

Skin 2 Skin Care: Natural Beauty Goes Luxe

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If you're wary of **natural skin care**, now's the time to rethink your stance. Going au natural no longer means slathering your face with crops pulled straight from the soil: brands like Korres, Chantecaille, and Pangea Organics have proven you can nix the synthetics and still keep your beauty cabinet chic.



Still, making the transition can be daunting. Want to test the natural waters before taking the plunge? Check out **Skin 2 Skin Care**, a luxurious line that replenishes and renews all skin types sans harmful ingredients and granola crunch.

Dedicated to "smart anti-aging," Skin 2 Skin combines plant-derived peptides and organic elements with cutting-edge, medical grade technology. According to founder Ken Simpson – who designed products for resorts and med spas before launching Skin 2 Skin – natural peptides stimulate the skin's own production of collagen and other age defiers from within, rather than just layering them on top. He developed the line's first product, Aging Intervention Cream, to treat his own skin, which had been severely damaged by cancer radiation treatment five years ago. He says the non-toxic, peptide-based formula he created was not only effective, it literally transformed his skin in under a week.

Though the line has grown over the past few years, Skin 2 Skin's products still remain refreshingly simple on the formulation front. Straightforward names tell you what the products do (no question what Un-Wrinkle Forehead & Crow's Feet Cream cures), and labels boast ingredients you can actually pronounce. The brand doesn't rely on dangerous additives like chemical parabens, sodium lauryl sulfate, PABA, and mineral oils for effectiveness; instead, it packs products with antioxidants, vitamins, plant oils, and over thirty certified organic extracts that heal, fortify, and protect. Surprisingly rich and luxurious, the collection has won multiple natural beauty awards, and even carries vegan and PETA seals of approval.

The line has under twenty products, but it's a powerful little crop. One stand-out is the White Tea Face Wash (\$35), a cleanser that makes good on its promise to eradicate dirt, oil, and stubborn makeup (it even got rid of waterproof liner *and* mascara without help from additional products). Infused with a bright, citrusy scent, it hydrates with soy glycerin and exfoliates with Neroli oil.

A top-seller and makeup artist favorite (the team at Fox show "Fringe" is a fan), the Revitalizing Eye Gel (\$44) is another keeper: it preps the eye area for makeup application and doesn't travel like other eye creams do (read: your liner stays put). It keeps eyes safe by using arnica oil to reduce puffiness, Noni juice to heal, and miracle peptide Regu-Age to soften dark circles. Simpson suggests pairing it with Anti-Photoaging SPF 30 tinted moisturizer (\$44) and Photoaging Repair Cream (\$69) for a dewy, beach safe look.

Can't choose just one? Nab a five-product starter kit (\$243) now, or keep your eyes out for Skin 2 Skin's new set for "sexy" skin, due out this Fall.

Products range from \$30 – \$98; \$243 for a five-product starter set. Buy at <http://www.skin2skincare.com/> and select retailers across the U.S.

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