

# Show off perfect lips with semi-permanent makeup



Debarati.Sen  
@timesgroup.com

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If you are looking for perfectly made up smudge-proof lips, cosmetic lip tattooing or micro pigmentation is the answer. Dermatologist Dr Geeta Oberoi says, “Lip tattoo is semi-permanent makeup that gives a crisp lip line, is non-smudge makeup that covers dark lips and also makes the lips look fuller.”

## Who should get it done

Cosmetologist Dr Smita Mahinkar says, “If you are looking for subtle, semi-permanent makeup then a lip tattoo is a great way to enhance the shape and colour of your lips.” Dr Rashmi Shetty, cosmetic physician advises, “Lip tattoos are ideal for people who are suffering from vitiligo, or those who have scars on their lips that need to be hidden. Also, people who lack a defined lip line can go for this.”

## Choosing the right colour

Light pinks and nudes are ideal colours for permanent lip makeup. These work best because if needed you can apply darker coloured lipsticks but getting a dark lip tattoo might not be as aesthetically appealing. Choosing the right ink is extremely important because sometimes it takes on a purple tint, which can be ugly.

## The right age for permanent lip makeup

Lip tattoos should not be done at very young ages. Just like our nose and eyes, our lips also change as we grow older — they become thinner, the sides droop down slightly and borders fade. Dr Shetty says, “So, when you get a tattoo done in your 20s, it is highly likely that over the years it would look bad and misshapen.”

## IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE FOLLOWING THINGS IN MIND

■ Cosmetic tattooing is said to have no side effects, but colour filling can take time (around two hours) as lips take in colour slowly and there might be discomfort despite all the advanced equipment and techniques being used.

■ Since permanent makeup is just like a regular tattoo, precautions to be taken before getting it done are similar. Make sure that you go to a professional, hygienic place that uses disposable needles and good quality ink.

■ Although the pigment molecules stay in the skin indefinitely, the colour remains visible for one to two years. This varies depending on your age, skin type, colour choice and lifestyle. For optimum results, you should expect to attend a colour boost session every 18 months.