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WWTW

WE PRESSED THE PROS FOR THE GREATEST TIPS, LATEST MUST-HAVES, AND A FEW *OMG!* CONFESSIONS—PLUS ASKED SOME TOUGH Q'S (YES, YOU CAN WAX ON YOUR PERIOD)—WHATEVER YOUR BIKINI STYLE.

A PUBIC WIG.
Around since the 1400s (prostitutes used them to hide STDs), they're now used in film when a role requires hair but the actress has been waxed or lasered. They also come in colors and shapes—cue our pink kitty!—just for fun.



is a merkin?!

PLUS 39 OTHER SURPRISING FACTS ABOUT YOUR BIKINI LINE

by Loni Venti

ALL ABOUT THAT BUSH?

Three key steps to staying groomed

1

trim

Keep things under control with a battery-powered trimmer (Schick Hydro Silk TrimStyle, \$14) or brow scissor with safe, rounded tips (try Tweezerman Stainless Steel Facial Hair Scissor, \$17).

2

exfoliate

This releases trapped sweat and prevents ingrowns. Try a buffing washcloth (like The Body Shop Body Polisher, \$8) or cream-based scrub (such as GiGi No Bump Body Scrub, \$13) twice a week.

3

moisturize

Dry skin is more likely to trap hairs. Opt for body oil; it's less messy on hair than cream.

SOURCE: MELANIE GILLILAND, EDUCATION DEVELOPER FOR EUROPEAN WAX CENTER

SHAVING

the perfect razor

The curves of your bikini area require one that is flexible. Our pick (right) has a swivel neck to bend with your shape.



GILLETTE
Venus
Swirl,
\$12.60

ultimate ingrown hack

Mix a non-coated aspirin, water, and sugar to form a paste. Rub it on the area, let it sit for 15 minutes, and rinse. (Aspirin reduces inflammation as sugar buffs skin.) Repeat twice daily until it's gone (about three days).

SOURCE: JAMIE AHN, FOUNDER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF TOWNHOUSE SPA IN NYC

LASER

pros

THERE'S NOW A LASER FOR ALL SKIN TONES Lasers zero in on the dark pigment of a hair follicle and destroy it. In the past, that meant it could singe dark skin. But 1064 Nd:YAG lasers (like the new LightSheer Infinity) offer adjustable wavelengths that target hair without damaging skin. The at-home version below is also universal.

LASERS CAN BANISH

INGROWNS After a treatment cycle, there's little chance hair will grow in irregularly and clog the pore.

ILUMINAGE
Precise
Touch, \$295



cons

LASER HAIR REMOVAL

ISN'T ACTUALLY PERMANENT The FDA classifies it as permanent hair reduction. Translation: long-term results that require a yearly touch-up or two.

IT'S ALSO NOT CHEAP Each session (you'll need at least five) costs between \$300 and \$500.

YOU HAVE TO COMMIT

Sessions are spaced out by around six weeks (the average hair-growth phase). Multiply that by five (or more) treatments, and that can add up to half a year's worth of beam time.

SOURCE: PAUL JARROD FRANK, MD, A COSMETIC DERMATOLOGIST IN NYC

Time to groom your kitten!

