



Nape-of-the-Neck Hair

Sleek, simple and subdued, this hairstyle will have you looking your carefree best

Simplify your bridal look with one of this season's hottest hair trends: fuss-free styles at the nape-of-the-neck. Low ponytails, braids and buns were spotted all over the runway, and their messy textures added a relaxed feel to this feminine look. We talked to Garret Hamabata, master stylist at Vim and Vigor Salon in San Francisco, California, for tips on how to get the look.

Messy Chic

Alfred Angelo took braids from casual to messy chic with teased hair on top, a single, long braid draped over one shoulder to the front, and face-framing wisps of hair set loose. "Keep the look romantic and soft without looking too casual," Hamabata says. "You can do this by keeping the style polished with a light shine product. Make it look like some time and care was put into it."

Braided Perfection

Reem Acra followed suit with the braid trend, but passed on teasing in favor of fun fishtail braids hanging down the center of models' backs.

Youthful Elegance

Amsale's low ponytails appealed to the young-at-heart with simple, slightly curled hair pulled back loosely, with tendrils free around the face.

The Face Framer

Elizabeth Fillmore showed hair that was pulled back from the face into a small pouf on top, with polished curls down the back.

Get the Look

"Shampoo hair with a light shampoo and no conditioner, since it makes hair too slippery," Hamabata advises. Next, apply KMS Hairstay Style Boost (\$17.95; haicarechoices.com) to towel-dried hair as a foundation and blow dry with a smoothing brush. Curl hair from midshaft to the ends with a 1 ½"- 2" curling iron, spraying each section with KMS Curlup Bounce Back Spray (\$12.95; haicarechoices.com), and brush it back into a ponytail. Smooth the front and the sides with a light shine product like KMS Flatout Anti-Humidity Seal (15.95; haicarechoices.com) to control frizz, and finish with a stronghold hairspray like KMS Hairstay Dry Extreme Hairspray (\$13.99; haicarechoices.com) to keep the look in place all day long.

- *Kirsten Robinson*

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