The Q & A's of Spray Tanning!

**How Do Spray Tans Work?**
With spray tanning you achieve the same natural tan you would with a tanning bed or in the sun. We hand spray the product onto your body. A full body spray takes approximately 10 minutes to perform. You must stay dry 12 hours before washing the temporary bronzer off. Tan looks best on day 2 when it's fully developed.

DHA is the main ingredient in any tanning solution or lotion. The medical term for DHA is known as dihydroxyacetone. (di-hy-droxy-ace-tone). DHA is a colorless chemical (it is derived from sugar cane) that interacts with the amino acids in dead skin cells to produce a brown color change. Since these dead skin cells are constantly being shed, the color change produced by DHA usually lasts about five to seven days.

DHA is not absorbed through the skin into the body and it has no known toxicity.

**Is DHA safe?**
DHA does not damage the skin, and is considered a safe skin coloring agent. DHA has been approved for cosmetic use by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) since the 1970’s. DHA-based sunless tanning has been recommended by The Skin Cancer Foundation, American Academy of Dermatology Association, Canadian Dermatology Association and the American Medical Association.

FDA guidelines specify that nasal membranes, eyes, lips and genitalia should be protected from exposure. Nose filters, eye protection and lip balm will be provided.

**Is there anything that I can do to assure that I get the best spray tan? Spray Tan Prep... Exfoliate! Exfoliate!**
Absolutely. One of the most important things that you must do is to thoroughly exfoliate before spray tanning. The shallower the dead skin layer on the surface of your skin, the more time it will take for this layer to build up before it starts rubbing off. That means the better the exfoliation, the more even your tan will be throughout its life and
the longer it will last. The best exfoliation by far is with a spa grade Exfoliating Body Wash. Of course it is just as vital to moisturize every day after spray tanning to keep your skin from drying out and exfoliating prematurely. Think clean, dry body. Do not use an oil based solution. Do not apply lotion, deodorant or perfumes, or makeup before your Spray Tan. Do not use Dove soap.

**How brown will I get?**

Everybody’s skin develops its own individual color. Some people go very brown, others get just a glow. For those people, with repeated sessions, the skin tends to get used to solution, and starts to develop more color. (You only need a few sessions to achieve this).

**Will My Spray Tan be Streaky or Orange?**

No! As long as you follow our important prep before your appointment, you will definitely not be streaky or orange. Following prep and after care are imperative! Plus, technology has greatly improved DHA solutions. They are very bronzing now, and not orange at all!

**I had bad experience with a spray tan before. Should I assume that spray tanning is not for me?**

No, there are many factors that could affect your tan: the quality of solution, your skin condition at a time. Remember that spray tanning solution is cosmetic, therefore the particular one that you had used, might not have been acceptable to your skin. Gecko Tans has new solution, which is bronzing, not orange like years ago.

**How Long Will my Sunless Spray Tan Last?**

Your Spray Tan should last at least 5 days. Results vary. We have heard as little as 5 days to as long as 12 days without fading. Excessive sweating, swimming in chlorine, salt water, jacuzzi use, etc., may adversely affect your tan. Moisturize your skin twice daily to extend the life of your tan. We offer amazing Tanning Extenders that will help you keep your tan longer!

**What do I Wear During my Spray Tan? Will it Stain my Clothes?**

You are welcome to wear whatever you feel good in. Most clients go nude, while others wear a swimsuit. The spray booth is in a private room. If you DO NOT want tan lines, spraying nude is recommended. After your sprayed, Please dress in dark, loose fitting clothes. The DHA needs air to react with the amino acids in your skin. So the tighter the clothing, the more likely you will be uneven. Flip flops are the best to wear after your tan.

**After Tan Care... When Can I Shower?**

Do Not Shower for 6-12 hours after your spray tan! There is a bronzer in the solution - so you will be extra dark until you shower. Final results won't be seen until after you wash the product off. Color looks best on day 2.
**My Last Spray Tan Was Different Than the Previous One, Even Though it Was the Same Solution?**

Again, it comes down to your skin. Your skin is a living thing, and is affected by many things like: time of the month, season, food you eat, stress, medication you take etc. If your tan is different, even though the solution used was the same, the most probable cause is the condition of your skin.

Make sure that you use the same pre-tan regimen when planning your tanning schedule. Exfoliate with a body scrub the day prior, a washcloth or loofah lightly the day of. No make-up, moisturizers, etc...

*** Moisturize! You have to keep your skin moisturized or the Spray Tan will not fade evenly.***

**I am Getting Married or going to a special event, When Should I Get Sprayed?**

I recommend getting Sprayed 2 days prior to your Big Day! If it is your first time getting a spray tan, it is highly recommended that you do a test run a week or two prior to the event. You won’t be as nervous, you will know what to expect, and you will be a pro at getting sprayed, so you are less likely to have any errors. We have a great buy 2 get 1 free package that is perfect for anyone interested in our Sunless Spray booth!

**Can I choose how tan I want to be?**

Yes, Our tanning experts evaluate your skin type to help you achieve your best sunless color possible. We offer three shades of our Sunless Solution. Our Spray Tan experts will consult with you to find what kind of color you are looking to achieve.

**What is the difference between spray tanning and using creams and lotions that contain DHA at home?**

Most sunless spray tans have a higher percentage of DHA-thus giving a deeper tan. The solution we use is top of the line, hence the DHA in the product you are relying on to give you that gorgeous glow is very, very fresh and of the highest quality. Our Spray solution also has a higher percentage of DHA than most over the counter self tanners and will give you streak-free, consistent results. When you DIY it is not only hard to reach your back and the back of your legs, it is also hard to tell whether you have applied the lotion, cream or spray consistently. DIY options can be ok after many trials of turning orange from using products that react badly with your skin, getting streaky results and missing patches.

**Can I UV tan and do a sunless tan?**

Yes. Our “Double Dip” will actually give you the deepest, darkest tanning results when you combine both our Giant Sun 8 Min. High performance bed, then get spray tanned...
immediately after. We have plush robes you can wear from the tanning bed, to the sunless booth. Pamper yourself and enjoy getting a gorgeous bronzed tan!

**Gecko Tans Sunless Spray Booth**

**Basic Spray booth directions:**

1. Apply the all over primer (this will prime your skin and balance the ph for faster, longer lasting, darker color. We have found that this also diminishes the “golden” color on really fair skin)

2. Apply the barrier cream to hands and feet (lotion that keeps the solution from staining your hands and feet unevenly)

3. Step in booth, push start button and get sprayed on the front of your body (the spray is a fine mist, similar to aerosol hair spray.) Once the front of your body is sprayed, the machine will stop.

4. Turn around so your back can get sprayed.

5. After you’re sprayed, step out of the booth. Wipe the barrier cream off your hands, and then pat the excess solution off your body, if you have any.

6. After your body is dry (2-3 minutes) wipe the barrier cream off your feet.

7. Get dressed, and enjoy the rest of your day!

8. Wash your hands and apply lotion to both hands and feet about 30-45 minutes after your Spray tan session. Remember not to get wet in any way for at least 6 hours!

*** Moisturize! You have to keep your skin moisturized or the Spray Tan will not fade evenly.***