



The British Beauty Blogger talks us through essential Beauty Buys for Spring.

So it's nearly time for Essie Spring 2014 to, well, spring. The collection launches in April (which is shaping up to be one expensive beauty month with the number of products launching). There's not one shade in this collection that I wouldn't wear and I love an Essie brush - they're quite fat so give a really good coating to the nail. In the picture above from bottom left going anti-clockwise:

Romper Room - a pretty, baby pink, Style Hunter, a hot, hot pink, Fashion Playground, a minty green colour, Spin The Bottle, a peachy nude, Truth or Flare, a grey denim shade and Hide & Go Chic, an ashy mid-blue. I have to say that Spin The Bottle and Hide & Go Chic both look completely different in the swatch than they do in the bottle.

My nails are still in rehab so it will be nail wheel swatches for a while to come, but you have to remember that if you want to get the nail wheel likeness undertone which is a stark white, add a layer of white polish before you apply. Colours always look different on a nail wheel to an actual nail - usually only very subtly though.

The Essie Spring 2014 collection will be available in Boots and Superdrug for £7.99 from April - my top picks from this collection are Fashion Playground and Truth or Flare for being the essence of spring colour trends.

If you're a Benetint fan, then these four Benetint Benefit Tinted Lip Balms are designed to go along with the tints - they're little hydrating hits of gentle colour that moisturise with mango butter.

The packaging ties right in with the Tints and has taken detail on the casing from each Benetint.

Colour wise, I'd describe them as a milky wash of colour. From left to right: Benebalm, Lollibalm, Chachabalm and Posiebalm. I'm wearing Chachabalm at the moment and it's very balmy on the lip - too soon to say if it's hydrating but it certainly has all the feel of a regular balm and although the colour is a hint, it's definitely there.

So, you can see that Benebalm Benefit Tinted Lip Balms give the merest hint of colour, although I must admit they do look a little more lively on the lip. I think if I was choosing one shade for summer, I'd pick Lollibalm because it's the most milky and does that kind of creamy lavender thing on the lip but in a very subtle way.

It's a June launch for the Benebalms - but I hope they come sooner - I'm ready right now!



Every year MAC brings back shades that are gone but not forgotten. MAC By Request 2014 has some real gems - interestingly, they're all from the 1990's but still totally relevant today. These shades have all been voted for by fans of MAC who've been campaigning and voting on the MAC Facebook page. The 3 shades from each category with the highest votes are on their way back!

So, first up are the Eye Shadows. Butterscotch (Matte)- CIRCA PRE-1990 (and bang on for the yellow trend because it's a nod rather than the full banana), Diesel (Frost)- FREEDOM COLOUR ADDITIONS SPRING 1994 (a gorgeous, slate grey which despite being described as a frost is actually quite low on that front) and Fiction (Frost)- COLOUR ABSTRACTION COLOUR ADDITIONS SPRING 1997 (a grey-green shade that again is more of a gentle sheen than a frost).

Things really start popping when it comes to the Lipsticks. These colours are over a decade old and yet they could be any current collections. The only one that looks truly retro is Pink Poodle which is actually the most recent lipstick making a come-back.

1. Butterscotch (Matte)
2. Friction (Frost)
3. Diesel (Frost)
4. Pink Poodle (Frost)
5. Hoop (Matte)

6. Glam (Matte)
7. Perversion Cream
8. Romper Room
9. Style Hunter
10. Fashion Playground
11. Spin The Bottle

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So here we go: Hoop (Matte)- LE GROOVE COLOUR SPRING/SUMMER 1991, Glam (Matte)- VIVA GLAM SPRING/SUMMER 1992 and Pink Poodle (Frost)- VALENTINES' DAY COLLECTION SPRING 2000.

All the MAC By Request 2014 products are available on-line on 1st April. Is there an old favourite of yours among them? I'll be showing a special MAC By Request surprise on 31st March so keep your eyes peeled!

The new Urban Decay Perversion Cream Eye Liner launches on 1st April alongside the Electric Palette so if you're amazing at cat-eye flicks, it's game-on for the deepest, darkest, power black. It's made to a waterproof formula and it's super-soft in application.

However, I'd have to say don't bother with the brush - this is the, ahem, defined line on my arm I managed to achieve - it's a long-stayer, too so thank goodness I didn't actually do it directly onto my eye. It's too thick for precision once it's loaded up with product and if you already use cream eye-liners, then you'll most likely have a better brush already.

Urban Decay Perversion Cream Eye Liner launches into all UD stockists (Debenhams, HoF and on-line sites) for £16. The brush of shame is £12.

