

AMERICAN SALON

WHERE BEAUTY BEGINS
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SPRING SPLASH

Rusk's Sandra Yu crafts hair with modern movement and versatile, fun texture

smooth and sweet

Atkins fans notwithstanding, everyone knows sugar is one of the best things on earth. Now it's providing another pleasure: a sweet, virtually pain-free alternative to waxing. "Unlike waxing, sugaring extracts hair in its natural direction of growth," says Lina Kennedy, president of Alexandria Professional Body Sugaring (and who's also known as "The Sugar Queen"). "This eliminates breakage, unnecessary discomfort, irritation and ingrown hairs." Here's how it works: A specially trained technician preps the client's skin with a cleanser that removes oils, lotions and any surface debris. Next, the skin is misted with an antiseptic, antibacterial and anti-inflammatory tonic. After applying a drying powder, the technician rubs in several layers of a lukewarm sugar paste (its warm-cool temperature eliminates the risk of burning, so it can be applied to all areas, including arms, legs, bikini, lip and eyebrow). A flicking motion is then used to remove the paste and the hair. Another spritz of tonic is followed by a moisturizing lotion, resulting in incredibly smooth, silky skin. "The treatment is comfortable because the sugar paste seeps into the 'inner tube,' lubricating the hair follicle and making it much easier to extract," Kennedy explains. "It's also extremely hygienic because bacteria doesn't grow in sugar. And the paste is never reused, virtually eliminating the risk of cross-contamination." Now that sounds like a sweet deal. For more information on the technique, visit www.alexandriasugaring.com, or call (800) 957-8427.

—M.N.



After rubbing in the lukewarm sugar paste, technicians use a flicking motion to painlessly whisk away hair.

