

# Topper's Tips

You know him from Bravo's "Blow Out". Beverly Hills divas know him as a superstar member of the team at chic Jonathon Salon in West Hollywood. He is the man with the scissors for all seasons and reasons. Ms. Fitness readers can always count on him for the straight scoop on ways to have locks that warrant a second look.

2009 is a brand new year and herewith Alyn Topper gives his top tips for ways to stand out today and all year long:

2009 is the year to make an impression on the glam gods! The most fashion minded will be challenged; the questions will be put forth. What outfit will one wear? Roberto Cavalli or Diane Von Furstenberg. What shoes will complete the dress? Manolo Blahniks or Christian Louboutin. Does one go to the M.A.C. counter for a spiritual awakening or cleanse one's soul at the local Sephoria? These are very crucial decisions every woman will face on Valentine's Day and all year long. But what is Manolo's and Louboutin's don't fit your working Mom's budget? One misstep may anger the glam gods, but rest assured the most symbolic way to make the right impression is to have fabulous hair and fabulous hair- hair that didn't cost you a well-toned arm and a leg- you shall have if one follows these simple tips.

## Topper Tip #1: Volumize!

A blowout with volume, shine, and movement will always impress. Start by applying your favorite volumizing lifting foam to the root area, spreading the foam two inches away from scalp area.

## Topper Tip #2: Start at the front.

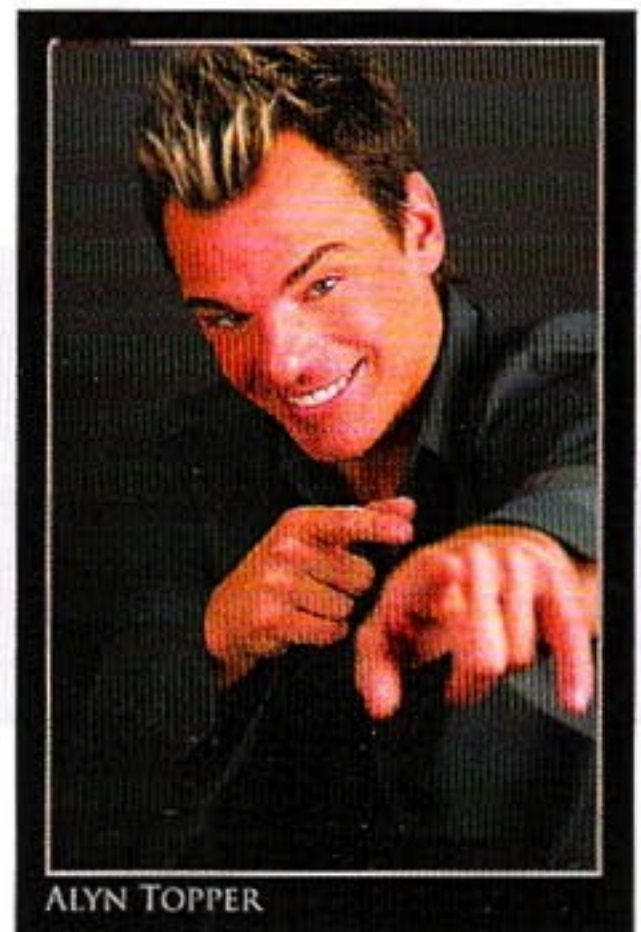
When starting to blow-dry, a great tip is to start at the front hairline. The front hairline is generally full of unruly strays and cowlicks that have a mind of their own

## Topper Tip #3: Start WET

Hair is much easier to control with moisture in it. Once hair dries, it can be very difficult to smooth out.

## Topper Tip #4: Have a plan.

Use a metal brush blowing up and away from the face to create maximum volume. Take sections of hair the same width as the brush and use even tension. Follow this technique throughout the head ending in the back for flawless attention grabbing movement.



ALYN TOPPER

## Topper Tip #5: Play it up.

You can never go wrong with putting the hair up. I suggest playing with the natural texture and loosely placing it up in a chignon. This is a great way to look impeccable and approachable. Showing of the neckline is sexy and pulling everything back will draw the chin and cheek lines up creating a more youthful appearance. To make sure to catch everyone's eyes place a lovely Channel Broach or your favorite vintage broach in the updo to make the look complete. Note: A finished updo pinned too tight, with five coats of hairspray may make one seem uptight, unapproachable, or as if they are trying to hard. Glamour is about having it, not trying to look it!

## Topper Tip #6: Fake it.

My last tip to having a hair spiritual awakening this year is why not add some hair. Every celebrity will be flaunting these expensive faux long locks all year long. They are time consuming, high maintenance and come with a hefty price tag. For a fraction of the cost and without the headache or the hassle, I recommend clip-in extensions. Clip-in extensions are easy to put in, add instant volume, and instant length for endless glam god approval. Where to start? I suggest going to a reputable wig shop and ask the wig maker to match your hair color to the extensions. This will assure the extensions blend into the natural hair. I also suggest for a little more money, buying real human hair. Hot tools can be used on real human hair giving you multiple options of styling power. Synthetic hair cannot be reshaped or styled and will melt when any type of heat is applied.

With all the right decisions and a new hair awakening, there is no reason why everyday can't be a New Year's day! Impress everyone, Impress yourself! ■