

Sure, we love the fun routines and elaborate costumes, but in our opinion, the most amazing thing about *Dancing With The Stars* is how the contestants' makeup stays so perfect, no matter how much they sweat.

Zena Shteyssel, who has won an Emmy for her work on the celeb dance competition, gave us a peek behind the red velvet curtain, sharing everything from backstage photos of her inspiration collages for this season's competitors to exactly how spray-tanned the male contestants get – not to mention which stay-put products she and her team use for the show.

Getting that golden glow: First and foremost, the contestants need a good foundation for their look, which means attending Shteyssel's "Spray Tan Sundays." At the beginning, she says, some contestants are resistant to the tan (she uses South Seas Skin Care spray tanning solution and their Island Glow Body Bronzer), but soon they warm up to it. "They see that the reason that they're doing it is because of...these costumes that they're wearing," she says. "[When] they're scantily clad, they're like, 'Bring on the spray tan!'"

And that goes double for the guys. "We'll do some abs, we'll carve that out if they're wearing, like, no shirt or an open shirt," she dishes. "We get lots of requests for that."

Creating inspiration boards: "It always begins with production sending [my team of eight makeup artists] notes on the wardrobe colors," Shteyssel says. "Then Monday...we'll see the actual wardrobe and take photos, then come down to the makeup department and translate [the look]."

Translating means that the makeup artists create collages for the dancers to see. "We'll go through makeup ideas from the internet and magazines, and we'll literally cut pictures out and create a collage on a piece of construction paper," Shteyssel says; for example, "different eyes, one with liner, one with pink eye shadow, or a good smoky eye. It's really visual for them to see."

Next up, makeup: Makeup artists then get to go to town, adding up to three pairs of Ardell lashes per lady and wrestling the guys into makeup. "Some of them can be quite resistant," Shteyssel shares. "They'll be like, 'I'm a man, I don't get makeup on.' But we need to still shine and powder them!"

All of *DWTS*' artists use Shteyssel's Z Palette to keep their makeup easily on hand. And that makeup arsenal includes Stila's All Day Foundation, Long Wear Lipsticks and Waterproof Eyeliner ("We really love that Stila," she says. It really does stay throughout all the rehearsals.") She also goes for Tarte's LipSurgence pencils (dancer Sharna wore Fiery last week) and Make Up Forever's pigmented shadows (Zendaya's lips were done up in Navy Blue 60, Turquoise Matte 72 and Yellow 2). And when all is said and done, Shteyssel sends contestants to their trailers with a pack of Comodynes to wipe all that makeup off.