

# PERFECT PUCKER

Enhancing lips with fillers has never been more popular. But if looking to inject life into limp lips, make sure you know all your options.



By Heidi Staseson

Are you finding that trendy new lip plumper you bought a tad too temporary? Maybe it's time for some longer lasting lip action. After all, a kisser like Julia Roberts certainly didn't come from a drugstore. Finding that perfect pout has never been more tantalizing than now and with today's

range of reputable fillers and enhancement products, you can't go wrong asking a professional about which ones might be right for you. "Lips are popular. I'm probably seeing twice as many patients now for lip augmentation as I did two years ago," says Toronto-based cosmetic dermatologist, Dr. Fred



Weksberg. His patients are mostly women ranging in their early 20s to late-40s. Whether they're looking to add fullness to flat, shapeless lips, create corners that smile, or to hide unattractive lip lines, Weksberg says today's products are top notch. The most popular products are collagen and hyaluronic acid agents, each with an assortment of brand names to choose from, and each with its own set of pros and cons. It's really up to the patient to determine which product is right for them, based on the effect and shelf life they're seeking.

For example, for a full lip that's going to last a long time, clients might request a hyaluronic agent recommended by their physician, which will absorb more water, helping to maintain that billowy effect over a longer period. Conversely, and depending on the client, sometimes those products will cause temporary swelling, in which case they might opt for a collagen product which is less prone to swelling immediately after treatment.

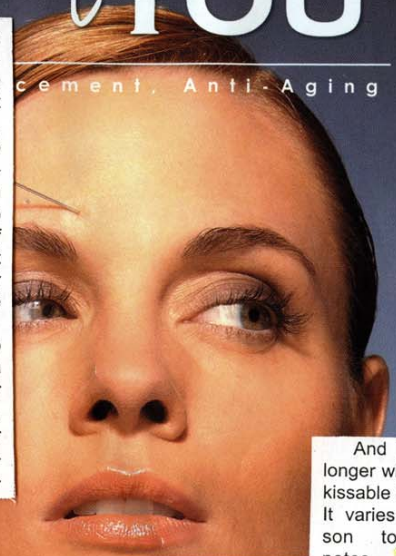
Even better is that with today's temporary injectables you can change the effect if you're not happy. Dr. Weksberg says there are about as many lip looks as there are people and that it's important you find a physician who will work with you to combine the right filler and shape to highlight your attributes.

**PLUS:**  
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And how much longer will your new kissable kisser last? It varies from person to person, notes Weksberg,

adding results from temporary injectables can be as short as two months and as long as five or six months. As for the price, that depends on how much product you're looking to inject. It can be anywhere from \$350 to \$1,000, according to Weksberg. "It's a big range because some people have very small lips to begin with and they don't require a lot, or they may not want a lot of work done," he says.

Patients such as Debra Thuet, a 46-year-old financial consultant who says sheer enhancement wasn't the MO for her new pucker. Rather, she wanted to minimize the age lines that had formed above her lip. Pleased with the results, she says she likes the fact her peers haven't a clue about her visits with the doctor. "People never know," she notes. "And that's the idea of having it done properly. People shouldn't know." •