

15 minutes to MARVELOUS

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A 15-minute makeover sounds as ridiculous as a get-rich-quick scheme. So when the authors of "Frumpy to Foxy in 15 Minutes Flat," a handbook filled with quick, easy and inexpensive beauty hints, offered to show us their skills, we had to put them to the test.

Even armed with all the right clothes and an ample supply of hair and makeup products, a quarter-hour prep seems nearly impossible. That's why we followed along as Elycia Rubin and Rita Mauerci ambushed three women at Penn Station, dragged them to H&M with Bourjois makeup and Prive hair products in hand and attempted to make them over in 15 minutes each (together, our daring volunteers and the authors would choose an outfit). The clock started the second the dressing room door shut.



PHOTOS BY THOMAS MONASTER DAILY NEWS
BLUSHING BEAUTY: Authors Rita Mauerci (l) and Elycia Rubin (c) work their makeup magic on Aki Nakadai.

THE VERDICT: Each makeover took 15 minutes or less, except for Nakadai's, which went over one full minute. Still, we'll hand it to them: The ladies sure looked foxy.



THE VICTIM: Tamra Allwood, 21, from Uniondale, L.I.

THE GOODS: A flirty sequined pastel skirt (\$49.90), silver satin top (\$24), heeled flip-flops (\$12.90). With faux mother-of-pearl earrings (\$3.90), silver necklace (\$3.50) and black headband (\$5.19 for four at Duane Reade).

THE PRODUCTS: Powder to even out skin tone, blush, eye shadow and two layers of lip gloss. "I'm a little overwhelmed," Allwood, who's never worn makeup, giggled as Mauerci and Rubin came at her with cosmetic wands and brushes.

THE RESULT: "I feel like a queen!" she cooed.

THE TIP: "Mixing lip glosses is a great way to create your own color," Rubin says. "If you only put on one thing before you leave the house, it should be lip gloss."



THE VICTIM: Cindy Foltz, 46, from Fall River, Mass. Her daughters Amy, 23, and Katie, 19, "kidnapped" her and drove to the city for a day of shopping. When we offered to make mom over, the girls wouldn't let her say no.

THE GOODS: A flowing top in a funky pattern (\$24.90), hoop earrings (\$1.90) and elastic bracelet (\$3.90)

THE PRODUCTS: Powder, blush, mascara, lip gloss and hair spray

THE RESULT: "She looks so slender," said Amy. "Before she looked square and now she looks longer." "And younger!" Katie added.

THE TIP: "With dark hair and dark eyes, a sheer red gloss adds a bit of punch to the lips," says Rubin.



THE VICTIM: Aki Nakadai, 20, from Manhattan

THE GOODS: White scoop and yellow V-neck tanks (\$5.90 each), striped button-down shirt (\$12.90), white capris (\$24.90), gold heels (\$19.90) and gold earrings (\$4.90)

THE PRODUCTS: Cover-up with SPF, powder, blush (on the eyelids too), lip gloss, hair serum and hair spray for added volume

THE RESULT: "It's crazy how quickly they changed my look," Nakadai said while fighting a smile and giving our camera a little model attitude.

THE TIP: "Layering is always a good look, especially in the spring," says Mauerci. "Flat front pants and A-line skirts are flattering on almost everybody, and heels add height and slim your legs."