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The Art of Choosing a Wig by Kori Ellis

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A Wig Is a Fantastic Hair Loss Treatment Option If Done Right

Choosing the right wig isnâ€™t a simple matter. Fortunately, weâ€™ve done the research for you.

Whether you are experiencing a hair loss condition or you just desire a new look, a wig is a simple, affordable and fantastic option.

The cost of a wig

The first thing youâ€™ll want to consider is your budget. High-end wigs can cost thousands of dollars. While they are worth the money, you may not have that type of cash to spend on a wig. If thatâ€™s the case, you will be glad to know there are other options that offer cheaper solutions.

Wigs usually feature either synthetic hair or real human hair. Additionally, the wigs are either machine-made or handmade. The cheapest wigs use synthetic hair and are machine-made, while the most expensive wigs use 100 percent human hair and are handmade.

Real versus synthetic hair

Authentic human hair has one big advantage: It looks and acts natural. You can style it just like you would your own hair. Its versatility is a major selling point. For example, if you want to add curls, straighten it or change color, itâ€™s easy to do.

Even though synthetic hair isnâ€™t nearly as versatile, its durability is actually better than real human hair. If you lead an active lifestyle, synthetic could be a better option. Maintaining a wig that uses synthetic hair is a breeze, and the wig itself will last longer. Also remember that synthetic hair is much cheaper than human hair.

Handmade or machine-made wigs

When you are comparing wigs, you may notice that handmade wigs often look more natural than machine-made ones. Most handmade wigs are sewn one strand at a time, which adds a realistic appearance. That said, technology is rapidly advancing in this field, so modern machine-made wigs are looking better and better. You will need to compare the two options side by side to determine whether the increased cost of the handmade version is worth it to you.

A custom fit wig

Another big decision when you are shopping for a wig is whether you are going to order a custom wig. You may opt to purchase a premade wig, which will save you time and money. A custom wig could take months to construct and could be exponentially more expensive; however, the advantages are numerous. Not only will a custom wig fit perfectly, but also it can be made to blend with your current hair to create the hairstyle of your dreams.

When shopping for a premade wig, never make a purchase without trying it on. Ask a lot of questions so that you know exactly what you are buying. If you want real human hair, beware of wigs that claim to be human hair but are actually blended with synthetic hair. Look in the mirror from all angles and also make natural movements to ensure that the wig will stay in place.

Color me beautiful

Selecting the color of your wig is the real fun! Donâ€™t limit yourself to colors to which you are accustomed. Instead, consider going a few shades darker or lighter. Sometimes making a drastic change -- such as going from brunette to blonde -- can make your wig appear even more natural because the color change will stand out, not the fact that you are wearing a wig.

Unsure of the color and style of wig you want? You can find software online that allows you to upload your picture and digitally â€œtry onâ€• different hairstyles and colors with a few clicks of your mouse. Check out: TheHairStyler.com, Taaz.com and other virtual makeover Web sites. If you find a look that you love, print it out and take it with you when you go wig shopping.

The most important thing to remember is to be patient. Buying a quality wig is an investment; you will want the wig to last at least a few years. Shop around, look for stores that specialize in wigs and consider all your options.

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Kori Ellis is a freelance writer who writes about health, beauty, and fashion. She is a contributing writer to HairLossDotCom and writes about hair loss treatments and a hair loss condition such as a wigs

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