

# The Ultimate Beauty Bargain Hunt

Smooth  
and Brighten  
for...

\$64.50

## 1. Pick a Basic Cleanser

Pricy ones with fancy ingredients aren't necessary. "Most don't penetrate skin and just get washed down the drain when you rinse," says dermatologist Julie Karen, MD. A hydrating formula (like St. Ives') is all your skin needs.

**St. Ives** Cactus Water & Hibiscus Cleansing Stick, \$8, drugstores

## 2. Get a Double-Duty Day Cream

Invest in a multitasker that works to smooth lines both now and later. We like Olay's, which uses hyaluronic acid to provide an immediate plumping effect and antioxidant niacinamide and SPF 25 to defend from UV damage (which can lead to spots and lines down the road).

**Olay** Regenerist Whip SPF 25, \$29, amazon.com

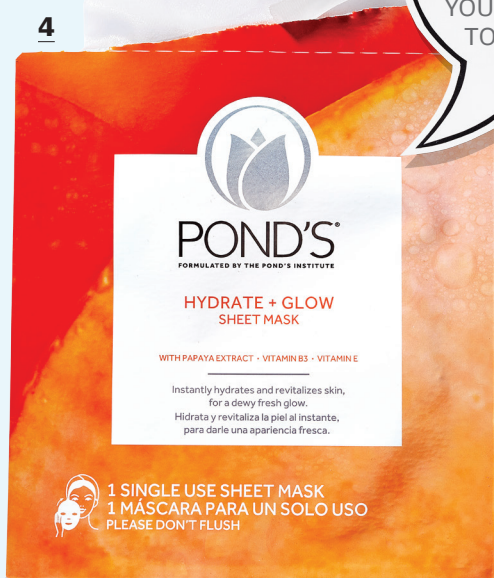


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TAP THE EXCESS SERUM AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS POUCH ONTO YOUR NECK AND CHEST TO GLOW ALL OVER.



## 4. Pop on a Sheet Mask

Think of sheet masks as the cheapest (and fastest) alternative to an in-spa facial...ever! Try Pond's version once a week for up to 15 minutes to brighten your skin tone and soften texture temporarily. The magic lies in an anti-aging cocktail of an exfoliating fruit extract and skin-softening vitamin E.

**Pond's** Hydrate + Glow Sheet Mask, \$2.50 per sheet, drugstores

## 3. Slather on Retinol

Thanks to its collagen-boosting abilities, retinol is one of the best ingredients for smoothing wrinkles—and you don't need to drop money on derm fees to get a potent Rx formula. Research suggests over-the-counter kinds can have a similar effect on skin with less redness and irritation, says derm Ellen Marmur, MD.

**RoC** Retinol Correxion Max Daily Hydration Crème, \$25, amazon.com



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**Calm  
Redness  
for...**

**\$59**



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EXPOSURE TO AIR CAN  
MAKE ANTIOXIDANTS  
GO BAD, SO OPT  
FOR PUMP PACKAGING.

### 1. Cleanse Sans Sulfates

These sudsy cleansing agents can strip skin, leading to a compromised skin barrier and redness, explains dermatologist Shari Marchbein, MD. Try Garnier's foam-free micellar water (one of Dr. Marchbein's favorites) instead. Pour some on a cotton pad, and sweep it over your face morning and night.

**Garnier SkinActive** Micellar Cleansing Water All-in-1, \$9, drugstores

### 2. Take Your Vitamins

Topical antioxidants keep your skin healthy by protecting it from free-radical damage (a by-product of things like UV and pollution), says Dr. Karen, which can make inflamed skin even more angry. Get your daily dose by mixing two pumps of this vitamin E-rich booster into your SPF.

**Neutrogena** Hydro Boost Multivitamin Booster, \$21, amazon.com



### 3. Shield With Minerals

Unlike sunscreens with chemical filters like avobenzone or oxybenzone—which can aggravate reactive skin—physical blockers like zinc oxide and titanium dioxide (both in Aveeno's SPF day cream) have anti-inflammatory properties that can soothe your complexion while protecting it from UV damage.

**Aveeno** Ultra-Calming Daily Moisturizer Broad Spectrum SPF 30, \$15, drugstores



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ONLY FRAGRANCE FREE MEANS  
THERE ARE NO IRRITATING  
SCENTS IN A FORMULA. DON'T  
BE DUPED BY UNSCENTED.

### 4. Soothe While You Snooze

Your skin goes into repair mode at night, so you want to feed it ingredients—like tiger grass (an Asian herb that promotes wound healing) and moisturizing glycerin, both in L'Oréal Paris's Cicacream—that support this process. Make sure p.m. products are free of fragrance and alcohol. "Both can exacerbate dryness and redness," says Dr. Marchbein.

**L'Oréal Paris** Revitalift Cicacream, \$14, amazon.com



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Clear  
Breakouts  
for...

\$62.50

LOOK FOR CREAMS  
THAT SAY SENSITIVE  
ON THE LABEL. ACNEIC  
SKIN IS PRONE TO  
REDNESS TOO.



THIS CONTAINER  
HAS ENOUGH CLAY  
FOR UP TO FIVE  
USES!

### 1. Wash With Salicylic Acid

The exfoliating acid is great for sloughing off the dead skin cells that trap oil to skin and clog pores, explains Dr. Marmur. Use it morning and night for a deep clean. Good to know: In over-the-counter acne washes, the ingredient is available in varying strengths—from 0.5 percent (in Bioré's) to 2 percent. If your skin is dry, go low.

**Bioré** Baking Soda Acne Cleansing Foam, \$6.50, drugstores

### 2. Treat Acne With Adapalene

This specific type of retinoid works to prevent and clear up breakouts in two ways: by speeding up cell turnover to unclog pores and reducing inflammation to nix redness and swelling. Try it in derm-fave Differin Gel (previously available by Rx only), clinically proven to reduce acne by nearly 60 percent when used once daily for 12 weeks.

**Differin** Gel, \$23 for 1.6 oz., amazon.com

### 3. Commit to Sunscreen

Post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation (spots and scars from old zits) is made worse by UV damage. And adapalene and other acne treatments can make skin more susceptible to sunburn. Commit to a non-pore-clogging (look for *non-comedogenic* on the box) lotion that hydrates and contains SPF 30 or more.

**La Roche-Posay** Toleriane Double Repair Moisturizer UV Broad Spectrum SPF 30, \$20, amazon.com

### 4. Don't Skip Moisturizer

Acne-prone and oily skin types need hydration too (dehydrated skin can overproduce pore-clogging sebum), says Dr. Marmur. And most acne meds have drying side effects. Choose a fast-absorbing formula with a gel-like texture (like Simple Skincare's) that won't feel heavy on skin.

**Simple Skincare** Water Boost Skin Quench Sleeping Cream, \$9, drugstores

### 5. Do a Weekly Skintox

Clay masks aren't just trendy—they also help purge dirt and debris from pores while absorbing excess sebum. Apply this one for 15 minutes before bed (it contains kaolin and bentonite clays), and Zen out with its relaxing spa-like scent.

**Clean & Clear** Night Relaxing Detox Clay Mask, \$4, drugstores

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