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# Don't Go To The Cosmetics Counter Without Me: A Unique, Professionally Sourced Guide To Thousands Of Skin-care And Makeup Products From Today's Hottest ... And Discover Which Products Really Work!



PAULA BEGOUN  
The Cosmetics Cop  
with Bryan Barron



## Don't Go TO THE Cosmetics Counter Without Me 8<sup>th</sup> Edition

A unique, professionally sourced guide to thousands of skin-care and makeup products from today's hottest brands. Shop smarter, look beautiful, and discover which products really work!

**Over 2.5 million copies sold!**



## Synopsis

Paula Begoun has been reporting on the beauty industry for more than 25 years. Loved by readers and feared by corporations, she has earned the name of "Cosmetics Cop" for her thorough, authoritative investigations of beauty products and her fierce consumer advocacy. From drugstores and home shopping to department stores and catalogs, Begoun reviews all of the major cosmetic and skin care lines product by product &#151; more than 30,000 in all. Regardless of the price tags, there are good and bad products in almost every line, and with the turn of a page, readers receive concise reviews and fast answers in this comprehensive, totally revised edition. Begoun covers product websites, efficacy, and whether claims such as youth extension are accurate. Individual chapters are devoted to best products, a cosmetic ingredients dictionary, and animal testing. A user-friendly rating system makes finding items worth trying a snap.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

One of my favourite books (perfect for any make-up, skincare, shopping devotee anywhere). She is a one woman Consumer Reports of everything and anything skincare, haircare, make-up, body products, etc. for every gender and race (The whole book is amazing, in the back, there are specific

sections for issues and products specifically for men, babies, older women, specific skin conditions (i.e. rosacea, acne, etc.), teens, blacks and asians). Plus a list of the best products for (insert every category you can imagine here: For instance, Dry skin with a little combination plus sensitive areas... Or sunscreen without moisturizer for oily skin). It's a literal dictionary of almost every cosmetic/skincare company under the sun, every line and every product in those lines (updates since this edition came out are available - depending on the product in either the free e-mail or the subscription based website - also a must buy). If you wash your face ;), wear make-up, and/or read beauty magazines - this is perfect for you or a perfect gift! I've been using her books (every edition), for the past 15 years (I'm 34) and have saved so much money (for expensive products she gives comparisons of drugstore "doubles", and products that aren't great, she lists products that are better than do the same thing (For example a certain L'oreal mascara is as good as the excellently reviewed Dior Diorshow and Lancome Definicils, or the brands that consistently put out top-rated products, and the ones who consistently put out poor products - for example, Neutrogena for the former and Garnier for the latter). She has also helped me pick out the perfect skin care for my very fair, sensitive skin (and stopped my dry spots), and helped my mum pick out the perfect cosmetics and skincare to deal with her rosacea (she also lists dermatological and surgical options for conditions, citing the latest medical and scientific journals - no Allure or Cosmo style "oooh it smells so minty it must be good!" here.) Before the kindle, I had to print out pages from her subscription-based website ([beautypedia.com](http://beautypedia.com) and [cosmeticscop.com](http://cosmeticscop.com)), or lug her very heavy printed edition around (I used to keep a copy in the car just in case I went shopping). Now If I'm in the department store or drugstore, I can look up a product straight from my kindle! My paperback editions (I bought every update of this and Don't buy haircare products without me) have been donated to my dentist (he specialises in cosmetic dentistry). The books were so wanted, my dentist office has started a lending library of my donated copies!

I pre-ordered the 7th edition of this book and just hadn't reviewed it. For those unfamiliar with Ms. Begoun, reviews from several editions are posted on all the product pages. In other words, you may not know which edition is reviewed. I came across the 6th edition at the library. I checked it out so many times I knew I'd buy the 7th edition if she ever published one. Although the information in the 7th edition is updated, it is not as good as the 6th edition. The 6th edition discussed products for men and children; this does not. It's also evident this was written hurriedly. Still, this book is a far more reliable resource for good skin care and makeup products than any magazine I've read. They're all flavor-of-the-month. Sure, you can find out about some new products, but have you ever

seen a magazine PAN a product it's featuring?I've been following Ms. Begoun's advice for about 5 years now. Full disclosure: I do use a few of her products. I do a better job applying and removing makeup, I choose better colors, and I get better results from my skin care products, and EVERYONE who knows me can see the difference. That is reason enough to invest in the book.I did not want to subscribe to the companion, paid website, but I did, and I'm glad I did. Ms. Begoun does change her mind about products and ingredients on further review, and of course, new products are constantly being introduced on the market.The benefits of being able to find good products and not waste money on cosmetics and skin care far outweigh the price of the book. You've paid more for a face cream, haven't you? Highly recommended.

I've had this book for a while now and I was referencing it like crazy at the beginning. I still use it. I mainly want to know if an expensive line of makeup is overpriced or truly worth it and Paula Begoun has no qualms telling you the truth. I have tested her over the years with different product reviews and also my own experience, and she seems pretty accurate. The only problem with this book is that it can get outdated. Companies are swapping and discontinuing products every day and adding new ones. But the book is large and extensive and she goes into a lot of detail so I'm very happy to own it. Do your research before you buy anything!!!

I got the edition of 1996, knowing it wasn't going to be up to date with the things I could buy in the stores in 2012. I hoped she was going to explain to me why should I prefer this or avoid that always from the point of view that we are not all the same and what causes a terrible allergic reaction to somebody, could be my best cosmetic friend (in the same way that I have a friend allergic to fish, but that doesn't make fish bad for me). Instead I found something like a religion: "do it because I said so".The deal breaker was when reviewing makeup, she used her tastes and prejudices about colors to evaluate products: I can't trust she's not doing the same when it's not a matter of taste, for example when discussing potentially dangerous ingredients. Most of the public talk about cosmetics is not based on facts, but beliefs ("n women saw improvements": do people around them saw those improvements as well?): if Paula can't separate her beliefs from facts, then she's not better than the big cosmetic brands and her book is not for me.

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