

I want to be a . . . Makeup Artist

Initial Career Steps:

- Enrolling in cosmetology school is a very important step in becoming a professional makeup artist. You will learn techniques of makeup application and become familiar with different cosmetic products and tools among other things.
- There are several avenues to pursue as a makeup artist. You may want to apply makeup to film actors, or you may want to work at a salon. It is helpful to have a cosmetology license to jumpstart your career, but it is not necessary. Start small: find a job at your local makeup counter and practice on your friends or family. Offer your services to brides, teens attending their prom, or local theaters.
- Or better yet, let other people market you. As a makeup artist, you will meet a lot of people and if you provide a good service, they will more than likely let their friends know. Also put out an ad on craigslist, your local online newspaper, and/or make business cards.
- Take before and after pictures of your clients (with their permission, of course). Pick out the images that best convey your individual style and personality or images that you are particularly proud of and put them into your portfolio.
- Create a website. Word-of-mouth advertising is powerful, but so are visible examples of your work. Also, Trade magazines for the beauty industry advertise various events and job listings for makeup artists. If you can manage to get a job at one of these events, you will have the opportunity to show off your portfolio, hand out business cards, and make contacts in the beauty and fashion industry.

Local Resources:



--Makeup Artist Network:
<http://www.makeupart.net/>

-- Texas Association of Film and Tape Professionals:
<http://www.taftp.com/>

--Austin Fashion Association:
<http://austinfashionassociation.com/>