

# Chapter 6: Using Styling Products

## Pomade: Your Secret Weapon

Pomade - Not just for Old Men!

Pomade, a combination of oil and wax, has been around for well over a century. Originally sold as hair treatment for gentlemen, it replaced “hair oil” as the styling product of choice.

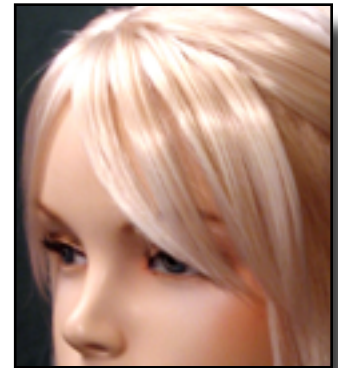
Nowadays, it’s a bit of an industry secret, as most people use hair gel as their “go-to” goop. However, unlike gel, pomade isn’t sticky, and won’t dry up into a flakey mess. Also, it doesn’t turn stiff and immobile. Instead, it stays flexible and pliable, making it the ideal choice for subtle shine and control.



### Light, flexible sculpting...

One of the prime effects I use pomade for is to create that “separated” look in layered styles. Using just a tiny bit of pomade helps synthetic fiber clump more like human hair does due to scalp oils.

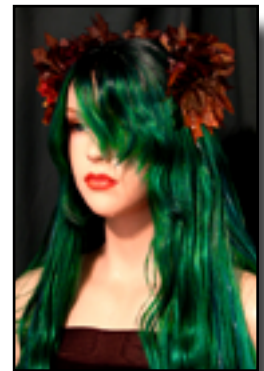
Defined points can be added to the tips without creating stiff “blades” of hair-sprayed fiber. This also makes the style more comfortable to wear, as you don’t need to worry about a sharp point poking you in the face or neck as you move.



### Added shine and frizz control...

A light application of pomade smoothed onto the style will give it a clean look, free of flyaways. To do this, just take a tiny dab of pomade, rub your palms together until they look shiny, then lightly stroke the fiber.

On the other hand, if you’d like to give your wig the “wet look”, you can do that by upping the amount of pomade you apply, and working it into the fiber. The fiber won’t absorb the pomade, so the texture will become a bit more oily, but it won’t become stiff. (This also will make it *much* easier to comb.)



### Curl treatment...

If you put a little bit of pomade on your fiber ribbons before rolling them onto rods, you’ll find it much easier to control. The pomade won’t prevent the heat from penetrating the fiber, and if you use the hot water method, the pomade will rinse off completely.

By applying pomade to a freshly unrolled curl, you can help it maintain a crisper shape. (Especially for ringlets.) This will also help prevent the curl from fraying while you work with it.

