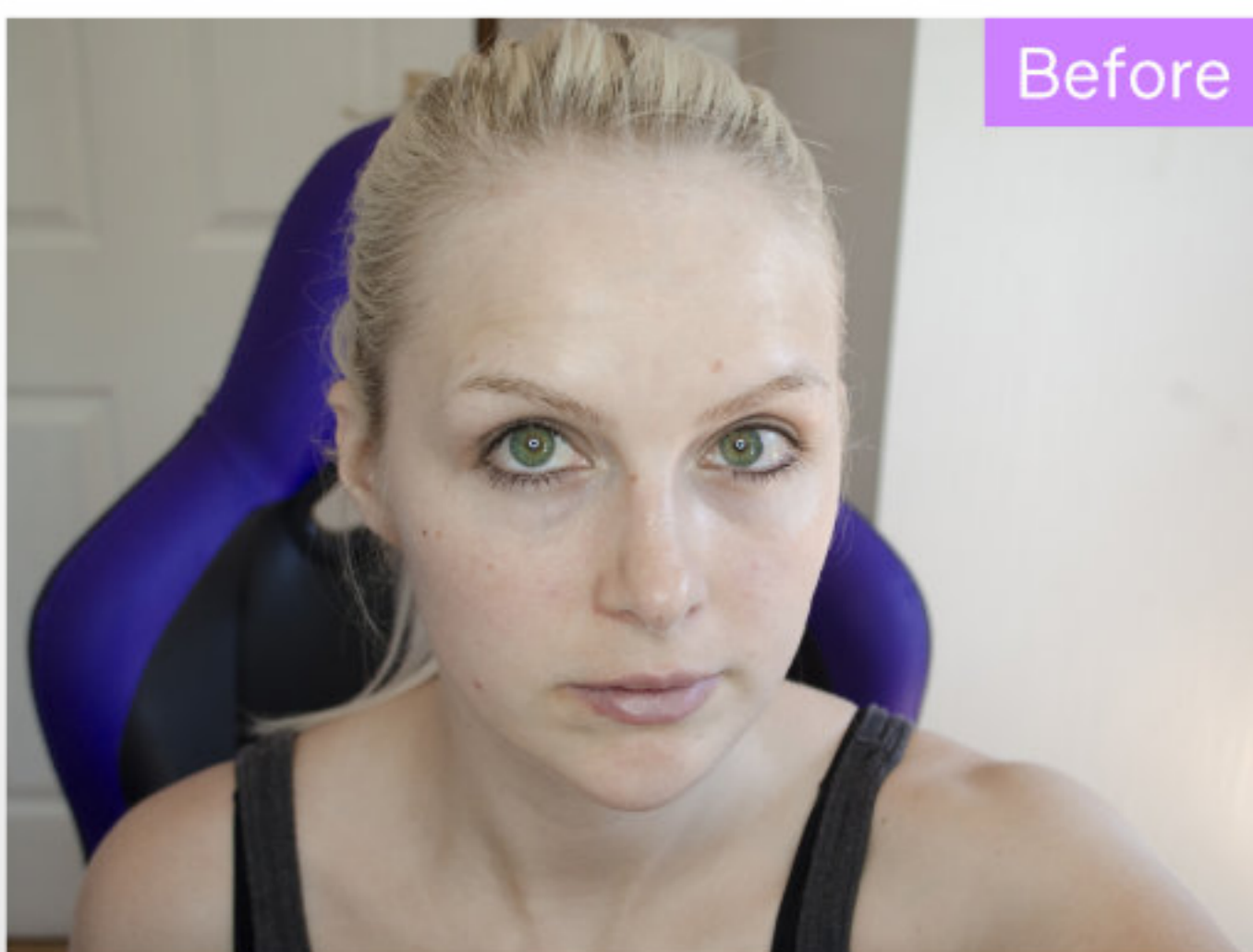
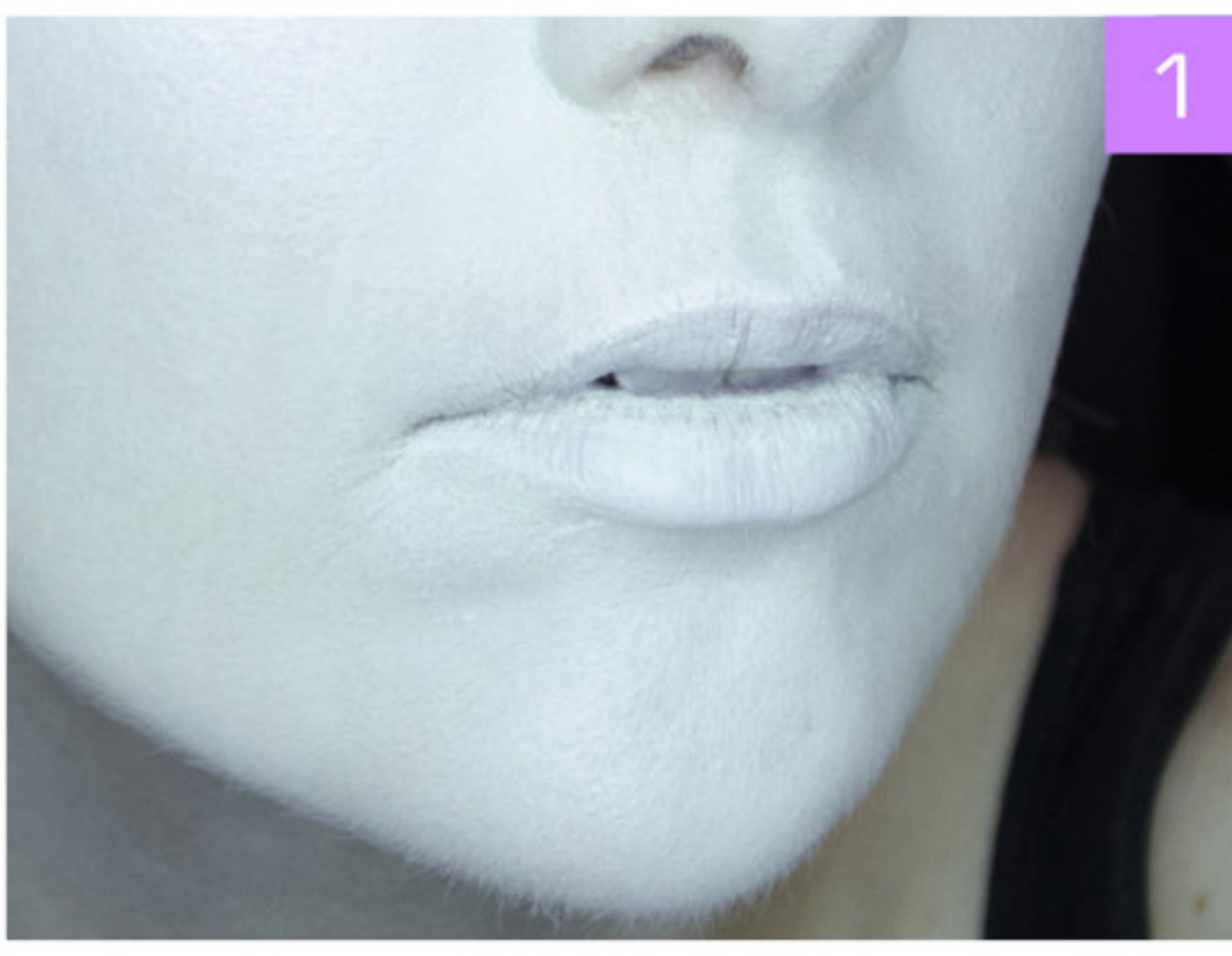
I don't want my bottom lip completely white so I'm also adding a little bit of gray to the bottom lip so it can still be seen but its not as dark as the top lip.

3

4

Before

After





Ciri Makeup

- Rugged Makeup
- Scars and Freckles

Ciri's makeup looks like she's straight out of a battle! She has a very worn look with lots of scarring and subtle freckles as well as a lot of contouring and run down eyeliner.

Highlight and Contour

So I've done my basic foundation as always and now I have to make my face look more like Ciri so I'm going to do quite a lot of contouring.

The Witcher models have a lot of dark shadows and highlights on the characters faces so I'm applying a dark contour around my face, concentrating it a lot on my cheeks to make them more gaunt and under my chin.

I'm also contouring my nose and my inner eye and even adding a contour on the bridge of my nose to make my brows look more pronounced.

Then I'm gonna be applying my highlighter on my forehead, cheeks, inner eye, top of my nose, upper lip and chin





1

Eye Makeup

Ciri has very dark dramatic eye shadow with tear stains underneath her eyes. I'm going to start by adding a dark brown and black eye shadow underneath my eye and in the crease of my eyelid. I'm applying it fairly dark and building up the color.

Then I'm going to take my black eyeliner and I'm applying it on the inner rim of my eye. I then take a larger black eyeliner and put it all over my eyelid and a little bit underneath my eye. The eyeliner doesn't go on perfectly even so I'm also going to have to take a flat makeup brush and blend it out so that it is even and smooth.

Using that same makeup brush I used to blend out my black eyeliner I can then start to draw on the tear stains and I take the brush and pull down the black eyeliner into streaks.

To make the eyeliner even darker I'm then adding even more black eye shadow on top with a soft brush and blending it out.

Finally I can take my mascara and brush it onto my eyelashes. I'm not using fake lashes for Ciri because I want her to have a more natural look.



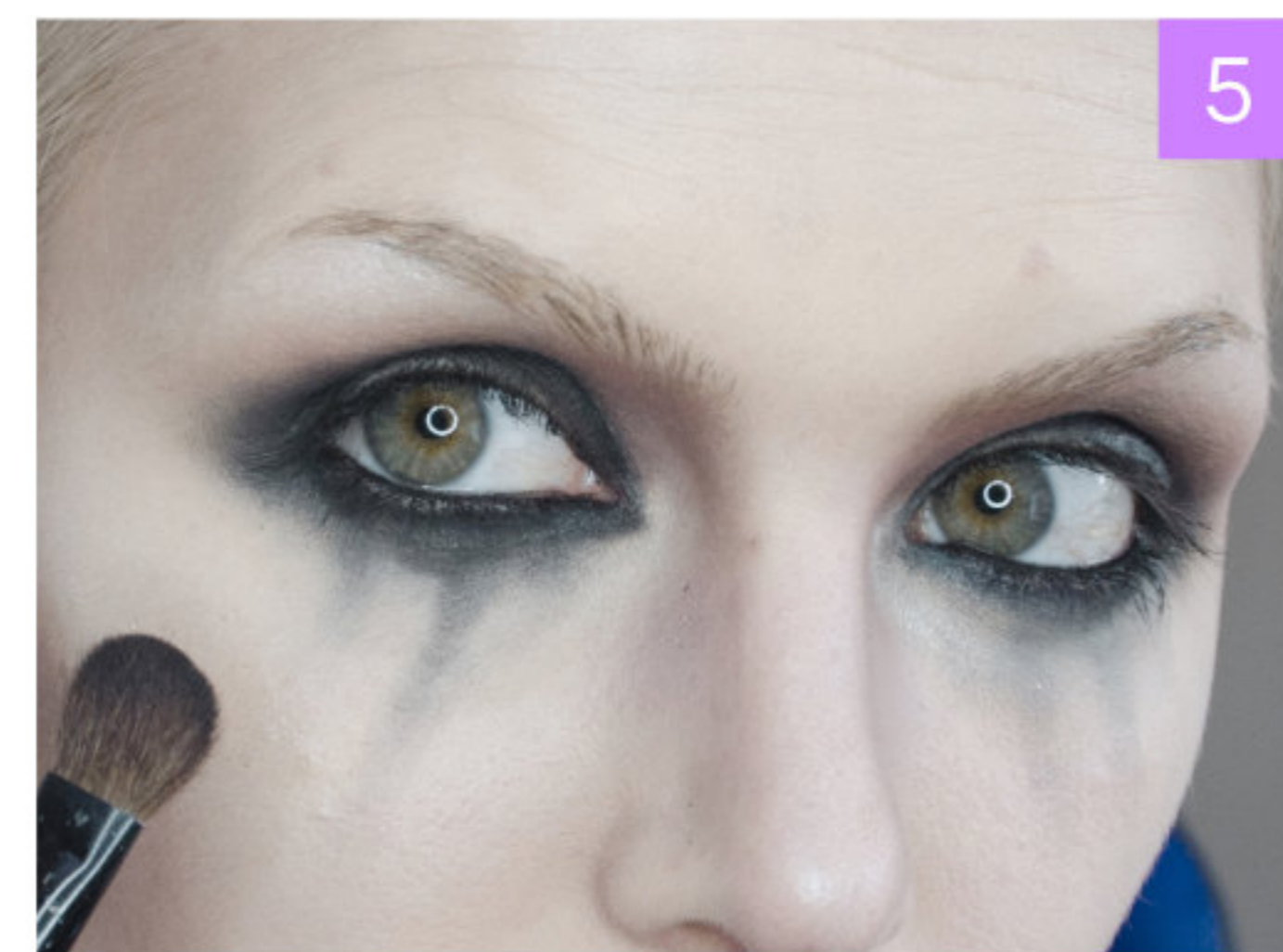
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Eyebrows

For my brows I'm using some black eye shadow and an angle brush and drawing on the outline of my brow shape.

Ciri has pretty straight eyebrows so I'm trying to keep them as close to the shape in the reference as I can. I then use the brush to fill in the brows and even out the color.

Lipstick

Ciri's top lip is larger than mine so I take my lip liner and over line my lip to try match the shape of her lips. Once I have the shape of the lips drawn out I then take a darker lipstick and apply it onto my lips.

Now we are going to contour the lip! I add some additional highlights over the lipstick using more of my highlight powder and just pat it into place.

Then finally I take a bit of dark eye shadow and an angle brush and add shadows to the corner of my mouth and make the edges of my lip darker.





1

Scars

For the scars and cuts on Ciri's face I'm using lip liner and collodion.

I start by taking the lip liner and drawing out the shape of my scar.

I add as much detail to it as I can so that it has a bit of redness even around the edges of the scar.

I then take my collodion and paint it on top of the scar.



2

The more you add the deeper the scar will look. I build it up in a few layers and then let it dry.

While the collodion is drying I start to pinch my skin together a bit to help give it a more pronounced shape.

Once the collodion is dry it will pull in your skin making it look like a dent.

To add to the effect I then also add some highlights around the edges.



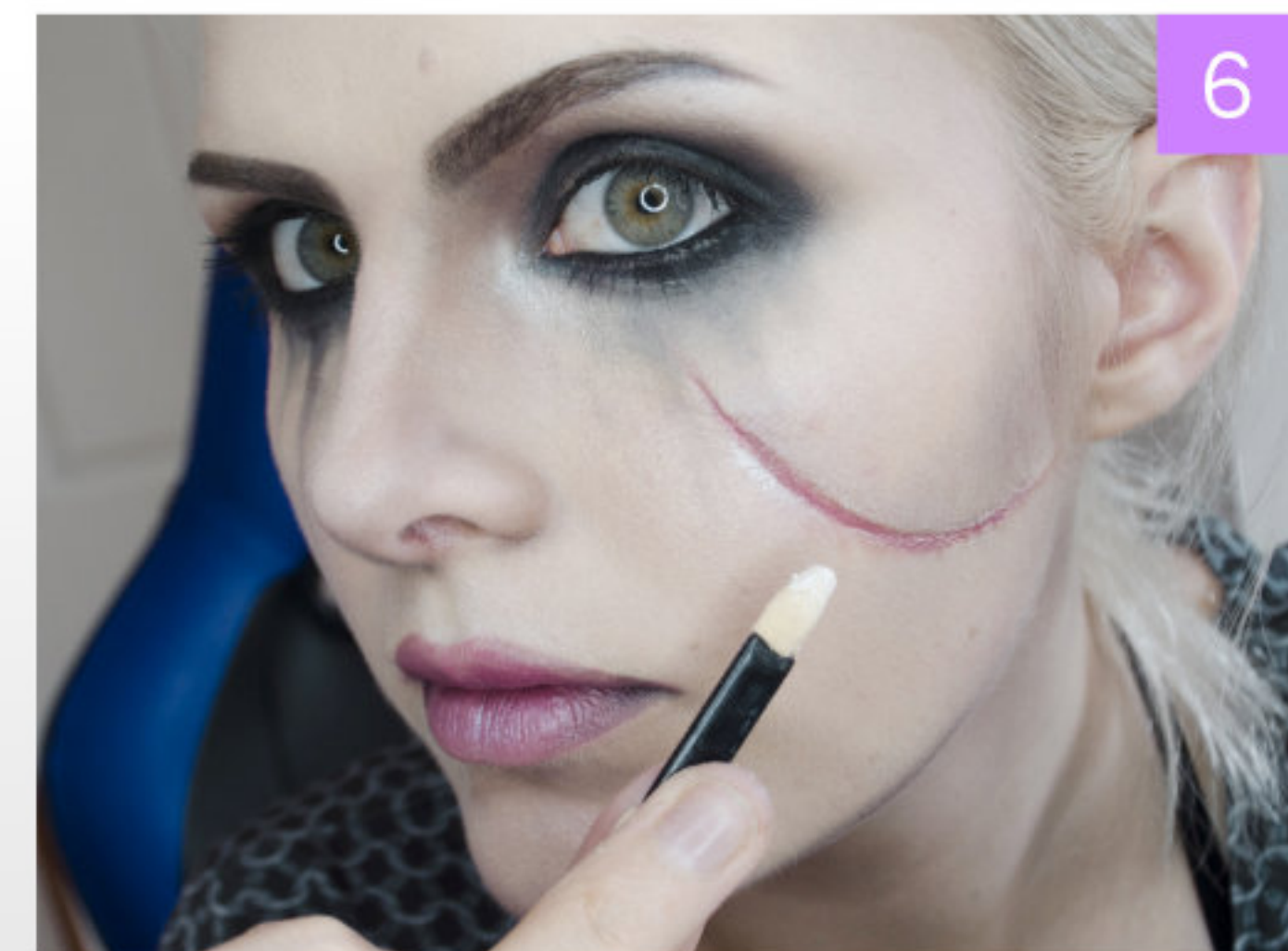
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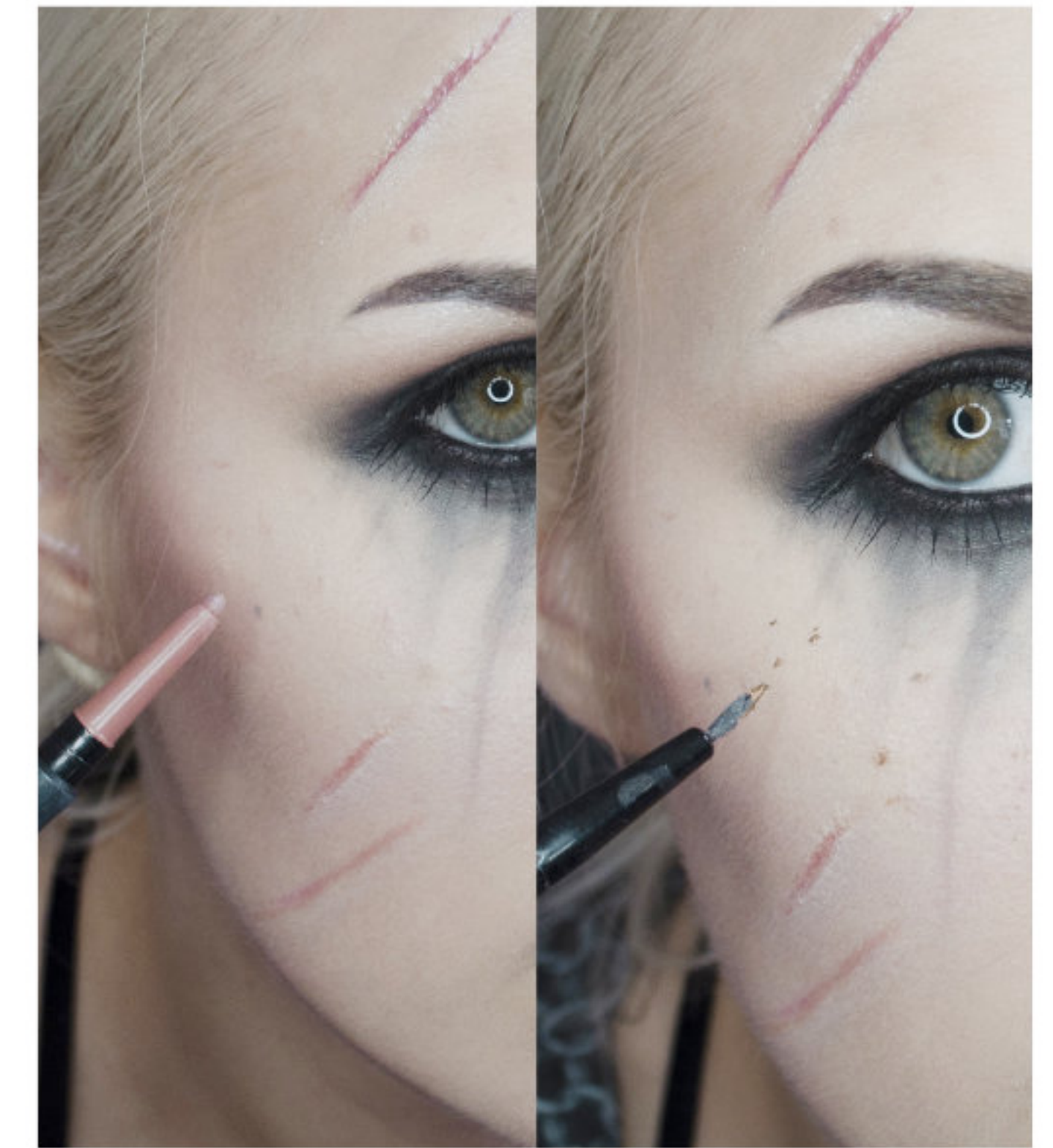
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Freckles

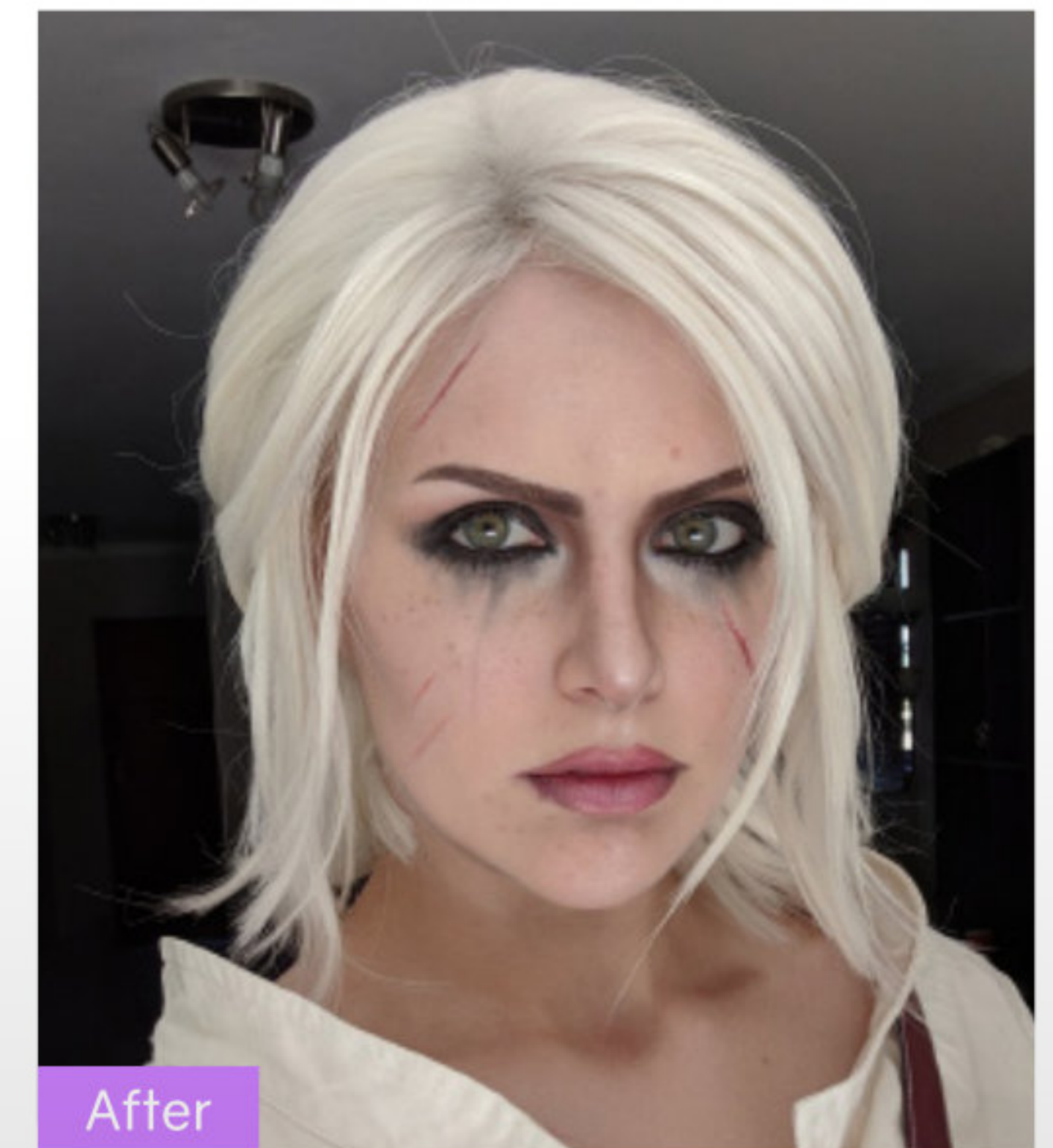
Ciri has some subtle freckles on her skin. So to start I'm taking a light lip liner and adding a few small spots around my face in a scattered pattern. I then use a pointed brush and some brown cream makeup and add on some additional darker spots. The combination of lighter and darker freckles will make it look more natural.

Hairline

My white wig hairline looked a little bit too clean and fake. Actual hair tends to be darker at the roots so to fix this I took a little bit of gray eye shadow and a soft brush and worked it into the parting of my hair at my hairline to make it look like natural roots



Before



After



Uraraka Makeup

- Cute Anime Makeup
- Changing Eyebrows

Uraraka has a really cute and soft look! She is the perfect example to show how to create a makeup look straight out of any anime or manga.

Foundation

So the first thing that needs to happen for Uraraka is that I need to completely cover my eyebrows!

My eyebrows are long and thin and Uraraka has much smaller eyebrows so I need a blank surface to work on and draw in a new shape!

To see how to fully cover your eyebrows check out the section for brows earlier in this book!

Once the brows have been completely covered I can then go ahead and do my normal base makeup.

I apply my liquid foundation and powder foundation and now I can start adding some highlighter.

I'm highlighting just under where my brows would be, the inner corner of my eye, my cheeks and a tiny bit on my nose and upper lip.

I'm not doing any contouring for Uraraka cause her face is really soft and round and youthful and contouring can sometimes make the face a little bit harsh and older looking.





1

Brows and Eyes

Now I need to draw my eyebrows back in! I'm doing this with a bit of brown body paint and brown eye shadow. I'm taking my small brush and outlining where I want the brows to be and their shape and then filling them in with more color, I'm making the ends of the brows darker and leaving them a bit lighter towards the center.

Once the brows are done I'm then going to add some white eye shadow to the corner of my eye to brighten it up and under my brow.



2

I can then take my eyeliner pen and line all the way around my top lid and create a small wing, I'm also going to line around my bottom eyelid but stop at the center just like most anime eyes look in artworks.

Now I can apply some spiky anime lashes!

Uraraka has some pink blush spots on her cheeks. To create my own pink spots I'm using a pink blush powder and applying it in a circle on top of my cheeks.

Just build up the color until you're happy with how bright it is.



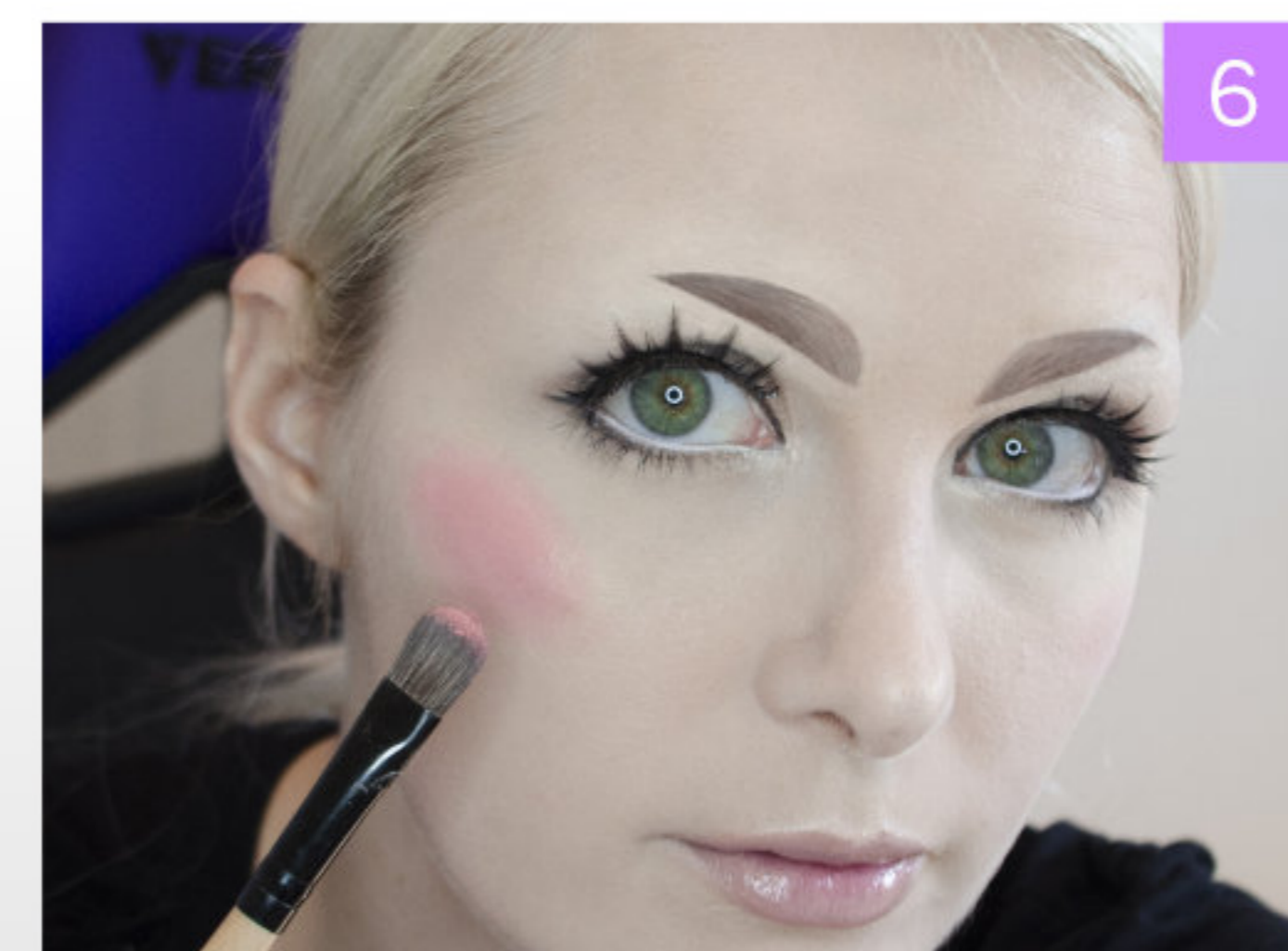
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For Uraraka's lips I'm doing the same anime lips I did earlier in the book.

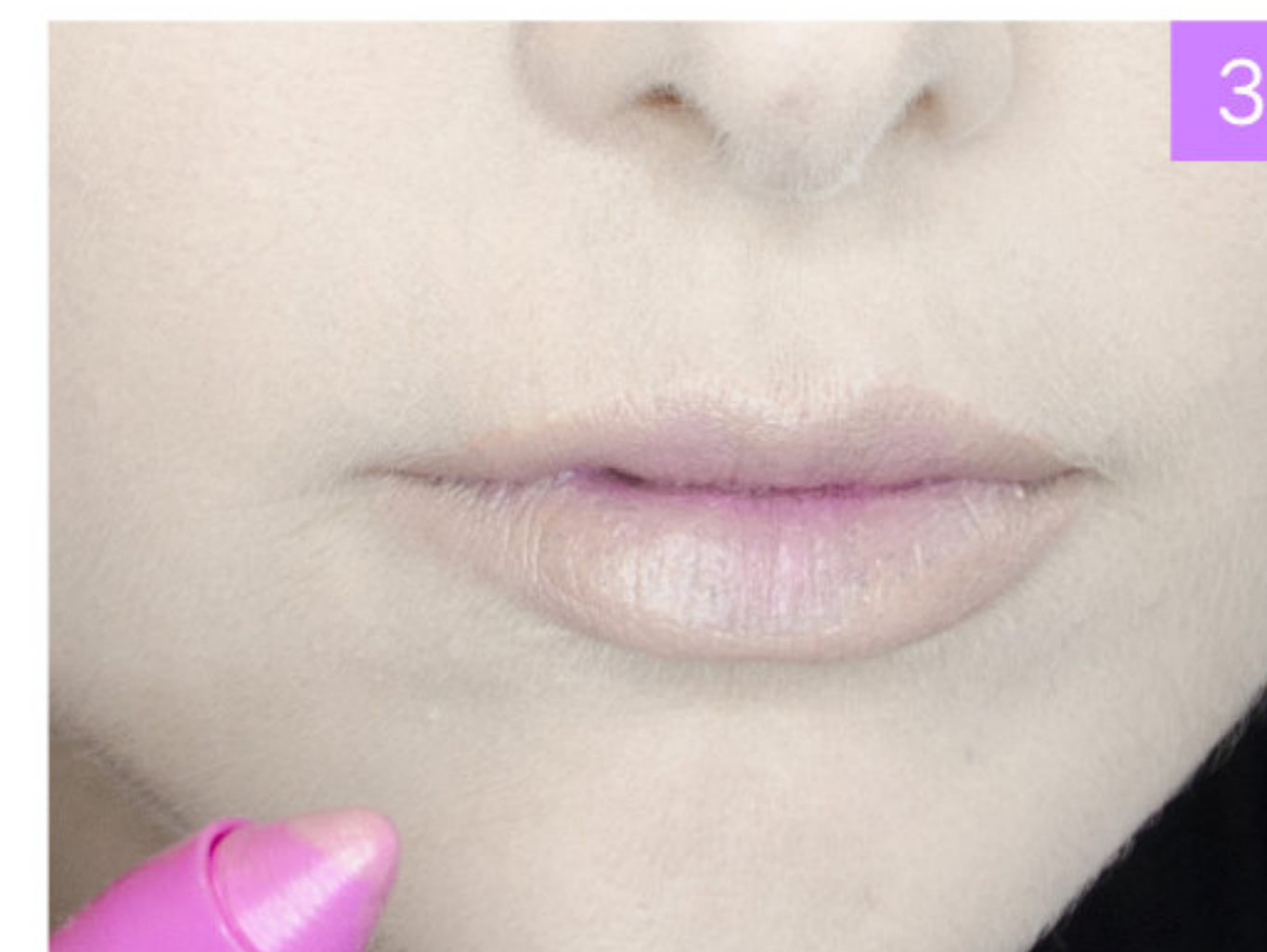
I'm using a nude lipstick on my own lip shape, then using a pink lip balm on the inside of my mouth to create a pink gradient and finally I'm using a nice shiny lip gloss to finish off the look!



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4



Before



After



Sylvanas Makeup

- Body Paint
- Elf Eyebrows
- Tear Stain Makeup

The Banshee queen herself! Sylvanas' makeup uses a lot of body paint to get her blue/purple skin tone and of course then there's the iconic Warcraft elf eyebrows! Here's how I created my Sylvanas makeup look.

Body Paint

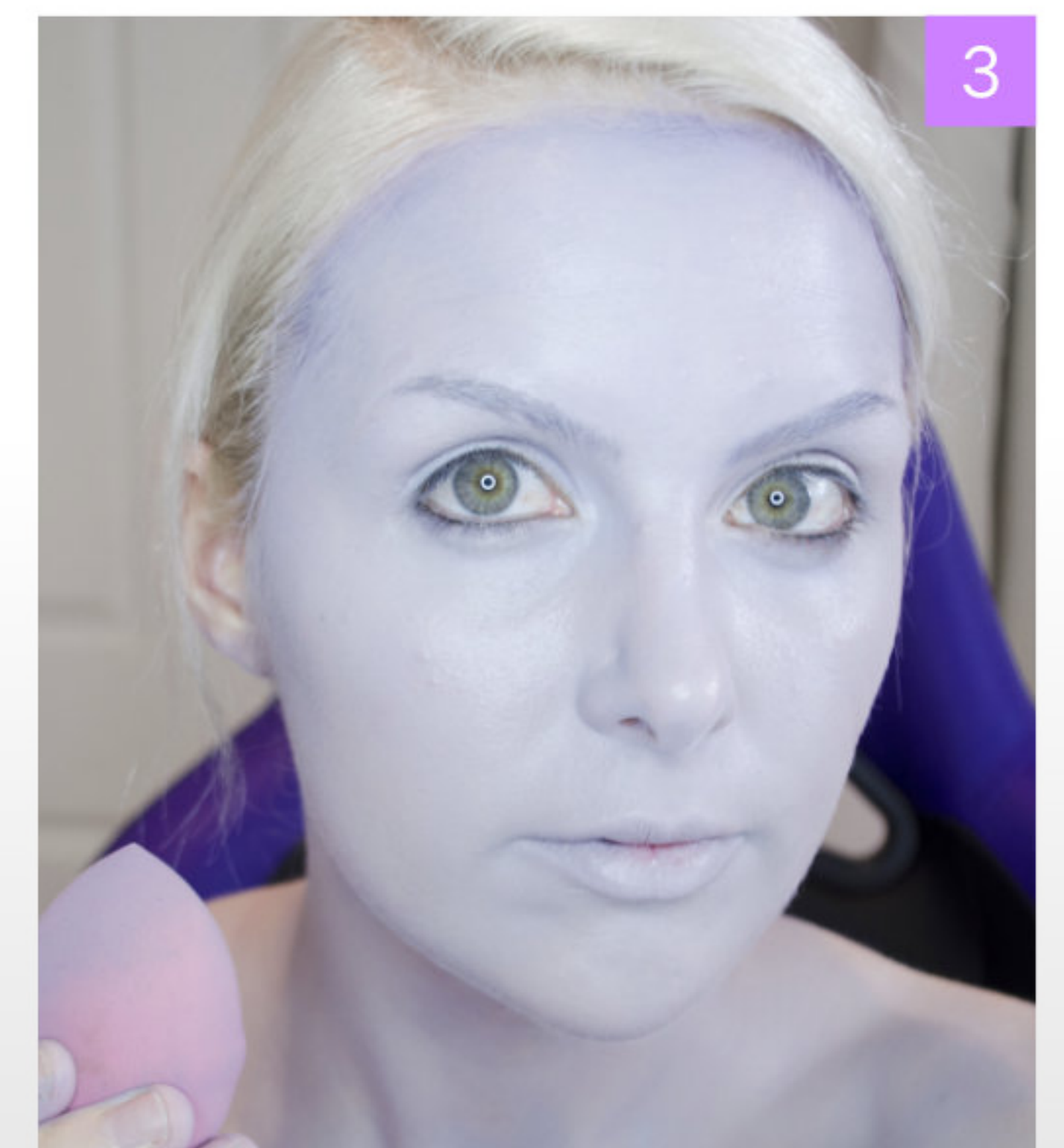
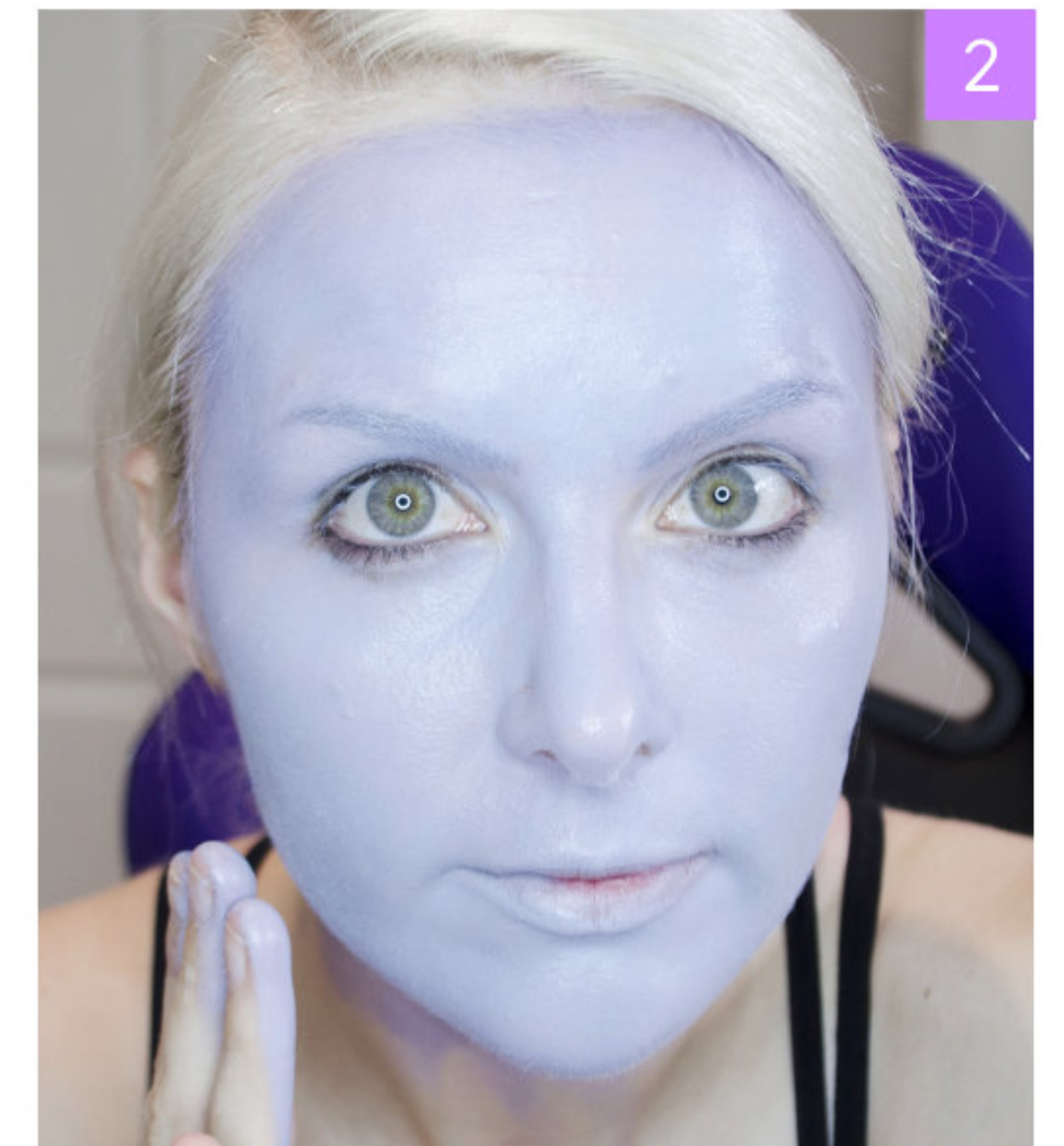
I did not have the correct color of body paint for my Sylvanas cosplay straight out the bottle so I had to mix my own color!

I started by adding a bunch of colors onto my face that I thought would create the purple/blue/gray color I wanted.

I always like to mix a little bit of my mac foundation with my cream based body paint so that it goes on smoother and more evenly.

I then spread the color all over my face and added and tweaked it with more body paint until I got the color I wanted. I could then start to spread the makeup and even it out using my damp blending sponge.

If the sponge is damp it won't absorb as much of the makeup and will leave more of it on your skin. I just pat the makeup all over my face, neck and shoulders and continue to add more as I need it until I get the full coverage I want and the makeup is even in tone.



To set the makeup and stop it rubbing off and to take away the shine on my skin I then used a translucent setting powder.

Translucent powder will not change the color of your makeup but will keep it in place so it doesn't rub off!

Contouring

The makeup at this point is way too flat so I need to add a lot of contouring and shadows, especially since Sylvanas is very gaunt!

So to contour my face I then used a purple/gray eye shadow and applied it very heavily on my cheeks to make my face look a lot thinner.

I then also contoured under my jaw to make it stronger and added a lot of shadow around my nose and eyes to help define them and make the eyes look more sunken.



Eye Makeup

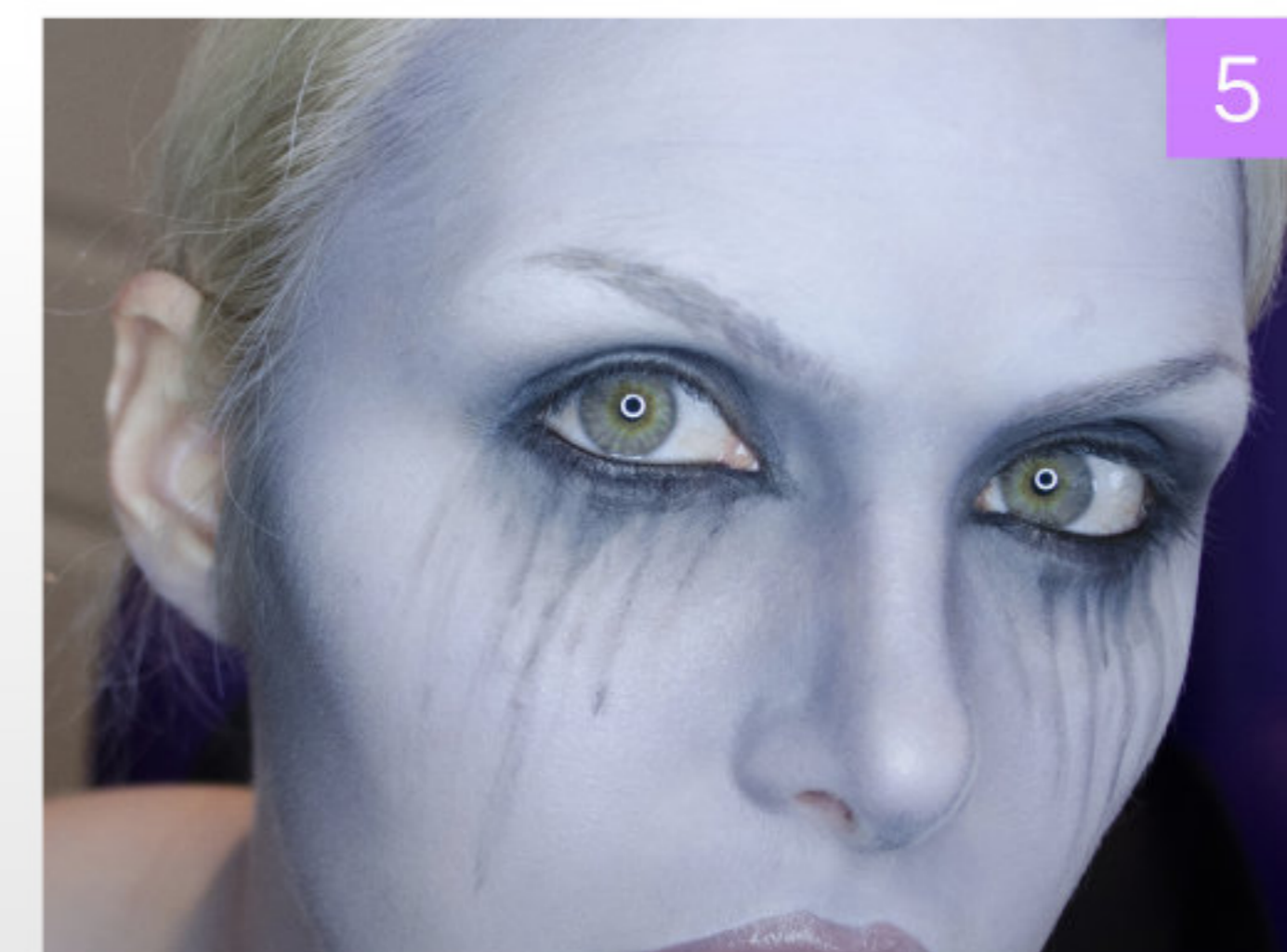
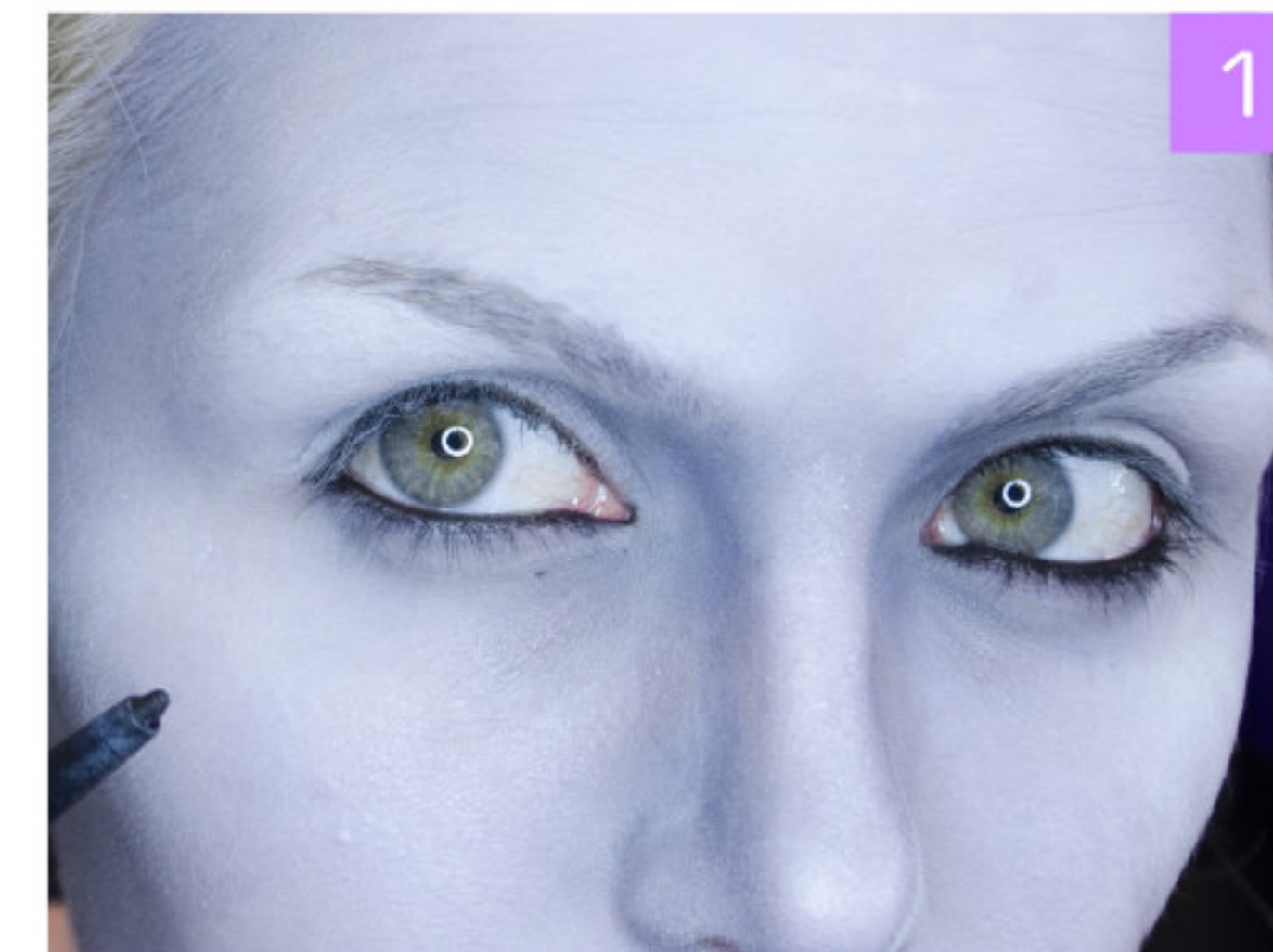
Very similar to Ciri, Sylvanas has very dark, tear stained makeup. So I start by lining the inside of my eyes with a black eyeliner pencil. I then took my larger black eyeliner pencil and added a dark black shadow onto my eyelid and underneath my eye.

The eyeliner looks very lumpy and uneven so I use a flat makeup brush to blend it out and make it softer.

I then take that same makeup brush which now has black eyeliner on it and use it to slowly start building up the tear stains under my eyes. I draw down the lines into the positions I want, making some spots of the stains lighter and making some spots darker. You don't want all the tear marks to look perfect and the same shade as it looks unnatural so focus on getting a variety of shades to add depth and realism to the tears.

Once I have my tear stains I then take even more black eye shadow and apply it all around my eye to make it even darker.

Finally I can put in my sclera lenses so my eyes look super scary!



Lips

For my lips for sylvanas I kept it pretty simple! I used a dark pinkish tone lipstick and applied it onto my lips. I then used a brush to neaten it up around the edges and make my top lip slightly bigger and fuller



Eyebrows

To make super long elf eyebrows you will need some wood glue, cling wrap, synthetic hair and a comb!

I wrapped my table in some cling film and then put a long, thick line of wood glue onto it.

I then took a trip of hair I cut off a wig and lay it into the wood glue. pushing the fibers into the glue and spreading it with the comb so that the hair is completely flat and covered in glue!

Once the wood glue has dried completely which can take about 24 hours the hair will be nice and stiff! Remove the hair from the cling wrap and now you can use some scissors to cut out your eyebrows!

To apply these onto your face you can just use a little bit of spirit gum on your eyebrows and on the elf eyebrows, let it get tacky and then stick them on. Just make sure you have spirit gum remover to get them off so you don't rip off your actual eyebrows!





Borderlands Makeup

- Body Paint
- Stylized Makeup

The Borderlands makeup is really iconic and has a really cool effect! Here's how I created my stylized look for Maya with the lots of outlines and body painting.

Foundation

For Maya's foundation I'm going to be changing up my foundation routine a bit.

I'm applying my liquid foundation as usual with a blending sponge but instead of just applying concealer under my eyes I'm going to be applying concealer and a bit of white grease paint in the center of my face under my eyes, on my forehead and on my chin to bring this part of my face forwards. I'm blending this out with a blending sponge and then setting it all in place with my powder foundation

I'm also adding a little bit of white eye shadow to add more highlights in those same area's I applied to concealer to bring those parts forwards more.

The next step is to apply some blush. Maya has pink tones on her cheeks like a contour, in the crease of her eyes and just a little bit on the end of her nose.

I'm taking my small blending sponge and then using a little bit of my pink blush powder to dab the color onto my skin and blend it smoothly.





1



2

Lipstick

For the lips I'm using a nice bright purple lipstick and applying it on my lips, its not quite the right color so I'm also adding a bit of blue liquid lipstick and mixing the 2 together to get a shade I'm happy with.



3



4

I'm using a small makeup brush to paint on my lipstick and get the edges nice and neat.

For the cartoon style on the lips I'm using an angle brush and some black eye shadow and drawing from the corners of my lips all the way around making a dark line just like a cartoon.



5

Maya's lips also have some cartoony highlights on them so I'm using some light blue body paint and a small brush and painting the highlights on,

This combination of dark and light lines makes everything pop!



6



7

Eyebrows

Starting with my eyes and brows I'm adding black eyeliner on the inside of my eye. I'm then using my black eyeliner pen to draw around the outside of my eyebrows creating an outline. I'm paying very close attention to the lines on Maya's brows and face and making sure I match them as best I can! The devil is in the detail! So make sure you are looking at your reference.

Once I have the outline I can then take some brown eye shadow and fill in the brows.

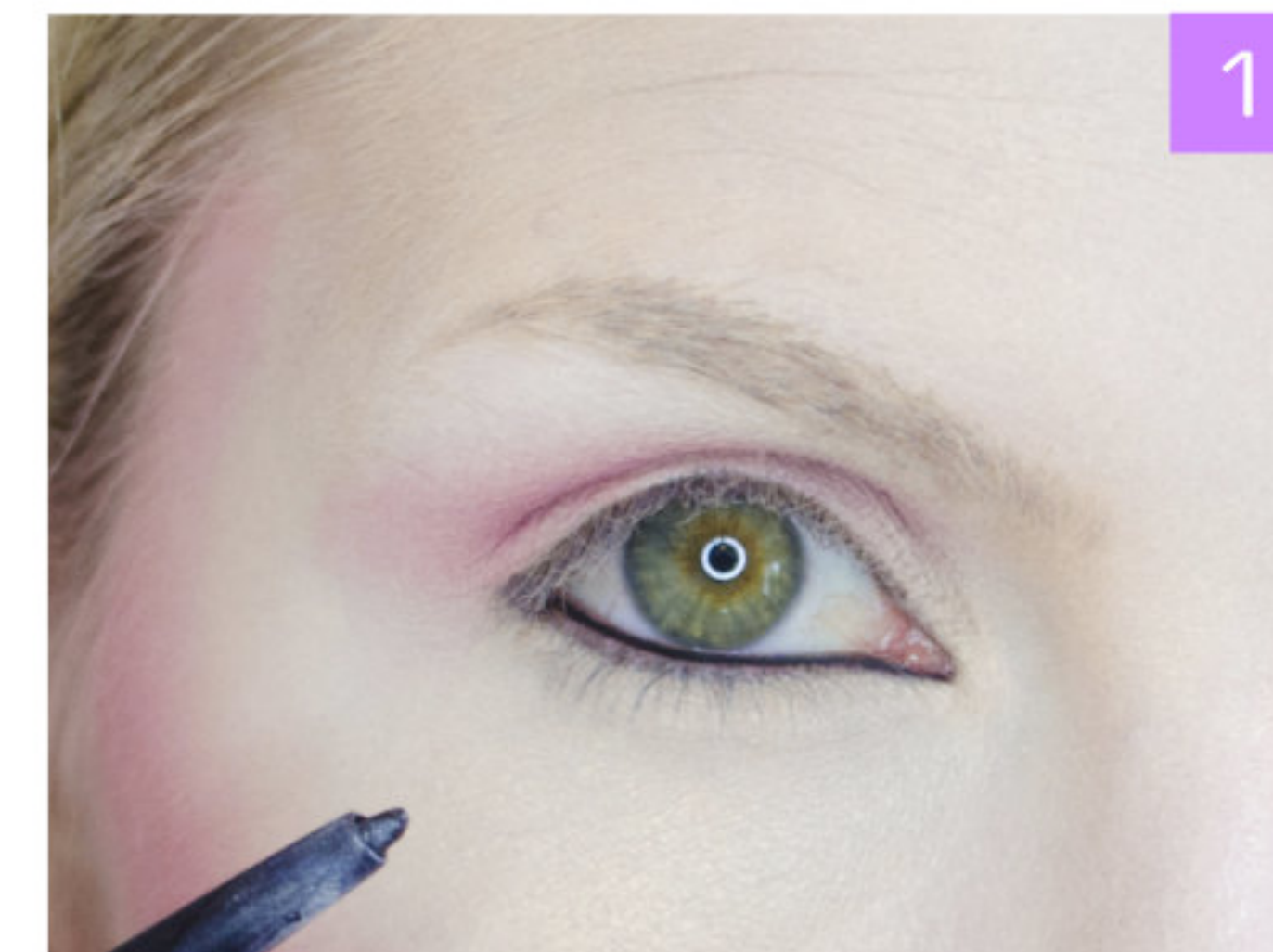
Outlines

To create the outlines and cartoon effect on my face I'm using my same eyeliner pen.

I'm holding the reference of Maya's face against mine while looking in the mirror so that I can draw exactly what I see and try place all the lines and dots as perfectly as I can.

Maya has a few dots on her cheeks, a little bit of definition in her cupid's bow over her lip, under her nostrils, on each side of her nose and just under her chin.

If you make a mistake don't panic. Just wipe that small piece off with a makeup wipe and apply more concealer and white powder to hide it and try again.



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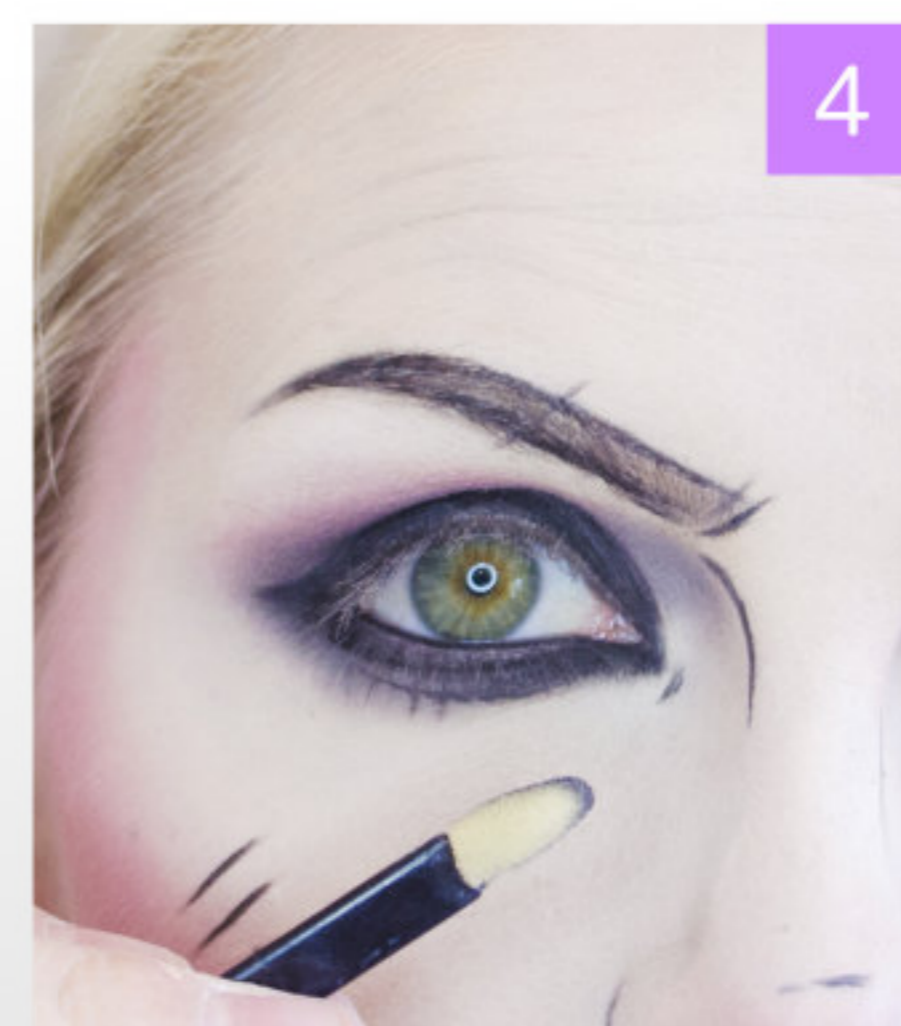
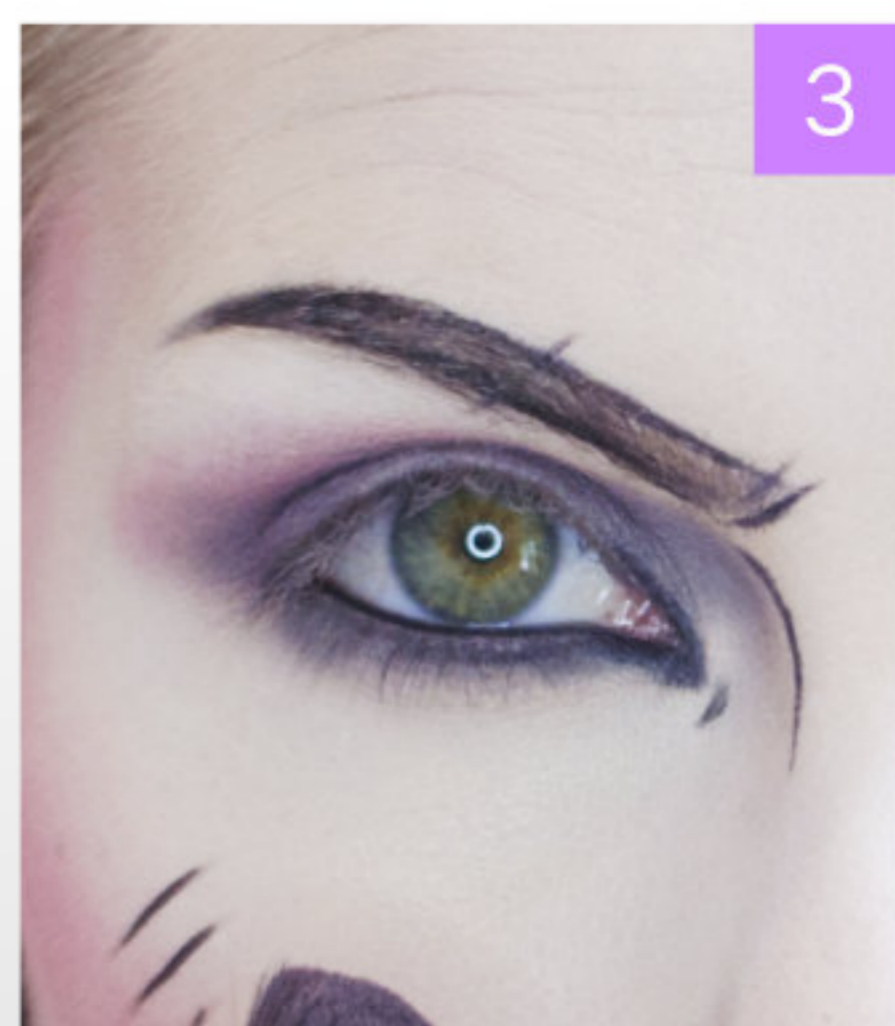
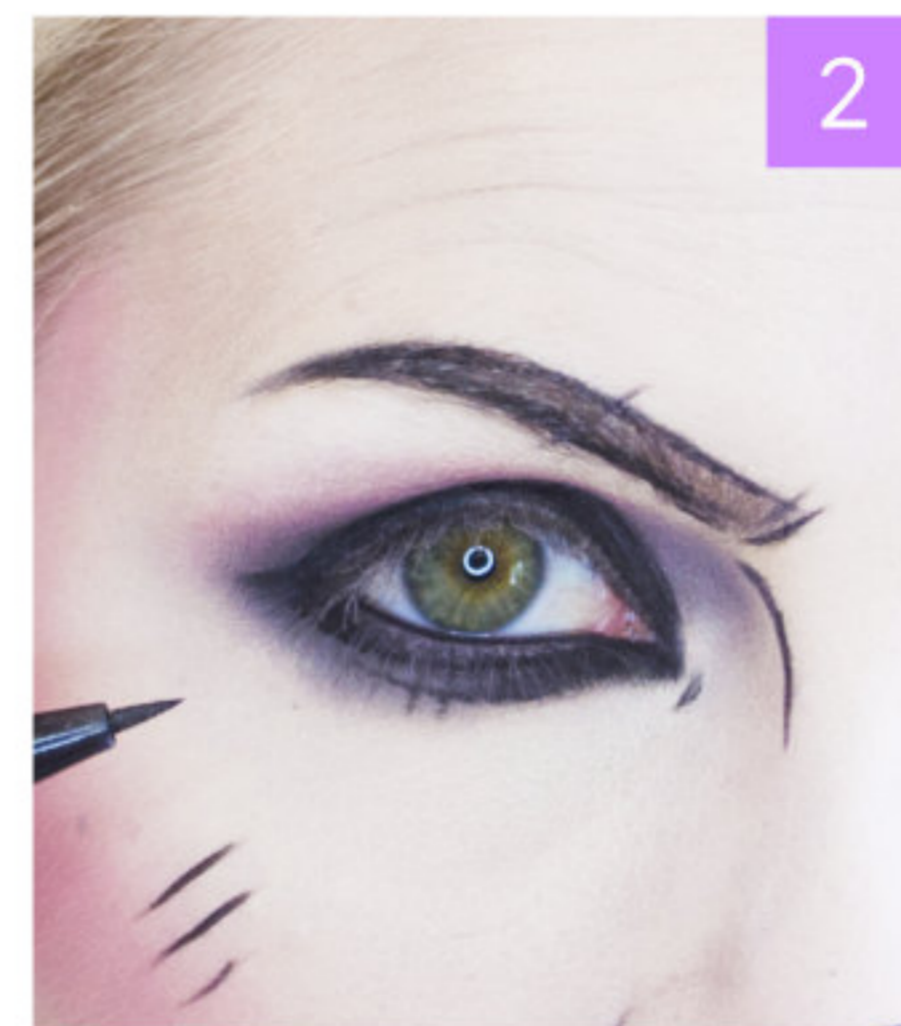
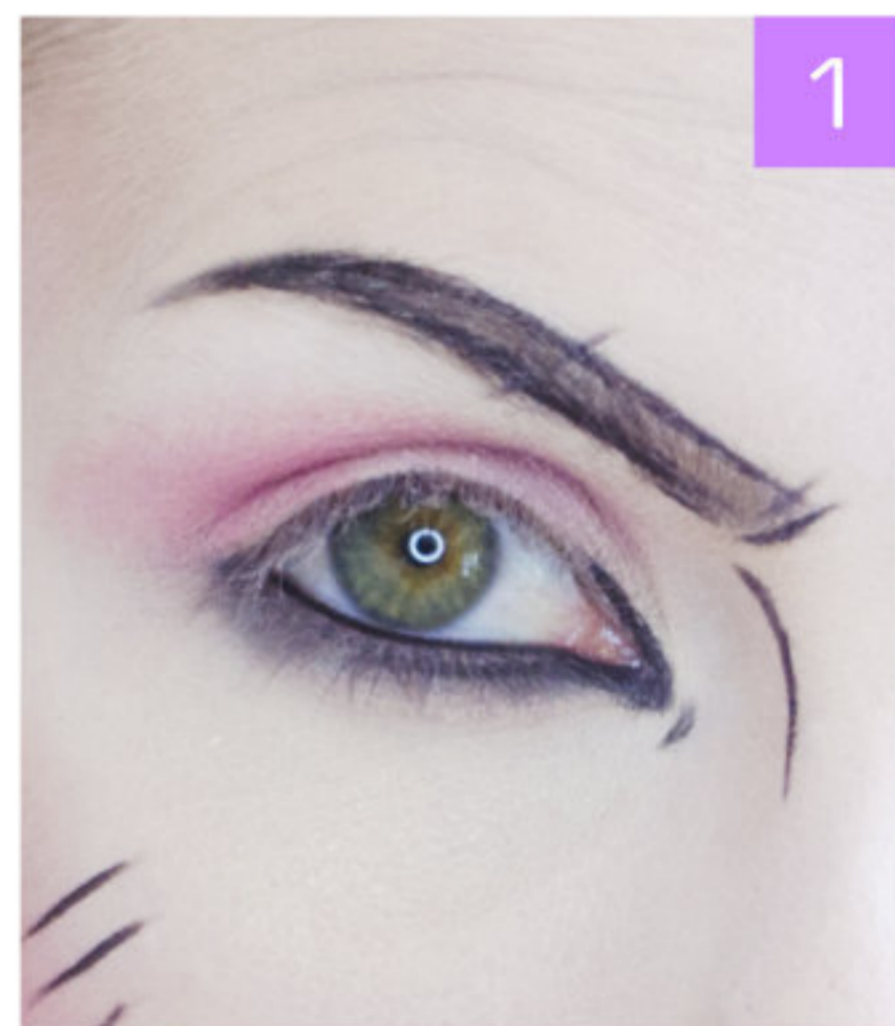
Eyes

For Maya's eye shadow I'm starting by taking a soft brush and some black shadow and applying it under my eyes, I'm then building up the color around my top eyelid and in my crease, gradually making it darker and darker with more black eye shadow.

Once the color starts to get nice and dark I can then take my eyeliner pen and line around my eyelid. I'm making a very small wing and creating very big dark circles underneath my eyes and drawing in a few more strokes just like Maya has.

I'm then going to come back one more time with my eye shadow brush and even more black eye shadow just to make sure everything is super dark!

To complete Maya's look I'm using some Pro Crystal gray contact lenses.



Body Paint

I didn't have a costume for Maya so I decided to paint it on! The borderlands style looks very painted anyway so it was a super fun thing to try do!

I started by first drawing on the outlines of her costume onto my body, I used my black eyeliner pen to do this and just roughly drew on where I thought everything needed to go.

Once I had everything blocked out I could then start laying down the color. I used some aqua paints for this.

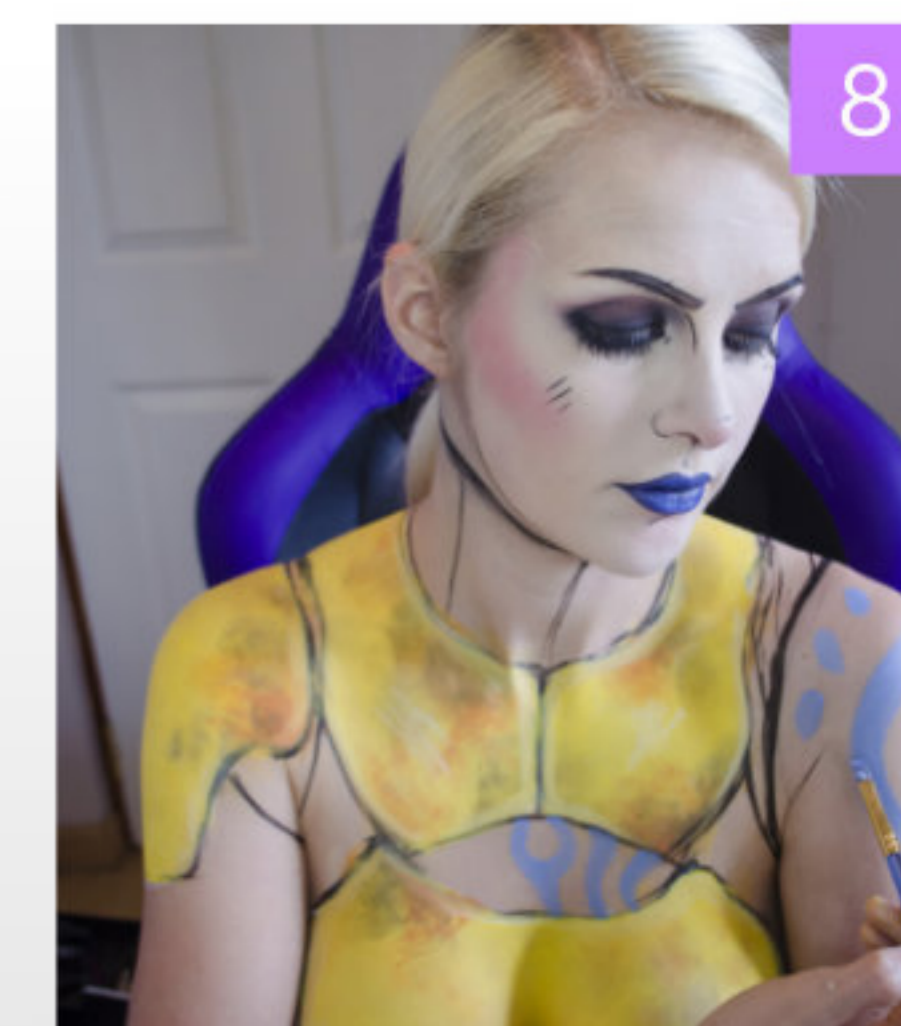
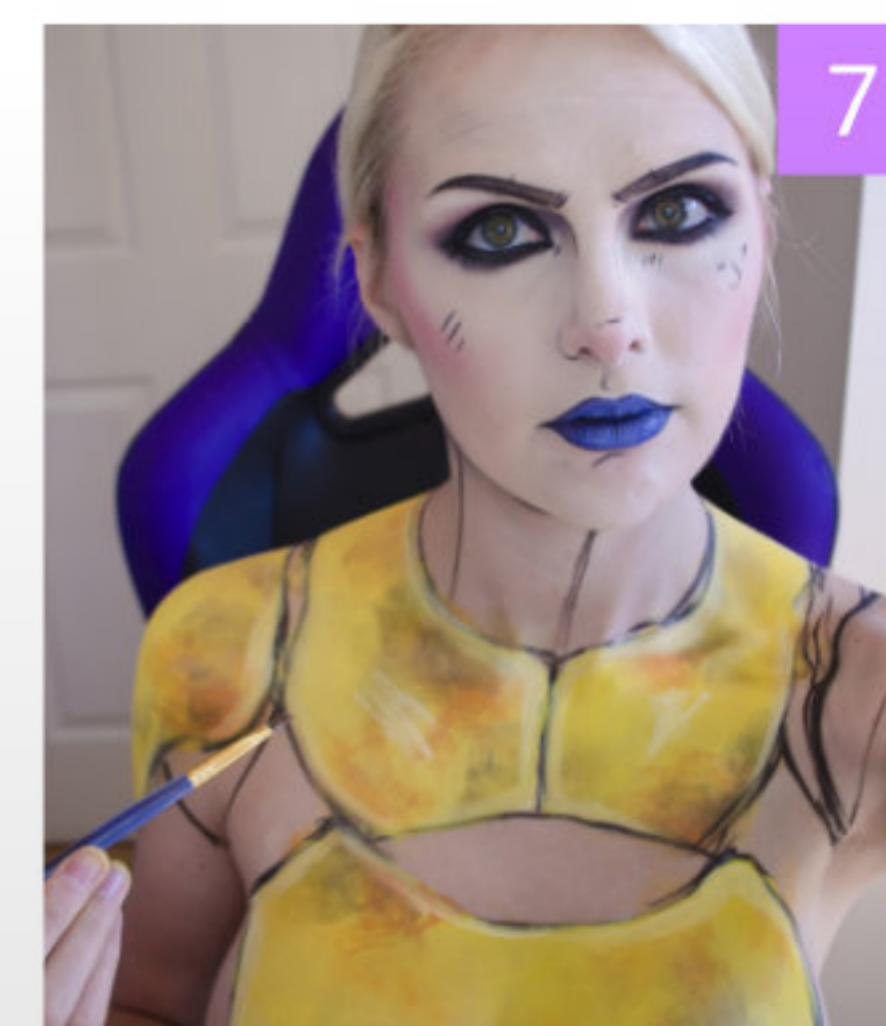
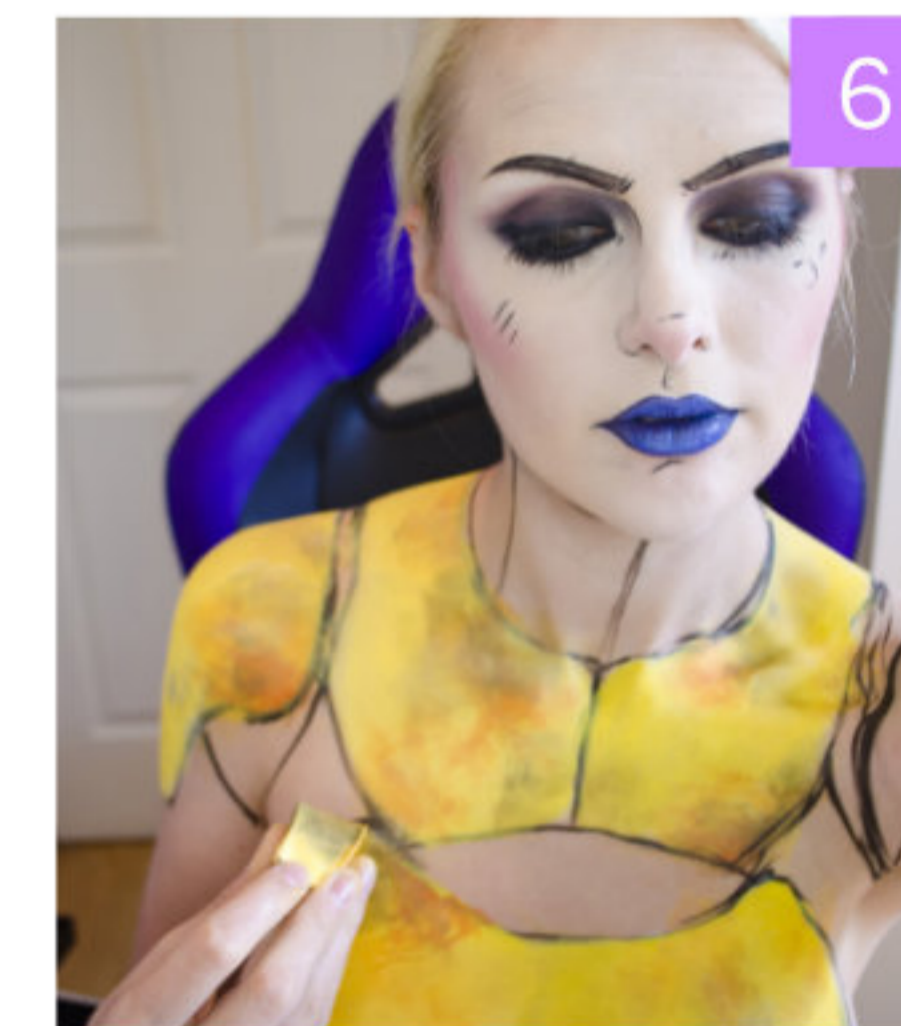
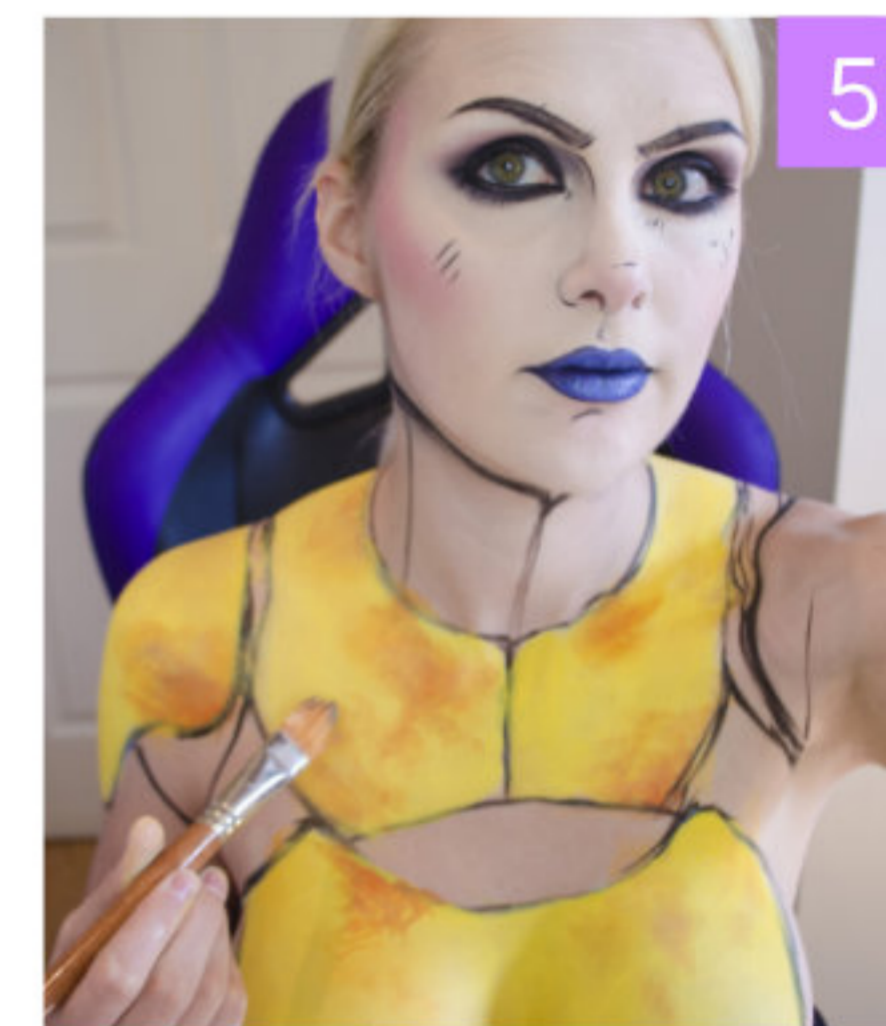
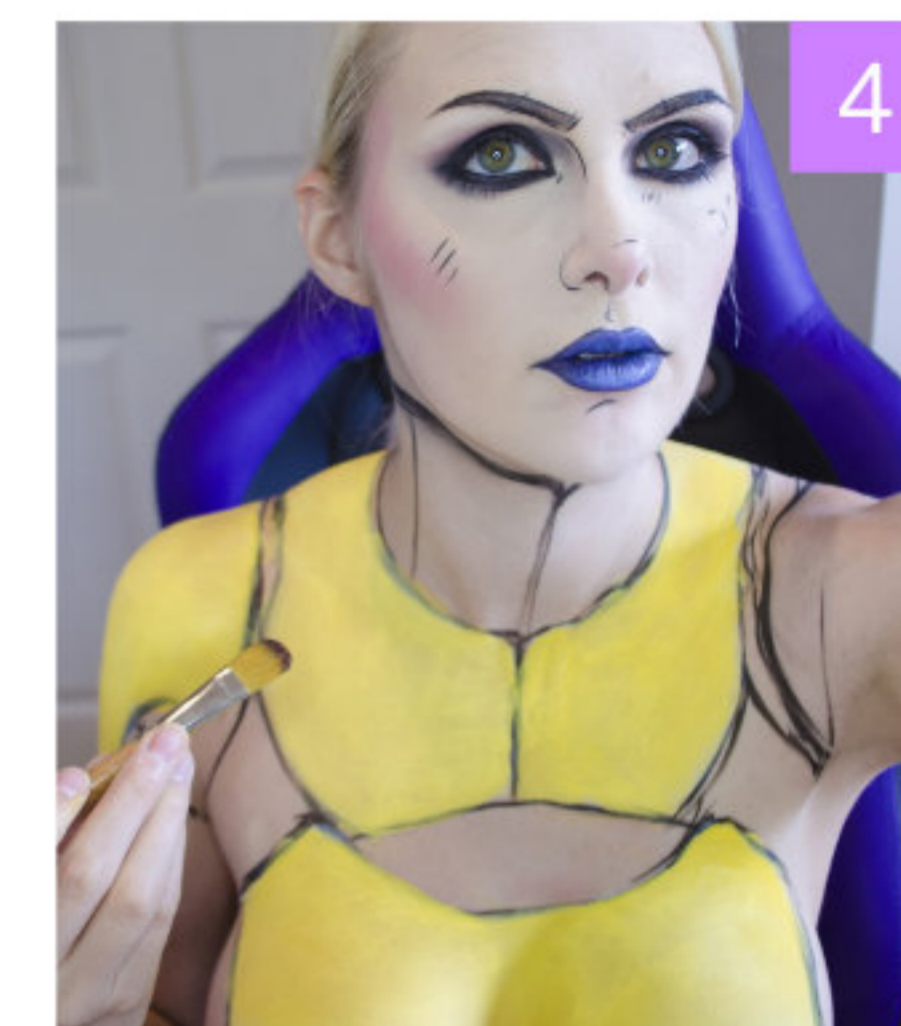
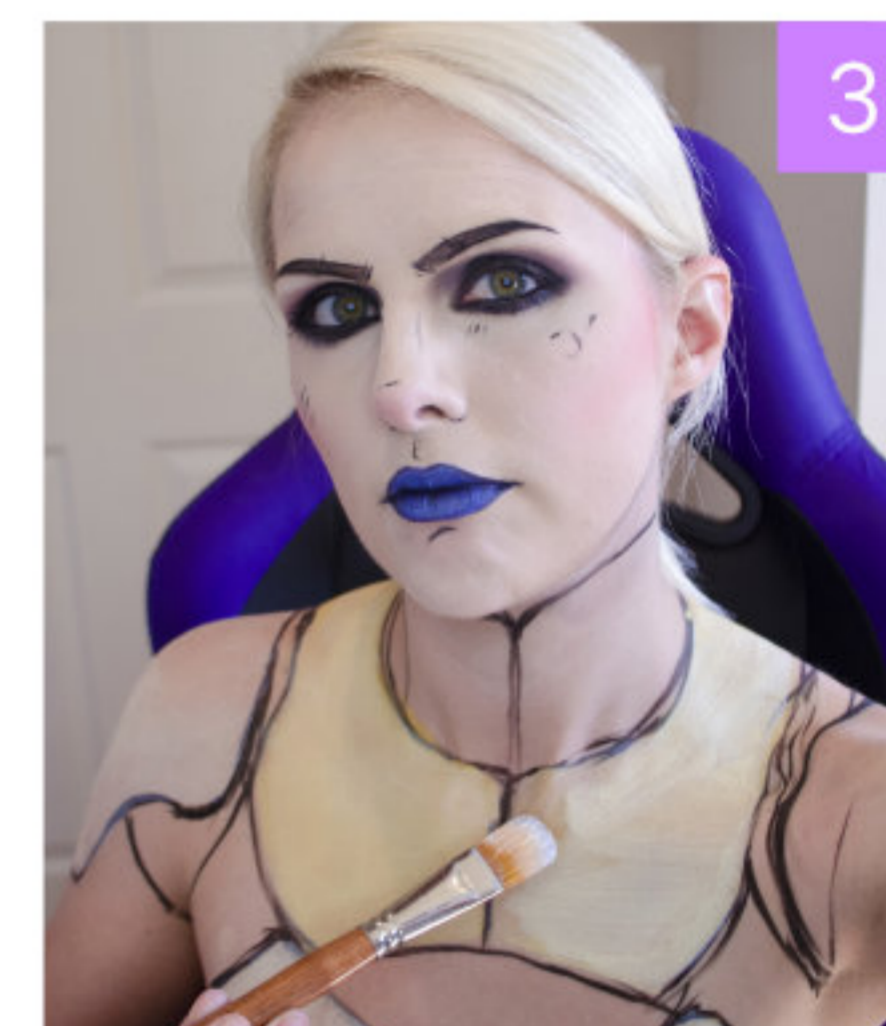
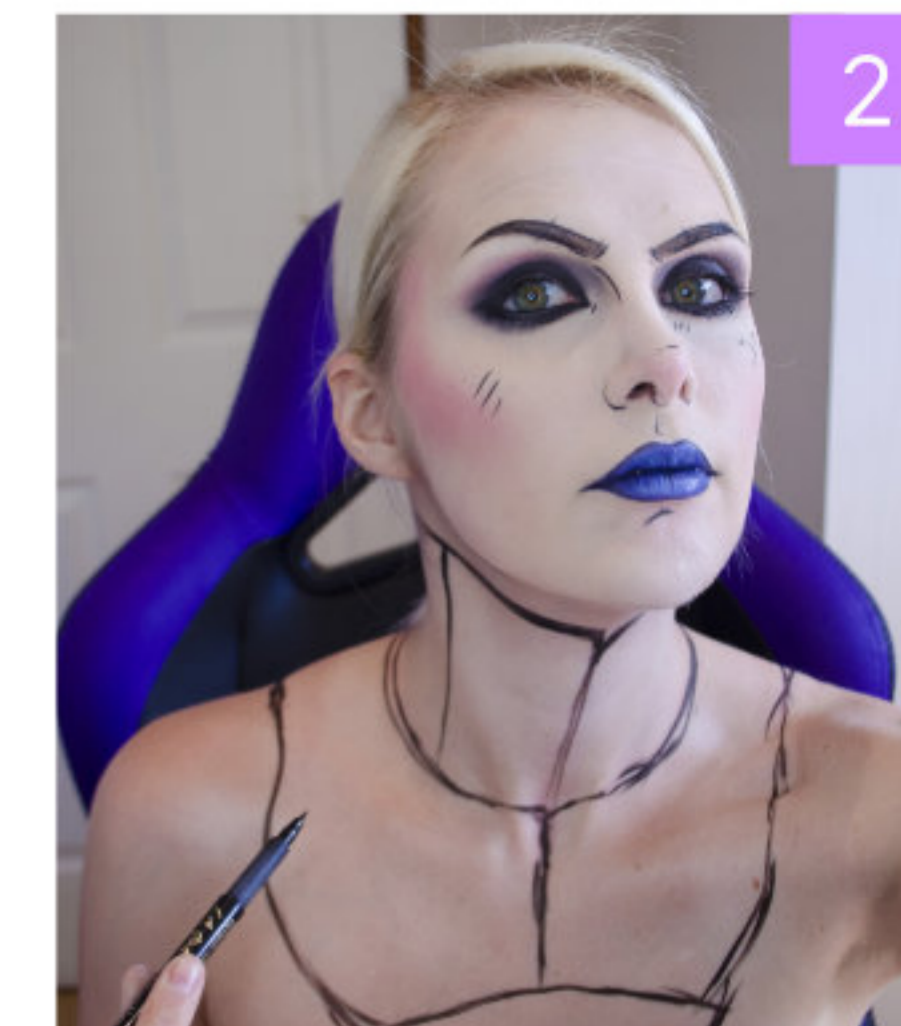
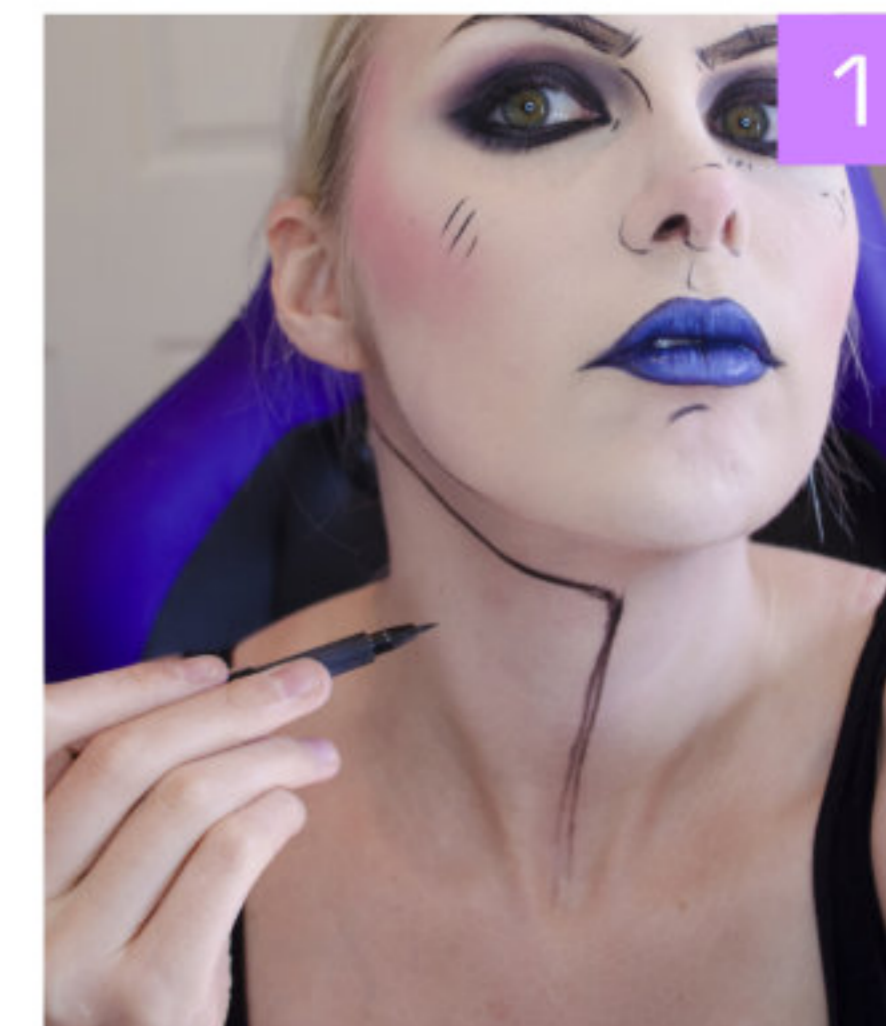
I wanted the yellow to be really bright so I started by first putting down some very light yellow/white coats for the base, I did about 2 layers letting each layer dry before applying the next.

Once I had my light coats I then started to build up the yellow color. I did about 2-3 more layers of yellow on top of the white, painting in different directions with each layer to get the paint nice and smooth and even.

When the yellow base was done I could now start adding on more colors and patches to give the yellow sections a worn weathered look.

I started by brushing on some orange paint, and also added in a few sections of black with a sponge to make it look grungy. Finally I added some white highlights with a small brush just to add a little more dimension.

For the tattoos on Maya's arm I just painted them freehand. I'm right handed so it was easy for me to do this on my left arm.



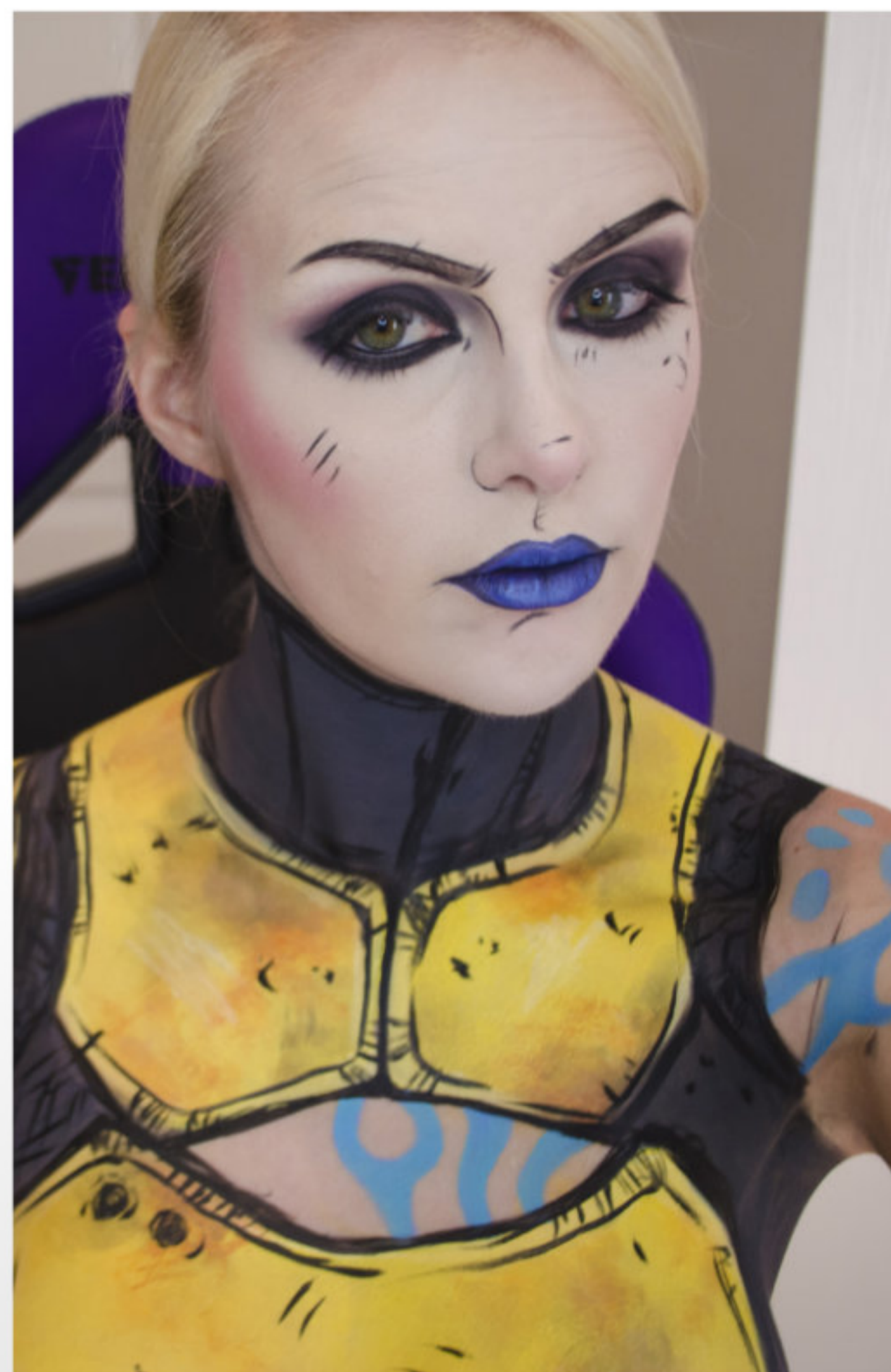
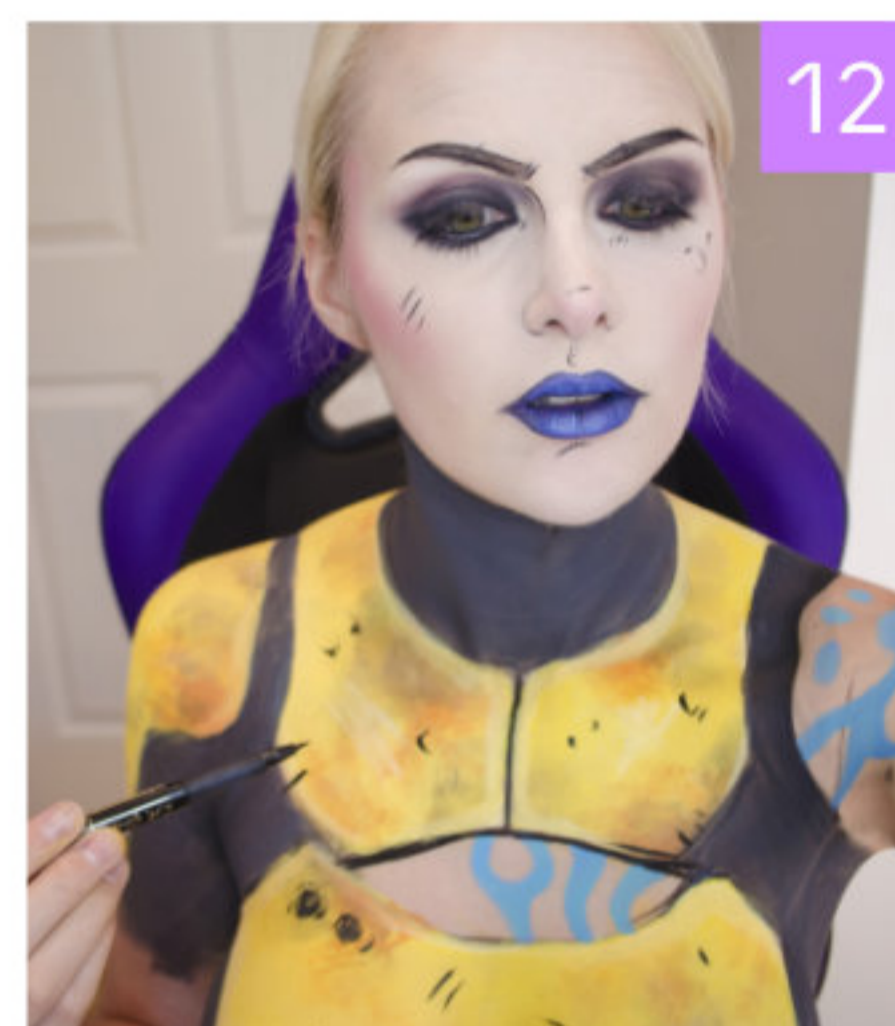
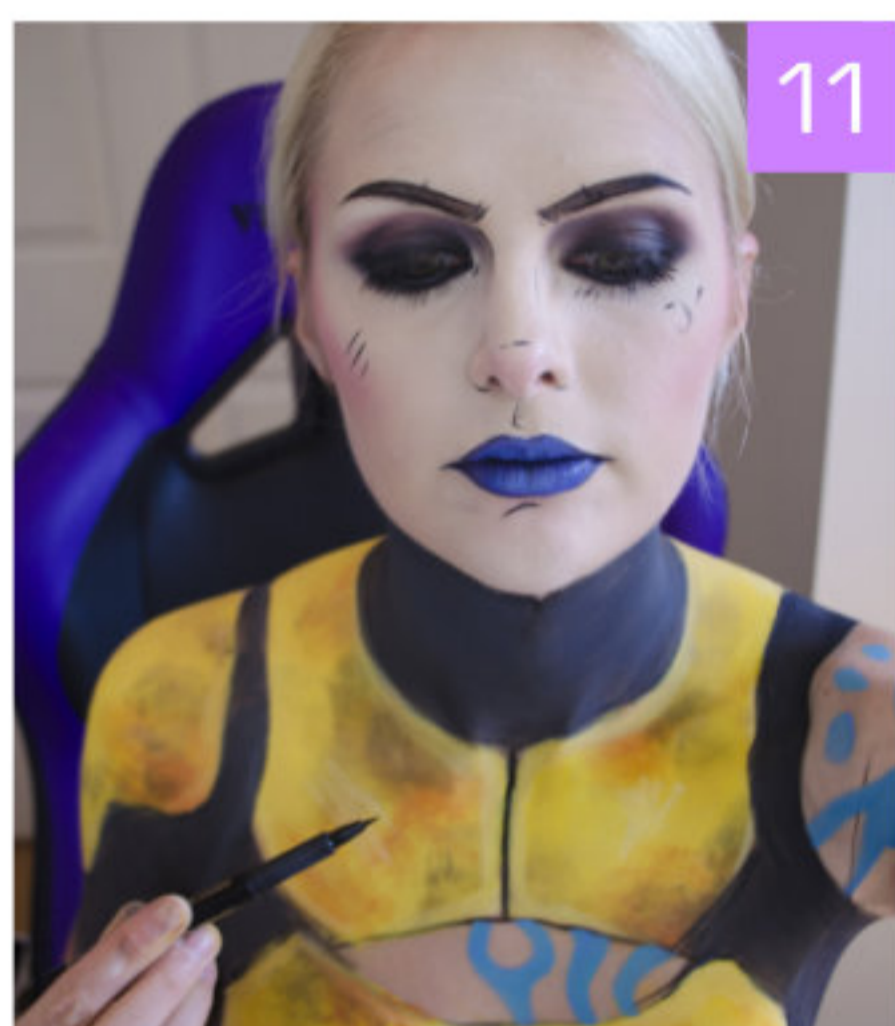
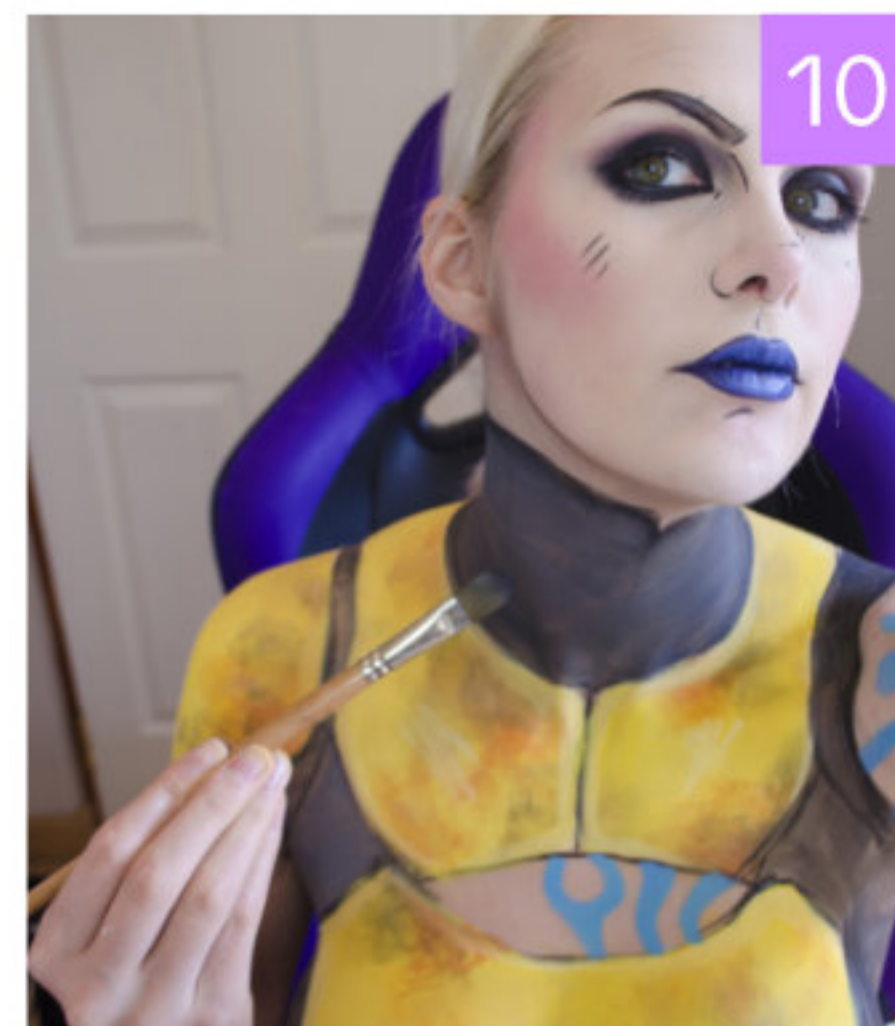
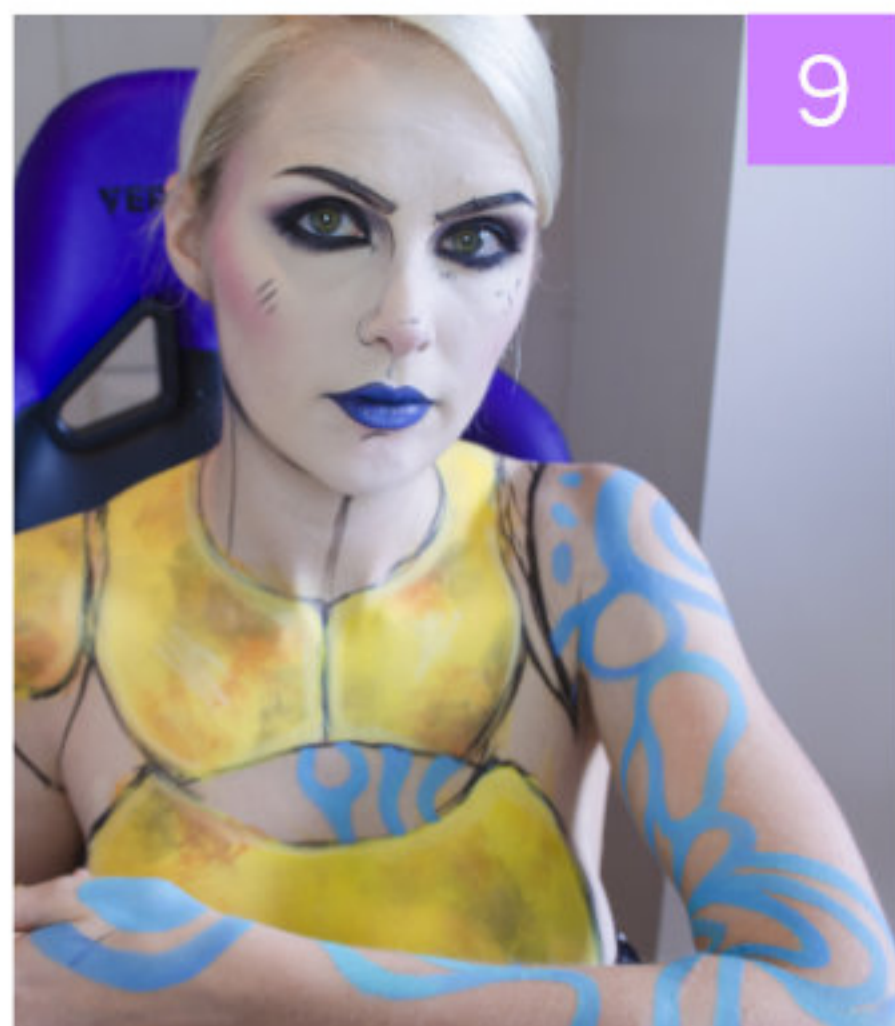
I used a small brush and some blue aqua paint and started to slowly and carefully draw on the lines. I went over the tattoos about 3 times to make the color as opaque as I wanted it.

The last color I had to add was the black sections on Maya's shirt. So again I used some black aqua paint and a brush and painted on the color.

I did about 3 layers of paint to get to the color I wanted. At this point everything looks a bit rough.

Now to make it all neat and tie it together I took my eyeliner pen and a small brush with black paint and began to draw on all the details and add in all the cartoon lines.

This really brings the whole look together and the lines will make the edges where the paint meets really neat and tidy.



Cleaning Up

Makeup can sometimes be pretty hard on our skin so it's important to make sure you clean and take care of your skin afterwards.

Not cleaning your skin properly after wearing makeup can cause your pores to get blocked and cause breakouts and we don't want that.

To remove my makeup I start by using an oil based cleanser. The oil helps get rid of all the cream based and waterproof makeup on the skin that normal face wash would not clean off as easily.

Once I have removed most of my makeup with the oil cleanser I then wash my face normally with a gentle face scrub and a facecloth to remove any final makeup as well as exfoliate the skin.

Finally I use a gentle toner which I apply over my skin to tighten the pores and prevent breakouts.

Then I can moisturize my skin with the Nivea Creme moisturizer I used to prep my face for makeup at the start of the book.



Cleaning Your Tools

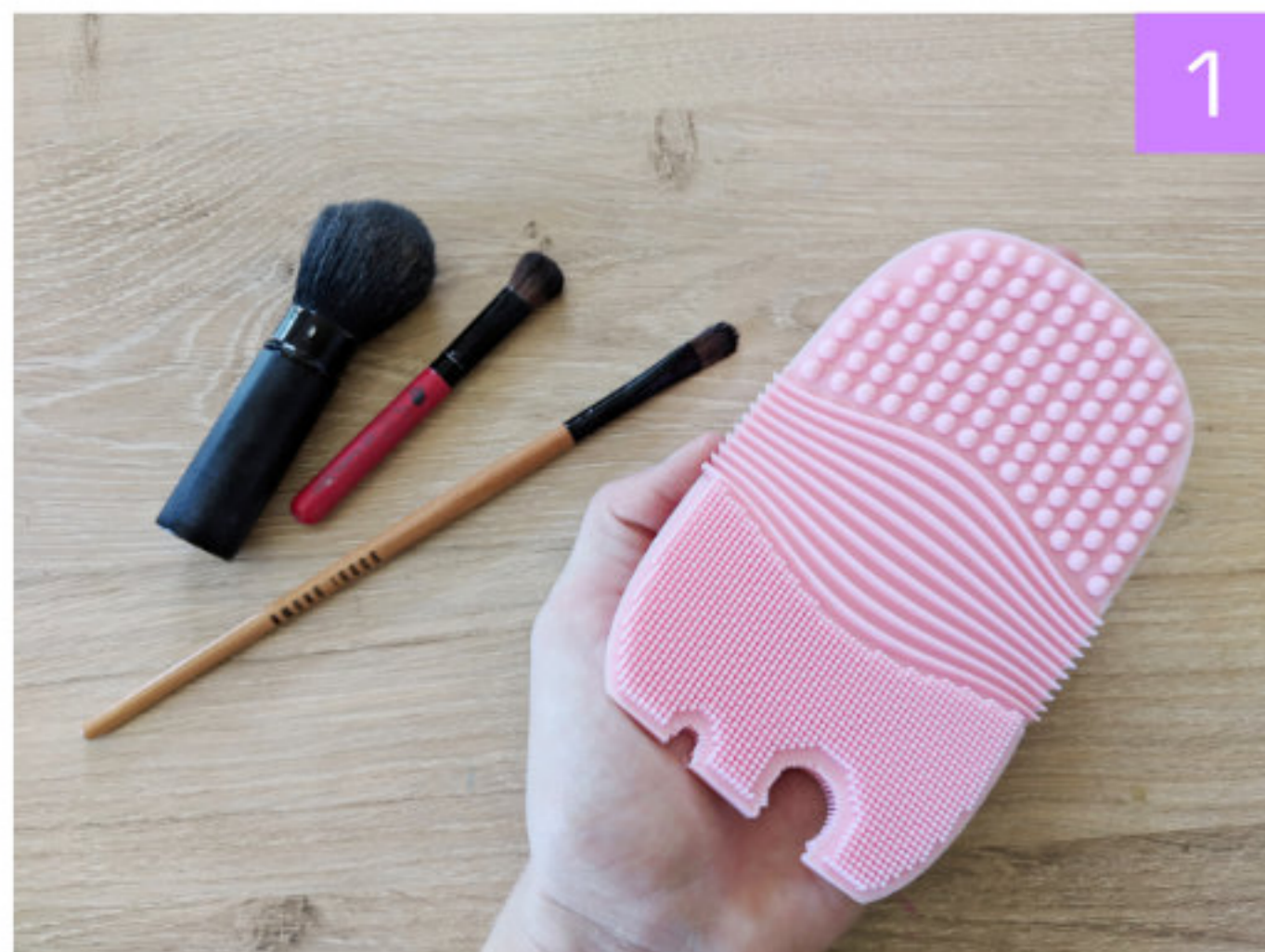
It's very important to keep your makeup sponges and brushes clean. Using dirty makeup tools with old makeup on them can cause breakouts and infections on your skin so be sure to clean them regularly and don't let them build up!

To clean my makeup sponges I start by wetting the sponge with warm water and squeezing out what I can.. I then take a bit of soap and rub it into the sponge.

Once the soap is in the sponge I then continue to rinse and squeeze the sponge to get all the soap and the makeup out. Repeat this step as needed until all the makeup is removed and rinse until the water runs clear.

I then squeeze the excess water out with a towel





1

To clean makeup brushes is very similar to cleaning sponges! You also get silicone makeup cleaning pads which can make it a little bit easier to get the product out the bristles.

To clean my brushes I wet them under some warm water and then apply a little bit of soap to them.

Now I can take the brushes and using my silicone pad I can work the brushes into the small grooves and bumps. These bumps are made to help work the product out of the hairs in the brush and remove all the makeup.

Just swish the brush around on the silicone pad, rinse and repeat. You can continue to do this until there is no more color coming out of the brush when you press it on the pad.

Once the brushes have been cleaned you can then rinse them with water and dry them with a towel. You can also rinse and clean the silicone pad.



2



3



4



5

Practice Makes Perfect

Just like every other crafting technique in cosplay makeup is a skill that needs to be learnt and practiced.

It can sometimes be hard and it doesn't always turn out the way you want it to.

After 6 years in cosplay I still have bad makeup days where I just didn't quite manage to get the look I wanted!

But with time and experience it gets easier and we learn more skills and improve our craft!

Never get despondent if you feel a cosplay or makeup did not turn out the way you hoped, use it as a learning experience and one day you can even come back to it and try again to see how you have improved!

Here are some makeup's I did about 3 years ago vs the makeup techniques I know now.

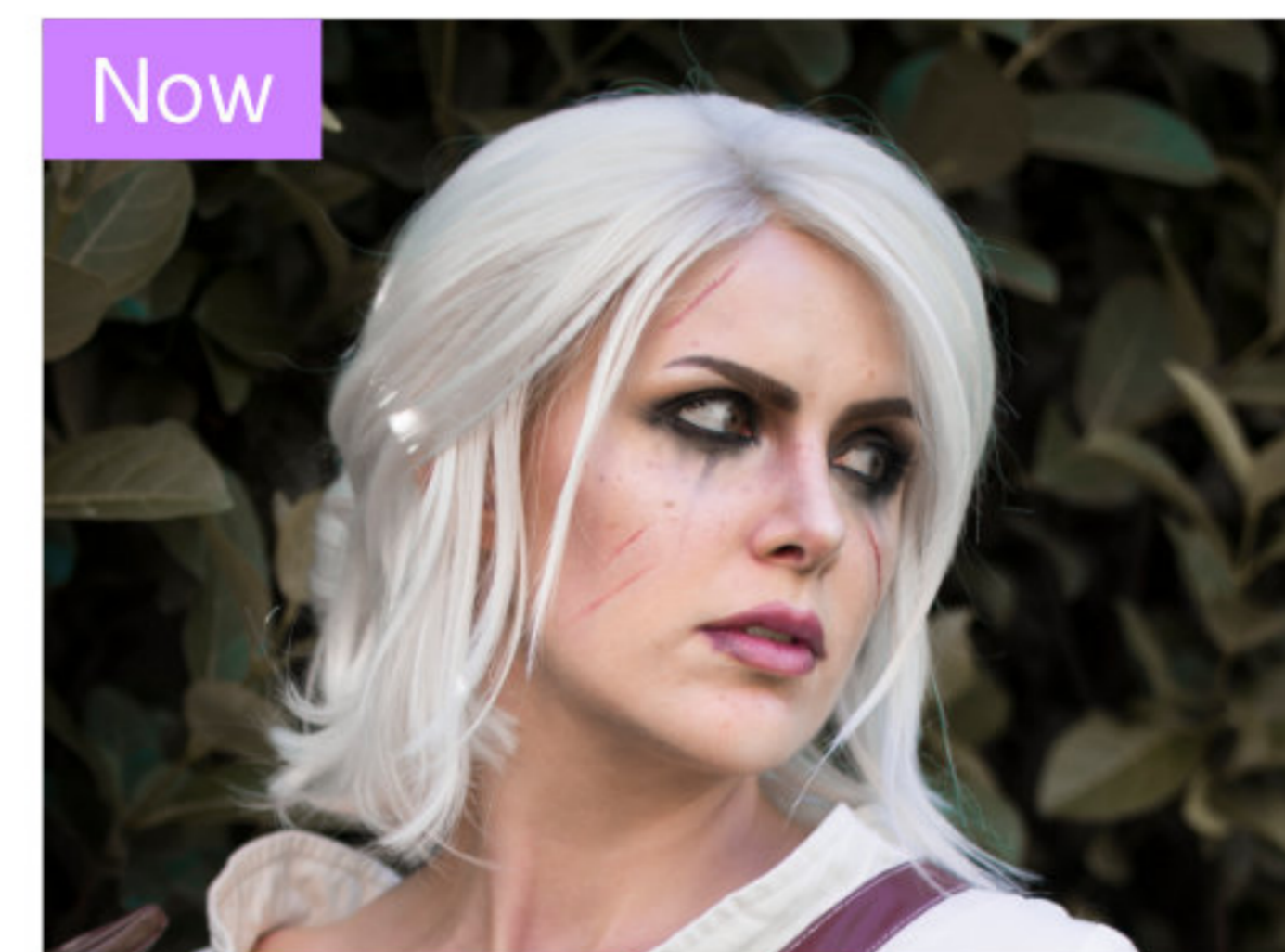
There is always room for improvement and growth!



Now



Then



Now



Now



Then



Then

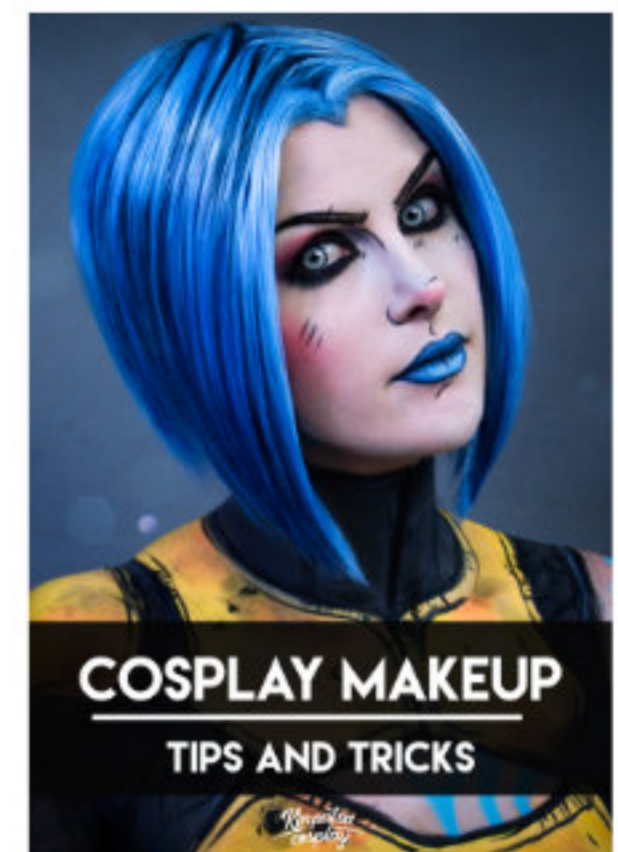
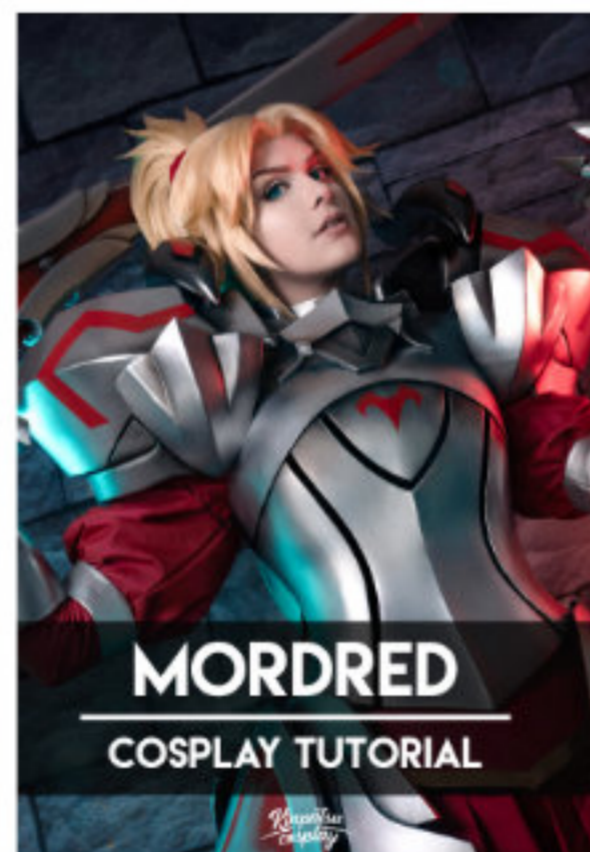
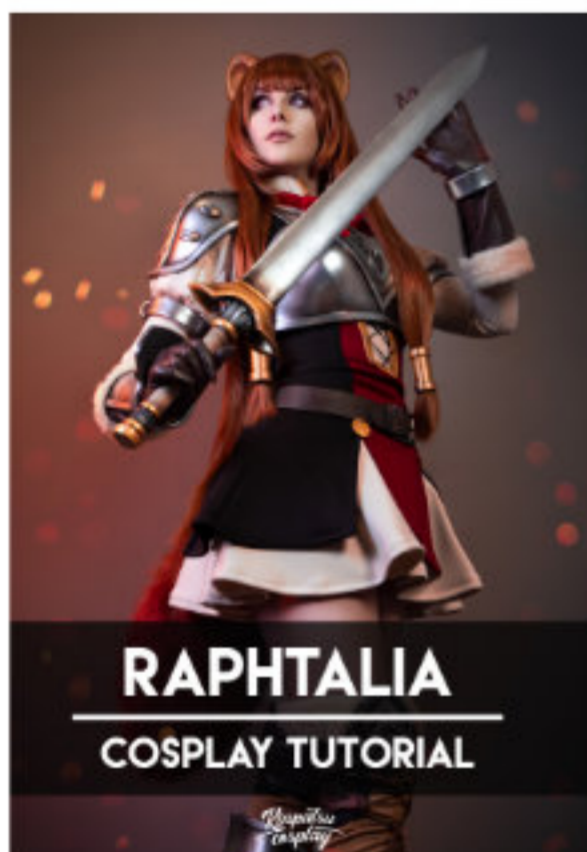
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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