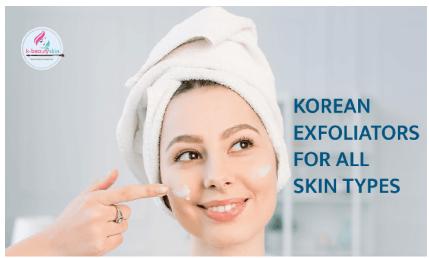


# Mastering the 10-Step Korean Skincare Routine

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The 10-step Korean skincare routine has gained global popularity for its emphasis on hydration, layering, and skin barrier health. While it may seem extensive, the routine is adaptable to individual skin needs and preferences. Experts suggest that it's not about adhering strictly to ten steps daily but about customizing the routine to suit your skin's requirements.

#### Step 1: Oil Cleanser

Begin with an oil-based cleanser to remove makeup, sunscreen, and sebum. Oil dissolves oil, effectively breaking down impurities without stripping the skin. Overall a lightweight, non-comedogenic formula that emulsifies upon contact with water for easy rinsing.

### Step 2: Water-Based Cleanser

Follow with a gentle, water-based cleanser to eliminate any remaining impurities and prepare the skin for subsequent steps. Thus the step ensures a clean canvas without disrupting the skin's natural barrier.

#### Step 3: Exfoliator

Exfoliate 1–2 times a week to remove dead skin cells and promote cell turnover. Opt for chemical exfoliants like AHAs or BHAs for a gentle yet effective exfoliation, avoiding harsh physical scrubs that can irritate the skin.

## Step 4: Toner

Apply a toner to balance the skin's pH and prep it for better absorption of subsequent products. Since toners can hydrate, soothe, and refine pores, depending on their formulation.

## Step 5: Essence

Essences are lightweight, hydrating liquids that deliver active ingredients deep into the skin. Therefore they enhance skin texture and radiance, acting as a bridge between toning and treatment steps.

#### Step 6: Serum

Firstly serums are concentrated treatments targeting specific skin concerns like pigmentation, fine lines, or acne. Secondly choose a serum that addresses your unique skin needs for optimal results.

## Step 7: Sheet Mask

Incorporate a sheet mask 1–2 times a week for an intensive boost of hydration and nutrients. Leave the mask on for 15–20 minutes to allow the skin to absorb the essence fully.

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