

Using Perfume

The appropriate way to use perfume is to apply it on areas of the body where the veins are close to the skin, such as the wrist, behind the ears, and at the base of the neck, as this ensures constant warmth so the fragrance can evaporate gradually. Applying perfume to your shirt, trousers, or skirt is just a waste. After application, the smell of a perfume develops over three distinct periods, called incense notes.

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The 'top notes' activate instantly upon spraying, providing an important first impression containing mild, volatile odours, such as fruit and floral scents. The next is the 'middle notes' that constitute the 'heart' of a perfume, which will start to be noticeable around fifteen minutes later, after the first notes disperse, and contain its main scent, clinging to the body for quite a long time. The later 'base notes' create a backdrop of calm and concentration and linger for an extended duration; these often contain the organic smells of wood, musk, and resin. Manufacturers often note the materials they use in the notes as well as the duration of the fragrance in each period under their standard experimental conditions.

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What are the best places to apply perfume?

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What are the middle notes of a perfume sometimes called?

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What kinds of smells do the base notes often contain?