



SEEING RED

Whether you want the cool sophistication of Nicole Kidman's strawberry-blonde, or the traffic-stopping shade of Jessica Rabbit's sweeping locks, if you're thinking of going in the red, take a look at some expert colour tips from Robert Kirby, Creative Director at Sanrizz salon group...

From old-school screen sirens Katharine Hepburn and Rita Hayworth, to modern day Hollywood darlings Drew Barrymore and Julia Roberts, any star worth their Golden Globe has dabbled with the red stuff at some time or another.

Redheads are perceived to have the feist-factor and this colour screams to be looked at and admired. So, if you think you've got the confidence to pull it off, then why not give fire-tinged tresses a whirl?

The red rules

'Looking good with red hair really depends on your skin tone. If you have a lot of red tones in your skin I would avoid this hair colour, as it will simply make it look even rosier. Red hair suits beige-toned skin a lot more.

If you're currently a brunette, the original colour will need to be cleansed before the red shade is applied. Blonde hair will take the colour much easier, although, if you have highlighted hair, the colour may still need to be cleansed out, as the lighter pieces of hair will go a different shade of red to the darker hair. Three to four weeks after the first application, I would advise going back to the salon for a gloss treatment, as this will help to maintain the colour and shine of the hair.'

'There are so many shades of red to choose from and I love the the copper colour sported by Marcia Cross just as much as the pillar-box locks of Rihanna. When choosing the right colour for you, your overall image is just as important as your skin tone. You'll need plenty of confidence to carry off red hair, so I wouldn't recommend it for shy, retiring types. But if you want to make a statement, then there's no better hair colour to do this with!'

Maintenance

'Red hair requires a lot of maintenance. As this is one of the lightest tones in the colour chart, it doesn't deposit on the hair very well and will quickly fade. You'll need to have it redone frequently and you'll need special products to keep it looking good. Also, if you've had your original colour 'lifted' (taken out) before it was coloured red, then your hair is likely to be much more fragile and need some extra care.

With summer on the horizon, if you're planning to spend time in the sun or the swimming pool, ask your colourist to mix you up a special blend of shampoo and a little semi-permanent colour before you leave the salon. Adding this to your hair once or twice a week throughout your holiday will help prevent colour fade.'



Julia Roberts



Rihanna



Marcia Cross