



Q: **HELP! I ALWAYS SEEM TO GET A BIG RED ZIT AT THE MOST INCONVENIENT TIMES. WHAT CAN I DO? -ALLISON, 14, DENVER**

a: According to the New York / New Jersey dermatologist Dr. David J. Goldberg, keeping pimples from sprouting is a lot easier than eliminating them once they're here. Use a benzoyl-peroxide cream like Clean & Clear Persa-Gel 10, \$4, at night to dry up oil and kill bacteria. After a month, your skin should start clearing. If you do get a huge one, don't pop it 0 that can make it bigger, or worse, leave you with a scar. Plus, David says, over-the-counter creams only help ward off new zits and won't make an existing one deflate. If it's a special occasion (like, ahem, prom), your dermatologist can zap the pimple with localized cortisone. Unfortunately, this costs up to \$200, so that's not an everyday solution. We say suck it up and use a concealer like Neutrogena SkinClearing Oil-Free Concealer, \$8.

STAY INSIDE THE LINES

Messy lips are no girl's friend.

BY BETH SHAPOURI

We'd like to thank Erika Christensen's makeup artist for demonstrating every rule for pulling off cherry lipstick. The color is bright but elegant, and using it with soft rosy blush and only a tad of berry eyeshadow prevents that painted-up effect. So even though her lips are bold, they don't steal the show.



Think back to your preschool days, when you hadn't quite mastered coloring books. Remember the red crayon lips you smudged over the characters' faces? Kelly Osbourne's are squarely in that tradition. Her mouth is proof that your lipline is there for a reason.



white teeth—the condensed version

Just when you thought things couldn't get any better than one-hour photo developing and quick-dry nail polish, we're happy to report that you can now whiten your teeth at warp speed. So if you hate to wait as much as we do keep reading. —C.F.



1. **REMBRANDT 2-HOUR WHITE KIT, \$20** Who cares if the mouth guard has that hockey-player look? You fill it with bleaching gel, pop in a movie, and by the time the credits roll, your teeth are amazingly whiter than when you started. 2. **CRESTWHITE STRIPS PREMIUM, \$35** The super-concentrated whitening-gel-coated strips are clear, so you can squeeze in the required bleaching sessions 30 minutes, twice a day pretty much anywhere you happen to be.