This Is What Happens When You Use Gold-Infused Skin Care Products for a Week

Walk into the InStyle beauty closet and you’ll see shelves full of skin care products spiked with exotic ingredients like diamonds and dead sea minerals. And lately, I’ve noticed a new trend in our stock: gold infused in everything from eye creams to cleansers.

Intrigued, I asked a dermatologist about the potential benefits of this gleaming new addition: “Gold is used as an anti-aging ingredient, as it can help reduce inflammation, which is a cause of acne and hyper pigmentation,” explained Dr. Paul Jarrod Frank, an N.Y.C.-based cosmetic dermatologist. “When applied topically, it also helps brighten the skin.”

With that in mind, I decided to conduct a little experiment: I swapped all of my regular skincare products for gold-infused replacements and used them exclusively for one week. Here, a look at my routine:
**Peter Thomas Roth 24K Pure Luxury Cleansing Butter** ($55; sephora.com) worked like an absolute dream. Unlike other cleansing balms I've tried, this stuff was truly, well, buttery, and spread easily on my face. While it isn't gold-infused, the konjac sponge that comes with it was a welcome bonus—it made the whole process unmessy and totally enjoyable.

**Tatcha Deep Hydration Firming Serum** ($95; tatcha.com) was a product already in my stash. The gold-flecked, smooth-as-silk formula always leaves my skin looking extra luminous.
Chantecaille Nano Gold Energizing Eye Cream ($265; nordstorm.com) delivers 24K gold to a cellular level, where its anti-inflammatory benefits can best target eye-related issues like puffiness. (I was especially grateful for this come Monday morning.)

Orogold 24K Multi-Vitamin Day Moisturizer ($178; orogoldcosmetics.com) is a lightweight daily face cream formulated with a bevy of vitamins and antioxidants, the latter of which quash cell-damaging free radicals. The hygienic—and convenient—push-button dispenser was also a plus.

Carita Paris Progressif Anti-Age Global Perfect Cream Trio of Gold ($390; caritadirect.com) was my nighttime go-to as it delivers a heavier dose of moisture. By far the priciest item I tried, it was also the most nourishing: My seasonally dry skin drank up this firming blend of three different types of gold.
In addition to the steps above, I applied two gold-infused masks over the course of my trial: Peter Thomas Roth 24K Gold Mask Pure Luxury Lift & Firm Mask ($80; sephora.com) and Orogold 24K Gold Vitamin C Mask ($218; orogoldcosmetics.com). Both promised lifting with the added bonus of hydrating skin; and I must say, both delivered. Instagram addicts, take note: Peter Thomas Roth’s visibly gold formula makes for a highly-“likeable” selfie.

The Verdict

After seven days of using gold-infused products, I do feel like my skin looks more luminous than before. Most notably, the hyperpigmentation around my nose seems to have diminished, a benefit that Dr. Frank predicted. And, in my mind, results after only a week means these products all earn a gold star.