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Gone are the days where lipsticks of vivid shades of reds and pinks were the norm. Most women today have opted for neutral shades of lipsticks in order to play safe. Bold lipstick shades make a statement which neutral shades fail to do. Red and pink lipsticks are old classics, which can be revived when applied correctly. Understanding how these dramatic colors compliment your skin and hair tone help you pick the right shade that enhances your external femininity. Here are some tips to remember when wearing these shades.

Red Lipstick - Why and How

Red was the standard shade of lipstick during the 1950s. Wearing red lipstick gives your face the classic vintage façade. It instantly draws attention to your natural beauty. Reds give a "mature" appearance and look stunning on women in their mid 20s and above.

• Choose a hue of red that does not contrast your skin color but compliments it. If your skin has a warm complexion, such as olive or bronze, choose shades that are bright red, orange red, golden red and coral.

• If you have a cool complexion, such as pinkish skin, opt for shades that are burgundy red, plum red and wine red.

• Deep reds look great on dark skin tones. Never use brilliant reds on dark skin

• Use minimal makeup other than foundation when using a red lipstick -- this looks stunning.

• Use red gloss if you are shy about looking dramatic with matt red. Glossy reds tones down the look

Why Choose Pink Lipsticks

Electric pinks became popular during the 1980s. Fashion today is a fusion of eras, and choosing the right pink lipstick for your skin tone will fit you right in. Most of the rules for red lipsticks apply to the pinks. Unlike red, however, pinks give the appearance of youthfulness, making it more suitable for teens and women in their early 20s. Light hues of pinks give volume to lips; this is ideal for women with thin lips.

By following proper lipstick application procedures, you can considerably enhance your overall appearance. Always keep your lips hydrated and supple by using lip balms or moisturizing lipsticks.

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[JaiShree Baburam](#) - About Author:

Jai Shree baburam is an experienced Content writer and publisher for Business Development. Visit at <http://www.divinebeautyinstituteandcosmetics.com/> to know more about a [make up foundation](#)

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