




wh tests it...

Read this before bronzing – WH staffers put a dozen tanners through their paces




Best for speaking in skin-boosting ingredients

The product	The formula	The selling point	Time until tan	Colour	Fade factor
 Avon Sun Self Tanning Lotion, \$19.99	Light lotion with a strong DHA smell	Contains grape extracts to provide vitamin E plus a host of other skin-soothing ingredients	A couple of hours	Light, natural brown	A couple of days
 Dr Dennis Gross Alpha Beta Glow Pads, \$58	Just like KFC refresher towels, only better	Multitasking pads containing AHAs to keep skin clear and tanning ingredients to get your glow on	Instant	Takes white shine off the face	One day per pad
 Perricone MD No Sun Tanner, \$110	Light, fragrance-free lotion	Contains DMAE, which has been shown to have a lifting and tightening appearance on the skin	Two hours	One application gives a subtle hint; after three days of use it deepens	Can be topped up as needed



Best for sensitive skin, or if you prefer to avoid chemicals

 Eco Tan Invisible Tan, \$31.95	Thick cream	No synthetics, most ingredients are certified organic, including rose flower oil, which replaces nasty DHA scent with a light floral one	Eight hours	Slightly orange, and deep – so apply evenly	Four days
 St Tropez Naturals Self Tan Lotion, \$39.95	Thick, slightly sticky lotion with a nutty fragrance	Contains a naturally-derived eco-cert ingredient called Vegetan; gives just a subtle hint of colour	Within an hour	Very light and natural	Three to four days
 Trilogy Self-Tanning Instant Bronzing Gel, \$27.95	Dark gel with a light caramel scent	Gives an instant hit of colour with a subtle shimmer; can be built up over a few days for a deeper tan	Almost instant	Subtle shimmery bronze	Four coats last five days

Best for tanning face and décolletage

 Le Tan Instant Face Tan, \$7.99	Light lotion	Made for more delicate skin; the matt finish makes for a streak-free application	Around two hours	A light glow	A few days
 Ella Baché Great Facetan Without Sun, \$38	Light cream	Ella Baché has revamped its Great Tan range, cutting back on that telltale pong	Six hours, though you might need to use it a few times	A healthy glow that evens out the complexion	A few days
 L'Oréal Paris Sublime Bronze Face & Body Gel, \$23.95	Smooth spreading, slightly sticky gel; odour is quite strong	Works from forehead to feet; lightweight and easy to apply; contains vitamin E which leaves skin feeling nice and soft	A few hours	Natural, but go easy if you're naturally pale	Three to four days

Best for when you need colour for a good time, not a long time

 Dr LeWinn's Instant Body Bronzer, \$18.95	Lightweight, fast-drying gel	Goes on sheer to even out skin tone and gives a temporary colour without any hint of orange	Instant	Warm cocoa	All day, washes off in the shower
 Youngblood Mineral Illuminating Body Tint, \$52	Light, easily absorbed lotion	Entirely streak-free; better suited to olive skin tones and has a good amount of shimmer	Instant	Rich, warm shade, with some shimmering particles	All day, washes off in the shower
 ModelCo One Night Tan, \$26	Light mousse	Easy to apply; won't rub off on clothes or streak if you sweat, or get caught in rain	Instant	Very light, so don't scrimp	All day, washes off in the shower