

**FRESH-FACED**  
**J. Crew** jacket, \$288.  
**Maison Kitsuné**  
 dress, and shirt (worn  
 underneath), \$345.  
**Hilfiger Collection**  
 scarf, \$160. Details,  
 see [teenvogue.com](http://teenvogue.com).



**ERIN'S GO-TOS**  
**Toms** sunglasses,  
 \$68. [toms.com](http://toms.com). **Keds**  
 for **Kate Spade New**  
**York** sneakers,  
 \$75. [keds.com](http://keds.com).  
**Maybelline New**  
**York** Baby Lips  
 Moisturizing Lip Balm  
 in Quenched, \$5. CVS.

If you think the only career options open to you in the beauty industry are coiffing hair or painting nails (or, *ahem*, writing for a magazine), think again. Erin Morris, 25, who holds a **degree in industrial engineering** from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, has a rather stellar job at **L'Oréal USA**—no winged-eyeliner skills necessary. “As a project engineer, I design and develop the machines that package our products,” explains the Washington, D.C., native, who sports a white lab coat, safety goggles, and steel-toed shoes for her post. “Nearly every day I’m physically working with machinery. The facility smells amazing because of our lipstick fragrances!”

Becoming a beauty professional is a glamorous goal for many young women, but positions on the STEM side of things—that’s **science, technology, engineering, and math**—tend to be overlooked. “There are roles ranging from **product developers to color chemists**,” says Erin, who discovered her niche through engineering internships at L’Oréal before being hired there full-time. “In STEM there’s always something new to do or create—we’re **transforming the future of beauty**.”

Take her work on **Baby Lips** (a *Teen Vogue* staff favorite), which she and a small team entered in “Beauty Shakers,” L’Oréal’s internal innovation competition. “The contest is about giving the talent that is already here an outlet for their creativity,” Erin explains. Her winning group conceived a 40-percent more efficient way of packaging the balms by designing machines that run twice as fast as the ones the company had previously used.

When she isn’t pioneering production methods, Erin can be caught playing in a recreational soccer league or flaunting her more feminine side (“Dresses don’t work too well with machinery”). Did we mention she’s also enrolled at **New York University**, studying for a **master’s in business administration**? That’s to help Erin achieve her dream job: L’Oréal USA’s head of operations. Girl power. —ARIANA MARSH



PETER SOM

PRADA

“I like a more natural look,” Erin says. “While I experiment with makeup all the time, I usually wear just BB cream, a few strokes of mascara, and Baby Lips.”

★ **BEAUTY INSPIRATION**

Clockwise from top left: FRANCES TLUK-HART; TOM GORMAN (2); courtesy of Maybelline New York; KYLE ERICKSEN/WWD; SONNY VANDEVELDE/style.com