



the innovation

.SOS skincare

For those who do daily battle with a high-maintenance complexion, the promise of relief from redness and rosacea may raise a skeptical eyebrow. Here PORTER tries out the latest intelligent creams that really do bring salvation to sensitive skin

Photography by Chris Colls Words by Danielle Fox

insider beauty

the redness reducer

Rosaliac AR Intense by La Roche Posay THE USP: Flushed skin calls for a high-tech healer. Using polyphenols, a powerful antioxidant that helps reduce the size of blood vessels, this serum instantly soothes discomforts such as stinging and burning, and with a base of thermal spring water helps to decongest the skin and reduce irritation. OUR PORTER PANELIST SAYS: "It was after turning 40 that I suddenly developed rosacea and despite a six-month course of antibiotics. the redness didn't subside. Since using this serum twice daily I haven't had a significant flare-up or any itchiness, and spots have become less inflamed. The texture is satisfyingly thick. but easily absorbs into the skin. This has become a permanent fixture in my skincare routine."

the overnight soother

Cell Revitalise Night Moisturiser by Aurelia Probiotic Skincare

THE USP: Skin starts repairing from 10pm. To aid the process of calming any inflammation caused by the day's stresses and environmental aggressors, this night cream uses a topical probiotic. This helps us to maintain balance (homeostasis) within the immune system, it ensures the skin is working at its optimum and it soothes any redness. OUR PORTER PANELIST SAYS: "I've suffered from chronic rosacea for the last 15 years and have tried everything from antibiotics to high-tech creams. Despite this being a night cream, I've been so impressed with the results I now use it in the morning, too. It has calmed my redness and the fingertip massage technique suggested in the instruction leaflet has helped inflammation. Any flaky skin has all but disappeared."

the multitasker

Extreme Repair by Radical Skincare

THE USP: Born from co-founder Rachel Edlich's battle with rosacea, this antioxidant-packed day cream is heavy duty in its texture, but also in its promise to repair any damage to the skin's barrier, which is often a side effect of rosacea. Radical Skincare's suspension technology encapsulates unstable antioxidants so that they are able to retain their potency on contact with the skin, making it the perfect ally for irritable complexions. The result? It calms redness, soften lines and improve skin's texture and firmness. OUR PORTER PANELIST SAYS: "I have an ongoing battle with my hypersensitive skin, which is excessively dry and flushed. This indulgently rich cream soothed it instantly, leaving my complexion looking plump and supple even after the first application. A little goes a long way."

the non-surgical peel

Triple Microdermabrasion Face Polish by Exuviance

THE USP: Many salon treatments can be too aggressive for those with rosacea and at-home chemical peels are also often unsuitable. Offering an alternative solution, this face polish promises to keep skin smooth with its super-fine dermatology-grade crystals and stimulate new cells with glycolic acid and papaya enzyme. The polish is gentle on inflamed skin, but tough on dissolving impurities that often exacerbate sensitivity. Leave on skin for two minutes as you would a mask.

OUR PORTER PANELIST SAYS: "I'm usually wary of a scrub in case it aggravates my hyper-sensitive complexion, but to my surprise, the finely-milled crystals left my skin feeling soft and smooth."

the skin rebooter

Complexion Saviour by Tracie Martyn
THE USP: This might well be the perfect rescue remedy for inflamed skin. It gently exfoliates using natural cosmeceutical azelaic acid (found in wheat and known to encourage skin-clearing salicylic acid), rosebay willowherb (likened to hydrocortisone, the gold standard treatment for rosacea) and soothing aloe vera. Try once a week for instant salvation.

OUR PORTER PANELIST SAYS: "I always turn to a mask at least once a week to give my flushed skin respite and opt for rich formulas in the hope that it will placate my extreme dryness. This gel-like mask is thin in texture, yet still feels luxurious and dries after 15 minutes to form a second skin. After washing off with warm water, my skin felt super clean and during the day I noticed that blemishes and some wayward spots healed incredibly fast."

the eye cream

Eyemulsion by Julisis

THE USP: Ocular rosacea is the inflammation of the eye area and one of the most commonly misdiagnosed forms of rosacea. Going natural does not mean forsaking results – this cooling blend of jojoba, aloe and echinacea oil helps relieve redness through its botanical ingredients and extracts of white diamond, copper and iron, which calm inflammation.

OUR PORTER PANELIST SAYS: "I suffer with dark circles under my eyes and inflamed red patches on my eyelids, so I'm wary of putting anything on my eyes to avoid aggravating the area. But the morning after I applied this silky cream I saw a change in texture – my under-eye hues were not as obvious and my sore eyelids had cleared. I now use this religiously morning and night and my eye area has become much brighter."



Rosaliac AR Intense by La Roche Posay, £17.50



Cell Revitalise Night Moisturiser by Aurelia Probiotic Skincare, £42



Extreme Repair by Radical Skincare, £100



Triple Microdermabrasion Face Polish by Exuviance, £57.50



Complexion Savinur by Tracie Martyn, £65.



Eyemulsion by Julisis, £189