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Be careful about wearing ruffles; only wear them in an area you want a bit of shape.

pick your perfect colours

Image Consultant and Make-up Artist
Kate Evans answers your monthly fashion questions...

Dear Kate, my sister recently gave me one of her cast off dresses which I absolutely love, but it is quite low at the front and I have a larger bust then her so need to wear a bra. I haven't been able to find one anywhere that does not show. Do you have any ideas where I might be able to find one?

Tamsin, Cheltenham

The catalogue 'Oli' have a sheer over the shoulder bra in nude (Sizes A, B, C, D cup in 32", 34" and 36") which has a very low dip in the front and should provide you with support with no tell tale signs of it!

Dear Kate, I hope you can help me settle an argument with my mum! I think I can wear black but she says it does nothing for me and I look better in brown. I have medium blond hair, which I have highlighted, and green eyes. I tan easily and have a few freckles. Can anyone wear black or are we all being fooled by the fashionistas that it is a failsafe option for everyone?

Lucy, Gloucester

I am afraid your mum could be right! Colours look best on us when they can link in some way to the natural colouring of our eyes, hair and skin tone. This link effectively connects your head to your body and gives an overall impression. If the colour does not work so well it is either clashing with your colouring or it just does not link at all and effectively cuts you off at the neck, making your head look like a lollipop! From your description it sounds as

though you have relatively light colouring which is quite soft whereas black is a very dark, clear colour with no softness to it at all; therefore it has the opposite properties to your colouring creating the 'lollipop' look. Dark browns, olive greens and dark blues next to your face are going to work much better for you and can be just as flattering as black. If this all sounds a bit confusing come and see me for a Colour Analysis Consultation - once you know your colours, lollipop-head will be a thing of the past as well as shopping mistakes!

Dear Kate, I have got a hen do coming up and want to wear a dress which has ruffles on the bottom half. I have a rather large bottom - will the ruffles make it look bigger or detract attention away from it?

Hilary, Stow-on-the-Wold

I am afraid the ruffles will only make your bottom look larger. If you have any curve in your body shape that is out of proportion with the rest of your body, the rule is to keep things as simple as possible in that area... no details like buttons, stitching, stripes, pattern, or extra fabric will help the situation - they will only highlight it. If you still want to wear ruffles wear them in an area you want a bit of shape such as your bust or shoulders and these should help to balance out your bottom. **ES**

To ask Kate a question please email editor@stylemagazines.co.uk



WITH KATE EVANS

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