



ESSENCE 2011 beauty awards BEAUTY | SPECIAL

## Skin

We want our complexions to be smooth and even and our bodies to be hydrated. Here are our picks to get the job done right!

**CLEANSERS**  
**BEST GEL** Blow Steam Cleanser (\$8, select drugstores). Talk about a great multitasker—this cleanser works with the steam in your shower to thoroughly wash away dirt and debris.  
**BEST SCRUB** Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula Facial Scrub (\$10, palmers.com). We love that we can just run to the drugstore and find a scrub that brings back our glow for about the cost of a good movie.  
**BEST TOOL** Olay Professional ProX Advanced Cleansing System (\$70, olayprofessional.com). This easy-to-use exfoliating gadget takes your facial cleansing to the next level. It rivals some of the more expensive versions that we've tried.

**ASH BUSTERS**  
**BEST HAND CREAM** Thymes Hard-Working Hand Cream (\$16, thymes.com). When we left this in the ladies' room, the staffers used every last drop. It must have been the moisturizing shea butter and delicious mandarin cardamom scent.  
**BEST BODY LOTION** Eucerin Daily+ Strength Body Creme (\$8, drugstores). This lighter weight version of the original still successfully tackled our hard-core dry skin issues.  
**BEST BODY WASH** Dove VisiCare Renewing Creme Body Wash (\$7, drugstores). This wash left our skin feeling so soft and smooth that we didn't rush to the lotion after we stepped out of the shower.

**SPECIALTY CREAM**  
**BEST ECZEMA SOOTHER** Aveeno Eczema Therapy Moisturizing Cream (\$8, drugstores). If you have eczema, run—don't walk—to get this cream. As a solution to the most severe itchiness, dryness and irritation, this miracle cream is one the editors agreed that they would bathe in if they could.

**OUR TAKE**  
 Why face serum? They are designed to penetrate deeper into the skin than creams.

**TOP TREATMENTS**  
 Keep the glow with these skin-clearing choices:  
**BEST EYE BRIGHTENER** Clinique All About Eyes Serum (de-puffing eye treatment) (\$20, clinique.com). Up all night? Wake up those tired eyes with the cooling cucumber and soothing ginkgo extract.  
**BEST FACE SERUM** Origins Plantation Anti-Aging Serum (\$35, origins.com). A gentle oily serum that tackles sagging, discoloration and rough texture.  
**BEST ACHE FIGHTER** Supery By Dr. Nicholas Perricone Acne Treatment (\$50, sephora.com). The quercetin found in green apples prevents the bumps and the alpha hydroxy acid fades dark spots left behind. >

**BEST SCRUB** Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula Facial Scrub (\$10, palmers.com). We love that we can just run to the drugstore and find a scrub that brings back our glow for about the cost of a good movie.