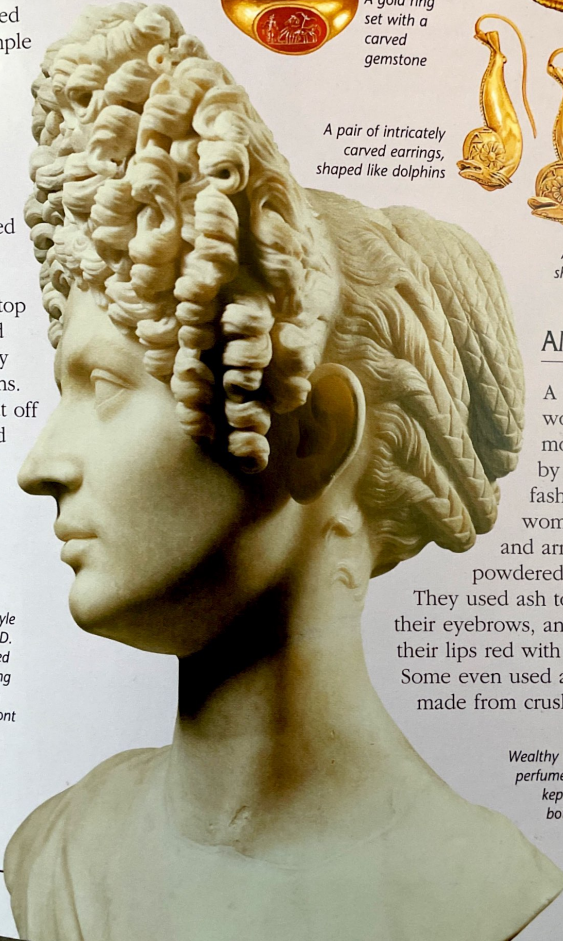


HAIR CARE

For most of the Roman era, men were clean-shaven and had simple, short haircuts - although the Emperor Hadrian later started a fashion for beards. Most men went to the barber every morning for a shave. This was a good opportunity to hear the latest gossip, but it was also very painful because barbers didn't use any soap or oil to protect the skin. Some men removed the hair from their arms and legs too.

During the Republic, women usually tied their hair in a simple bun, but in later times many had extremely elaborate hairstyles. Their hair would be curled with heated tongs, then arranged in an intricate pile on top of the head, held firmly in place by dozens of hairpins. Some women cut off a slave's hair and had it made into a wig.

This statue shows a popular women's hairstyle from the 2nd century AD. The poet Juvenal mocked hairstyles like this, saying they made women look much taller from the front than the back.



RINGS ON THEIR FINGERS

Rich Roman men and women wore lots of expensive rings, sometimes several on each finger. Wealthy women also wore a glittering variety of gold and silver brooches, bracelets, necklaces and earrings, studded with precious stones and jewels.



A gold ring set with a carved gemstone

A necklace set with emeralds and mother-of-pearl



A pair of intricately carved earrings, shaped like dolphins

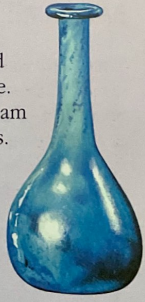


A bracelet shaped like a snake

AMAZING MAKEUP

A wealthy Roman woman would spend hours every morning being made up by her slaves. It was fashionable to look pale, so women whitened their faces and arms with powdered chalk.

They used ash to darken their eyebrows, and painted their lips red with plant dye. Some even used a face cream made from crushed snails.



Wealthy women wore perfume, which they kept in beautiful bottles like this.