

Spring's Pretty Floral Dresses

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THE BEAUTY EXPERT

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SPECIAL INSIDERS' ISSUE!

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Tommy Buckett dry-cuts waves at Sally Hershberger Downtown in New York City.

with unmanageable layers. But Alcantar understood our request, slicing long layers into our blunt ends to remove bulk, then staggering a few shorter pieces around the front. We left with a cut that flatters our wavy texture—and the comfort of knowing we were truly heard. \$150.

Tommy Buckett
Sally Hershberger Downtown
423 W. 14th St.
212-206-8700

Six months (and one baby) since our last haircut, our waves were limp and overgrown. Buckett gave us some TLC, saying he'd keep our collarbone length and add a sprinkling of long layers around our face. After what seemed like only a few snips, our waves had new bounce. And when Buckett showed us how to create a wavy blowout at home—without a round brush, even—our once-laborious styling routine was reconceived. \$200.

Hair Color

Carrie McCard
Rita Hazan Salon
720 Fifth Ave.
212-586-4343

McCard is lightning-fast, but her work goes the distance. She suggested we lighten our dark blonde base by two

shades so we could get away with fewer highlights and create a more realistic look. An hour later, she had both lifted our base and added pale beige highlights. Our minimal streaks look believable—and require less-frequent touch-ups. Single-process, \$105; highlights, \$300.

Philadelphia

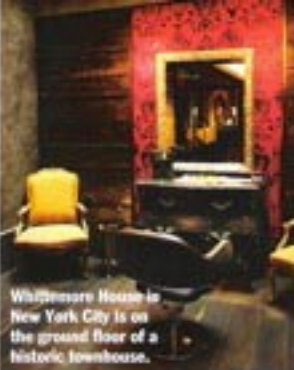
René Quick
Lakshmi Hair Studio
21 N. 2nd St.
215-923-2272

Most hairstylists think we can't handle the truth, swearing that our coarse hair can "definitely" handle a trendy cut (alas, it never does). But Quick tossed out that theory and advised us to go super-short. She chopped our pouf down into a tailored pixie cut with soft layers and wispy bangs that hugged our forehead. Given all the compliments we've received, the dramatic shift was a true awakening. \$65 and up.

Washington, D.C.

Chris Keller
Parleur Salon
1522 U St., NW
202-986-0080

We don't care for a lot of



Wiltshire House in New York City is on the ground floor of a historic townhouse.

chatter during a haircut, so we were thrilled when Keller knew exactly what we needed before we even had to ask. He explained that to restore volume to our stringy waves, he'd lop off a few inches and add thick, side-swept bangs. Now our shoulder-grazing bob looks almost twice as full as before. \$70 and up.

Alpharetta, GA

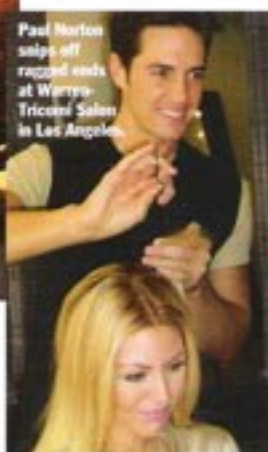
Daniel Jones
Muse Salon and Spa
4620 Kimball Bridge Rd.
678-393-2214

We can be demanding, which rattles some stylists—but Jones was up for the challenge. We asked for more swing to our bob without a big change in length. He angled our cut so it was slightly shorter in the back. Then he tapered the ends to cup our jawline, and softened the shape with layers in front. Jones managed to update our bob and exceed our high standards. \$70.

Miami Beach

Dee Adames
Dee & Co.
826 Collins Ave.
305-673-5607

We were curious about Adames after she won *Bravo's Shear Genius*. But when we saw her salon's bright red walls and zebra-print blankets, we worried she might



Paul Norton snips off ragged ends at Wynn-Tricomi Salon in Los Angeles.

be all about entertainment. We shouldn't be prejudged. Adames sliced chunky layers and cheek-grazing pieces into our long, straight hair, which added shape and buoyancy. We left feeling lighter but not totally shorn. \$95.

Roseville, MI

Ashlee Allen
London Calling Salon
27380 S. Grafton Ave.
586-778-6379

When our piecey shag grew into a messy mullet, we knew we needed help. Allen blended our shell-like top layers into the bottom ones, snipped off our feathery ends, and cleaned up our zigzag bangs so they neatly grazed our brows. Our new streamlined cut looks soft and graceful—and of this century. \$40 and up.

Chicago

Mitch Kadlec
Michael & Michael
365 W. Chicago Ave.
312-951-0779

We'd spent more than six months growing out a bob—and boy, did it show. Kadlec restored balance to our bottom-heavy cut by slicing layers at various angles