

More: Beauty Products That Make You Mysterious

Real-Life Solutions for Women 40+ from More Magazine Beauty and Fashion Director Lois Joy Johnson

While the gossip rags teem with blond starlets with perky breasts, it takes another kind of woman to captivate a crowd with her sheer presence. That's the woman over 40, in all her alluring mystery, and Lois Joy Johnson, beauty and fashion director at *More* magazine, understands that perfectly.

When Johnson turned 40, she proclaimed: "I had waited all my life for that number and the permission slip that came with it. Who cares about a perfectly chiseled chin or tightly toned thighs when you can have secrets, history, *edge*?"

Here are the products that she relies on when she wants to project an aura of mystery:

1. If you want to wear very dark lipstick after 40, it ought to be very sheer, as well. Visit most any Prescriptives counter, which will whip up a **Prescriptives Custom Blend Lipstick** (\$60 for two tubes) to match that killer pair of deep-red velvet heels. To add depth, swipe on Clinique Full Potential Lip Plumps and Shine (\$18), a sparkly gloss that swells the lips slightly with capsicum extract and ginger oil.
2. Remember Brenda Starr, the comic-strip reporter whose paramour Basil St. John was always off in some jungle searching for black orchids? After using **By Terry Hydra-Replenishing Cream** (\$150), you'll suspect she was on to something. Loaded with black orchid extract, a powerful antioxidant, the cream is also imbued with the oil of dark poppies, a long-lasting humectant, plumping dehydrated skin like two days in a hothouse.
3. With winter's distinct chill nipping around every corner, try the sultry and hypnotic **Roberto Cavalli Serpentine Perfumed Body Cream Luminescence** (\$60). Mango flower, a central ingredient, has aphrodisiac qualities, at least according to Brazilian legend. Try this shimmery floral cream over self-tanner, and you'll forget about the snow piled outside of your front door.
4. Nothing works better than **Estee Lauder Pure Color Eyeliner** (\$23) in Pure Black for creating the perfectly lined lid. The firm, pointed tip and inky texture allow you to dot between the lashes and right above them for a riveting intensity.
5. Very dark nail polish, in vogue this season, is an addiction once you get past the initial shock. It adds irreverent chic to mature hands, like a small, unexpected tattoo under your watch. **Chanel Black Satin** (\$18) provides clever coverage for a bad nail month of breaks, splits and ridges. The look really works best on short nails: Black talons do not a woman of mystery make.

For more fashion and beauty tips for women over 40, check out the November issue of *More* or visit www.more.com.

