

NOTEBOOK

READ ALL ABOUT IT



EXTENDED SERVICE

The brilliance behind The Weave Shop is taking Atlanta by storm as sisters, forced to reel in their beauty budgets, take advantage of what's being dubbed "the \$50 weave." "Weave Shop is the home of the original \$50 sew-in weave," claims owner/stylist LaTonya Sauderson. "We are... offering quality service at an affordable price." With 10 locations in three states (Georgia, Michigan, New Jersey), this multi-million-dollar beauty express cranks out extensions Ford factory-style. But the parts and labor in this instance are the parts that give way to cornrows created by a braider that lay the foundation for needle-and-thread action, and a fabulous style and cut supplied by a stylist, resulting in instant glam. Whew! It's serious up in there. Visit theweaveshop.com for more information, including franchise opportunities.

—LaConia J. Dean



Project Runway

In a perfect world, women would step out of their closets looking glamorous from head to toe without sacrificing comfort. Then call Bukola Are a perfectionist. Says the founder and designer of House of Versatile Style (HVS), which made its debut at New York Fashion Week in March, "The woman I design for is daring, and of all things she loves to be comfortable. Comfort is her number one thing." Nothing short of sassy, the HVS aesthetic serves every woman, from those who adore high fashion to those who crave contemporary flair. For a peek of the latest and greatest by Are, log on to houseofversatilestyles.com.

—Adrienne A. Gadling

HOT MAMA

Pregnancy should be one of the most beautiful moments for an expectant mother, so don't let unflattering bras, granny panties and over-draping nighties in humdrum colors put a damper on your sex appeal. Take a virtual visit to You! Lingerie (you-lingerie.com) for inspiration in the form of beautiful yet functional lingerie and nursing bras tailored to bring your sexy back to the bedroom and beyond. Luxurious fabrics and enticing styles make for options that are feminine and sensual, while qualities like cotton lining and nursing clips camouflaged by decorative bows keep you comfortable, stylish and equipped for discreet feeding.

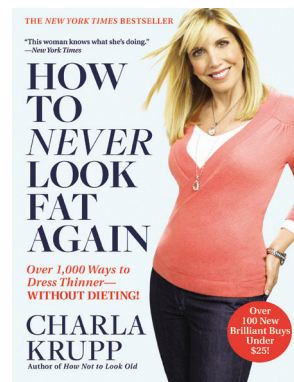
—L. J. D.



LACQUER LUSTER

Summer blaze equals gladiator sandals and flip-flops, which means it's time to take the toes out for a spin. But before your tootsies make their summer debut, elevate your pedicure requirement to nontoxic levels with luscious color from the Ginger + Liz Colour Collection. This vegan-friendly array of enviable shades has an even more enviable following, including the likes of Mary J. Blige. "[Ginger + Liz] is an awesome line," says celebrity manicurist Terrance Terry. "I truly love their bright and rich shades like Boy Toy, Swagger and Big Daddy Kane." Visit gingerandliz.com to find a hue that suits you.

—Ashley Rogers



Svelte Style

Diet and fitness may be two surefire ways to lose weight, but what if you could look slimmer in only five seconds? *How to Never Look Fat Again* by Charla Krupp (Grand Central Life & Style, 2011) gives more than a thousand different tips to reduce bulk by simply changing pieces of your outfit. Learn to hide your broad shoulders or make your thunder thighs less stormy with a few basic hints from this style maven. Among her simple tips: Befriend opaque black tights; never opt for babydoll dresses; and always remember a cardigan.

—Victoria Plummer