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WHAT'S NEW IN EXTENSIONS

Most brides want to have their hair long for their big day, whether they wear it up or down. And while many women begin growing their hair out the moment they become engaged, others avoid the awkward growing-out stages by opting for extensions.

According to David Groshen, co-owner of Face Station in New York City, the latest and most natural looking extensions technique is fusion. "Fusion extensions use a special glue and wax combination to attach the new hair onto the person's natural hair. It grows out with your hair, and lasts up to four months."

Specifically, the process involves taking a quarter-inch section of your natural hair, then an equal amount of new, color-matched hair with the tip covered with hot wax. The person's actual hair is placed around the new hair about a quarter of an inch away from the scalp using a tool called a purger. After being certain that the wax penetrates all the hair equally, it's rolled into place and allowed to harden.

Fusion extensions can also be used to make hair thicker. Just a quarter of the head is done in back,

from the occipital bone down. "It's a great idea if you're wearing your hair half up, half down, and the hair is too skinny on the bottom," Groshen says. This process runs about \$350.



For best results, Groshen recommends using 100% human hair. Face Station charges about \$1400, and that's not including the \$300-\$400 tab for human hair (the price will vary according to length; synthetic hair costs as little as \$50.). Plan on spending up to eight hours to have your full head of extensions attached. It sounds like a lot, but not when you consider how much time it would take to grow your hair out the natural way!

PHOTOS BY PAUL O. COLLITON. EXTENSIONS BY DANA GIBBS.



hair styles: David Groshen, Ketty Loseto, Susana Porras, Kevin Kager, Debra Harridass, Dana Gibbs
makeup: Christina Turino, Debra Harridas