

BEAUTY: DRESS YOUR EYES

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GORGEOUS BROWS AND LASHES CAN TRANSFORM YOUR FACE, SO IT'S WORTH INVESTING IN A HELPING HAND TO LOOK YOUR BEST

Eyes seem to be in vogue in Hollywood at the moment. By that, we mean that all the attention on the red carpets beauty-wise is being dominated by eyes. Who can fail to notice celebrities such as Kim Kardashian, Sofia Vergara, Keira Knightley and Lily Collins flaunting their full eyebrows and batting their long eyelashes at the cameras?

Achieving the look is easy if you're lucky enough to be blessed with these natural assets, but in most cases, it takes time and a lot of effort. Which is where the latest trend in cosmetic surgery comes in. The new fad apparently is for eyebrow or eyelash transplants, with the technique being offered in clinics from the US to Dubai. "Eyebrow/eyelash transplant is a very meticulous process, which uses hair grafts from one's own scalp and implants them within your thinning eyebrows and eyelashes," explains Anisa Vrabac, head of the Hair Transplant Department at Dubai Cosmetic Surgery clinic.

"The hair grafts chosen for the procedure usually have a very fine texture and curvature of your original brows and lashes." Depending on the amount of hair loss suffered on the eyebrows and eyelashes, this creates a basis on the number of follicles to be harvested and used. "Sometimes it can be as little as 200 hair grafts for the eyelashes, while at other times it can be as high as 600 hair grafts for the eyebrows," says Vrabac.

The Dubai Cosmetic Surgery clinic uses the latest technique called (rather a mouthful) Stem Cell Follicular Unit Extraction Hair Transplant.

If successful, the procedure will see the harvested and implanted hair grow into permanent and healthy hair follicles, which end up as natural, flawless and full eyebrows and eyelashes.

Eyebrows and eyelash transplant relies on this technique to ensure zero failure rates, meaning that 100 per cent of the implanted micro grafts are guaranteed to grow. This happens due to direct implantation of the harvested grafts. "In addition, healing takes between three to seven days in both the donor site (back of your scalp) and recipient areas (either eyebrows or

eyelashes), while 30 to 50 per cent of the donor area will re-grow within three to six months," notes Vrabac.

Candidates for eyebrow/eyelash transplants are not for cosmetic purposes. It's also used by people whose thinning eyebrows or eyelashes are due to over-plucking, overuse of fake lashes, accidents, burns, hereditary factors, chemotherapy, radiation and trichotillomania (pulling out hair).

Since your new eyelashes or eyebrows have come from your head, they might grow longer than required, which means you might need to trim and curl them often.

After the restoration procedure and you have your new eyebrows or eyelashes, it's fine to colour, cut or shape them. "This is because they are now as natural as your previous brows and lashes," says Vrabac.

