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10 Best Moisturizers for Combination Skin

Give your skin the gift of hydration.

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ROSDIANA CIARAVOLO // GETTY IMAGES

Achieving a healthy complexion is a constant balancing act. For those with combination skin, it can be especially challenging. Slather on the best skincare products for dry skin and you'll be left looking greasy—and worse, pimply—yet lean too far into oily-skin formulas and you may end up feeling dry as the Sahara. Adding even more confusion to the equation, it can seem like your skin is *constantly* in flux. “Skin that is categorized as combination means that it is dehydrated in some areas and excessively oily in others,” explains dermatologist Dr. [Deanne Mraz Robinson](#). “Typically, the T-zone is prone to oiliness while the cheeks might be dry/normal. Combination skin is also more sensitive to changes like seasons, stress, hormones, diet, and other environmental factors, so you may need to switch up your routine periodically.”

Thankfully, the best moisturizers for combination skin make addressing your finicky complexion a whole lot easier. These lightweight formulas help replenish necessary moisture without packing on the shine, giving you an all-around even-toned finish. And you shouldn't have to worry about breakouts, either, since many top formulas are oil-free and non-comedogenic, meaning they won't clog pores.

BEST LONG-WEARING

1



Laneige Water Bank Blue Hyaluronic Cream Moisturizer

\$23 at Amazon

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BEST OVERALL

2



Skinbetter Science Trio Rebalancing Moisture Treatment

\$150 at Skinbetter

[Read more](#)

BEST FOR MATURE SKIN

3



ISDIN Age Contour Face and Neck Anti-Aging Benefits Cream

\$92 at Amazon

[Read more](#)

BEST GEL MOISTURIZER

4



innisfree Dewy Glow Jelly Cream

\$18 at Amazon

[Read more](#)**BEST BUDGET**

5



CeraVe Daily Moisturizing Lotion for Dry Skin

\$17 at Amazon

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Speaking from experience, I can confirm the best moisturizers for combo skin are worth their weight in gold. Below, I've included some of my tried-and-true favorites. I also sifted through customer reviews and tapped Dr. Robinson, as well as fellow dermatologist [Dr. Ellen Marmur](#), to curate this list of must-haves. Scroll on to shop them.

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1

BEST LONG-WEARING

Laneige Water Bank Blue Hyaluronic Cream Moisturizer



\$23 at Amazon

\$23 at Sephora

PROS

⊕ Wears well under makeup

CONS

⊗ Some may prefer a heavier formula in the winter months

⊕ Hydrating yet fast-absorbing

I've tried many hydrating face creams that ultimately sit atop my skin and cause my makeup to pill, but this silky Laneige formula does quite the opposite. It has a weightless finish that leaves me with a perfectly supple, slightly tacky base for seamlessly blending in foundation. And in the rare cases I go au naturel, it creates a healthy-looking glow I'm actually proud to show off to the world. Per the brand, it contains micro-sized molecules of hyaluronic acid that allow for faster absorption and longer-lasting hydration. Squalane and glycerin also help keep flaky patches at bay, while ceramides offer additional barrier-boosting benefits.

Best skin type: Dry, combo, normal

Active ingredients: Blue hyaluronic acid, squalane, glycerin, ceramides

Size: 1.6 oz.

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2

BEST OVERALL

Skinbetter Science Trio Rebalancing Moisture Treatment



\$150 at Skinbetter

PROS

- ⊕ Dermatologist-recommended
- ⊕ Lightweight
- ⊕ Deeply hydrating

CONS

- ⊗ Pricey

Dr. Robinson recommends Skinbetter Science's Trio Rebalancing Moisture Treatment for combination skin types because "it packs a ton of moisture, without the weight," she says. "The science-backed formulation helps support deep hydration using hyaluronic acid, squalane, and actives like urea and glycerin. Additionally, it has linolenic acids, cholesterol, and ceramides to support a healthy skin barrier."

Best skin type: Combination, dry, aging

Active ingredients: Hyaluronic acid, squalane, urea, glycerin, linolenic acids, cholesterol, ceramides

Size: 1.7 oz.

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3

BEST FOR MATURE SKIN

ISDIN Age Contour Face and Neck Anti-Aging Benefits Cream



Now 20% Off

\$92 at Amazon

\$115 at Skinstore

\$115 at Dermstore

PROS	CONS
<div><div>⊕ Dermatologist-recommended</div><div>⊕ Nourishing</div><div>⊕ Helps fight signs of aging</div></div>	<div><div>⊗ Pricey</div></div>

Dr. Robinson suggests ISDIN’s Age Contour daytime cream for those with mature, combination skin. “It contains cross-linked hyaluronic acid that helps the skin retain water for an intense boost of hydration,” she explains. “It also features alteromonas ferment extracts, derived from fermentation of marine bacteria, that help protect the skin from wrinkle-inducing free radical damage.”

To complete your routine, you can also grab the cream in a potent nighttime version. It also features cross-linked hyaluronic acid, plus antioxidant-rich melatonin, which “works with the body’s natural circadian rhythm to repair the skin while you sleep,” adds Dr. Robinson.

Best skin type: All

Active ingredients: Cross-linked hyaluronic acid, alteromonas ferment extracts

Size: 1.81 oz.

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BEST GEL MOISTURIZER

innisfree Dewy Glow Jelly Cream



Now 30% Off

\$18 at Amazon

PROS

- ⊕ Melts into skin
- ⊕ Great for summer

CONS

- ⊗ Some may prefer a slightly heavier moisturizer for winter

⊕ Brightening and soothing

Gel, or water-based, moisturizers are known for being some of the best hydrators for combination skin as they offer plumping perks while melting into pores within seconds. This K-beauty gem is one of my favorites, namely to use during brutally humid New York summers. Equal parts hydrating, soothing, and brightening, it instantly absorbs to reverse dry spots and even out tone. And since it's free of silicones and mineral oil, it never makes me look overly shiny. The cherry on top? Its subtly fruity scent smells almost good enough to eat.

Best skin type: Dry, normal, oily, combination

Active ingredients: Cherry blossom extract, niacinamide, betaine, glycerin

Size: 1.69 fl. oz.

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5

BEST BUDGET

CeraVe Daily Moisturizing Lotion for Dry Skin



\$17 at Amazon

\$31 at Walmart

PROS

⊕ Affordable

CONS

⊗ May not be the most effective for acne-prone skin

⊕ **Multi-purpose**

⊕ **Super gentle**

This classic CeraVe lotion is a number one bestseller on Amazon for good reason: It's affordable, extremely gentle, and versatile enough to be used on the face and body without clogging pores or feeling greasy. Inside is a mix of hyaluronic acid and three essential ceramides made to lock in moisture and keep skin looking healthy.

An Amazon reviewer says: "I have uber-sensitive/combination skin and I live in a dry climate with not a lot of natural moisture in the air. This lotion is creamy but not too heavy and I genuinely believe my skin will not survive without it. We love CeraVe over here."

Best skin type: Normal, dry, combination

Active ingredients: Hyaluronic acid, ceramides (1, 3, and 6-II)

Size: 19 fl. oz

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BEST FOR REDNESS

fresh Rose Deep Hydration Moisturizer



\$46 at Sephora

\$44 at Walmart

\$46 at Nordstrom

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊕ Great for dry patches⊕ Soothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊗ Some may not prefer the scent

Fresh's Rose Deep Hydration moisturizer is my go-to when my combo skin feels especially dry and irritated. It's packed with hyaluronic acid as well as rosewater and damask rose extract to effectively soothe skin and help strengthen it in the process. The rich formula is super nourishing yet absorbs so well, I can still get away with wearing it year-round.

Best skin type: Dry, combo, normal

Active ingredients: Hyaluronic acid, rosewater, damask rose extract

Size: 1.6 oz.

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BEST FOR DARK SPOTS

Augustinus Bader The Cream



\$180 at Sephora

\$180 at Nordstrom

\$290 at Dermstore

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊕ Brightens⊕ Hydrates⊕ Helps smooth fine lines and wrinkles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊗ Pricey

Augustinus Bader's luxurious offerings have plenty of hype, with the brand's signature, The Cream being the buzziest in its lineup. Using a proprietary blend of amino acids, antioxidants, and vitamins, the lightweight moisturizer helps balance hydration levels, smooth fine lines, and boost elasticity and brightness. Included is L-Ascorbic Acid, a powerful, stable form of vitamin C that can effectively target stubborn dark spots and hyperpigmentation. "This cream always gives my skin what it needs to get glowing. There's hyaluronic acid, evening primrose, and this tiny breakthrough molecule called TFC8—"trigger factor complex"—which trains your skin to regenerate and become healthier in the long term just like a session at the gym," shares Margaux Anbouba, Beauty Editor, ELLE.

Best skin type: Normal, dry, combination, and oily

Active ingredients: TFC8 complex, vitamin A, vitamin C

Size: 1 oz.

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BEST FOR ACNE-PRONE SKIN

Biossance Squalane + Probiotic Gel Moisturizer



\$54 at Amazon

PROS

- ⊕ Ultra-lightweight
- ⊕ Reduces inflammation
- ⊕ Helps clear pores

CONS

- ⊗ Some may not prefer the scent

Biossance's gel moisturizer is especially ideal for anyone with combo, acne-prone skin. Not only should it feel featherlight and refreshing thanks to squalane, but it's also packed with microbiome-restoring probiotics, which have been shown to reduce inflammation and *P. acnes* bacteria on the skin that causes acne. With consistent use, expect to see visibly smaller pores and a calm, clear complexion.

Best skin type: Oily, combo, normal

Active ingredients: squalane, probiotics, bisabolol

Size: 1.6 oz.

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BEST FOR SENSITIVE SKIN

Tower 28 SOS Daily Barrier Recovery Cream



\$24 at tower28beauty.com

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊕ Super calming⊕ Fragrance-free⊕ Hydrating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊗ Some may not prefer a silkier texture

Like the rest of Tower 28’s thoughtfully-formulated makeup and skincare products, this moisturizer is designed to suit even the most sensitive complexions. (FYI, it’s from the same line as the brand’s popular facial mist, beloved by Hailey Bieber and countless TikTok influencers.) Aptly named the SOS Daily Barrier Recovery cream, it boasts four types of hydrating hyaluronic acid, strengthening ceramides, and calming allantoin to help keep skin balanced. It’s also fragrance-free, backed by the National Eczema Association, and said to be fast-absorbing and non-greasy.

A Tower 28 reviewer says: “I absolutely love this moisturizer! I’ve had a few dry patches on my face, and this product makes my skin so much smoother. I’ll definitely purchase this in the future!”

Best skin type: Sensitive, all

Active ingredients: Hyaluronic acid, ceramides, allantoin

Size: 1.86 oz.

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10

BEST WITH SPF

EltaMD UV Clear Face Sunscreen



\$41 at Amazon

\$46 at Walmart

\$41 at Dermstore

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊕ Good for sensitive skin⊕ Minimizes pores⊕ Nourishes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⊗ Some users noticed some pilling after application

Streamline your skincare routine with this dermatologist-backed moisturizer featuring an essential daily dose of sunscreen. Anyone with combination skin will love its lightweight texture and blend of hyaluronic acid and niacinamide to help nourish, shrink pores, and minimize excess shine. Not to mention, the mineral-based formula is oil-free and non-comedogenic. “I just ran out of this sunscreen. I bounce between this one and two others but EltaMD always stays in my rotation because this left my skin not only protected, but also feeling moisturized. It helps fight hyperpigmentation with UVA/UVB protection and overall, keeps my skin looking even (with the help of my other serums, of course), especially in Summer months,” shares Danielle James, Digital Beauty Director, ELLE.

Best skin type: Sensitive, acne-prone, combination

Active ingredients: Hyaluronic acid, zinc oxide, niacinamide, vitamin E

Size: 1.7 oz.

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