

ON TOPIC | SKIN DEEP

need to know

While HA is safe and effective for most clients, there are some things you should keep in mind when using it. "One of the biggest things to remember is that using HA alone, particularly in a dry climate, won't provide the necessary hydration your skin needs," says Rhonda Allison Cosmeceuticals's Shannon Esau. Instead, she recommends using a heavy water, also known as deuterium oxide (D2O), before applying HA to allow the acid to work more effectively and increase the hydration faster. Heavy water has been shown to be more resistant to vaporization, which keeps it on the skin longer. Esau cautions that using hyaluronic products without sealing in the additional hydration can do more harm than good. "The trick is to use hyaluronic in conjunction with natural moisturizers to prevent the hydration from escaping and taking more of the skin's water with it," says Esau. "An easy way to do this is by applying a moisturizer over top of the HA product or looking for an all-in-one cream formula."

THE right STUFF

While there are many HA options on the market, there are certain considerations you will want to factor in when choosing a formula for your spa.

"You'll want to check the ingredient deck. Specifically, you're looking for L-sodium hyaluronate, which is the purest form of hyaluronic acid. This water-regulating molecule is capable of binding up

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- Glycosaminoglycan
- Hyaluran
- Hyaluronan
- Hyaluronate Sodium
- Hylan
- Sodium Hyaluronate ●

order to be efficient, cosmetic products need to contain enough HA. For example, the Masque Seconde Peau contains more than 80 percent of low molecular weight HA, which makes it remarkable in fighting skin aging."—Laure Bouscharain, head of research & development, Biologique Recherche ●

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