

[Beauty](#) > [Makeup & Skincare 2023](#)

# 12 Best Waterproof Foundations for Streak-Free Days

*These budge-proof formulas are heat, sweat, rain and tear-resistant.*

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MATTEO VALLE/LAUNCHMETRICS.COM/SPOTLIGHT // LAUNCHMETRICS SPOTLIGHT

Of all the hard-working [beauty products](#) that check off multiple boxes, the best waterproof foundations are certified MVPs in the category. Similar to the [best traditional foundations](#), these offer various finishes and levels of coverage to suit your specific skin type and desired aesthetic. Yet when rain, sweat, humidity, or even a good ol' fashioned cry threaten to put a (literal) damper on your look, these budge-proof formulas will effectively stay locked in for hours.

“Waterproof foundations typically work by [using polymers or silicone-based compounds] to create a micro-film on the skin, which holds pigments while repelling

sweat and water,” explains Eddie Duyos, Make Up For Ever Pro Artist and Brand Education Manager.

## Our picks for the best waterproof foundations of 2023

### BEST FOR MEDIUM COVERAGE

1



Make Up For Ever HD Skin Undetectable Longwear Foundation

\$22 at Nordstrom

[Read more](#)

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### BEST FOR BLURRING PORES

2



bareMinerals Barepro Performance Wear Liquid Foundation

\$39 at Amazon

[Read more](#)

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### BEST BUDGET

3



L'Oréal Paris Infallible 24 Hour Fresh Wear Foundation

\$12 at Amazon

[Read more](#)

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### BEST FOR A NATURAL FINISH

4



Laura Mercier Real Flawless Weightless Perfecting Foundation

\$48 at Nordstrom

[Read more](#)

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**BEST FOR ACNE-PRONE SKIN**

5



IT Cosmetics CC+ Cream Oil-Free Matte with SPF 40

\$47 at Sephora

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Keep in mind that said polymers *can* contain pore-clogging ingredients, so if you have [acne-prone skin](#), it's best to look for non-comedogenic waterproof formulas. (FYI, there are plenty of these available!)

For a flawless, streak-free mug, I tapped Duyos, as well as two additional makeup artists and dermatologist Dr. [Ellen Marmur](#), to uncover the 12 best waterproof foundations money can buy. I even included one of my personal go-to's and another ELLE editor-favorite formula. Keep scrolling to find your perfect match.

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# 1

## **BEST FOR MEDIUM COVERAGE**

Make Up For Ever HD Skin Undetectable Longwear Foundation



\$22 at Nordstrom

\$22 at Macy's

\$22 at Sephora

CREDIT: NORDSTROM

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Natural-looking finish</li><li>⊕ Buildable</li><li>⊕ 24-hour coverage</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ Not ideal for those who want fuller coverage</li></ul>

“The Make Up For Ever HD Skin Liquid Foundation is definitely a holy grail when it comes to a waterproof formula, especially in the summer,” says Duyos. “With its medium, buildable coverage and natural matte finish, this foundation stays on until you want it gone!” Thanks to a proprietary micro-skin system, it’s formulated to sync with your complexion to give you that true-to-skin finish.

**Coverage:** Medium

**Finish:** Natural

**Shades:** 38

**Size:** 0.04 or 1.01 oz.

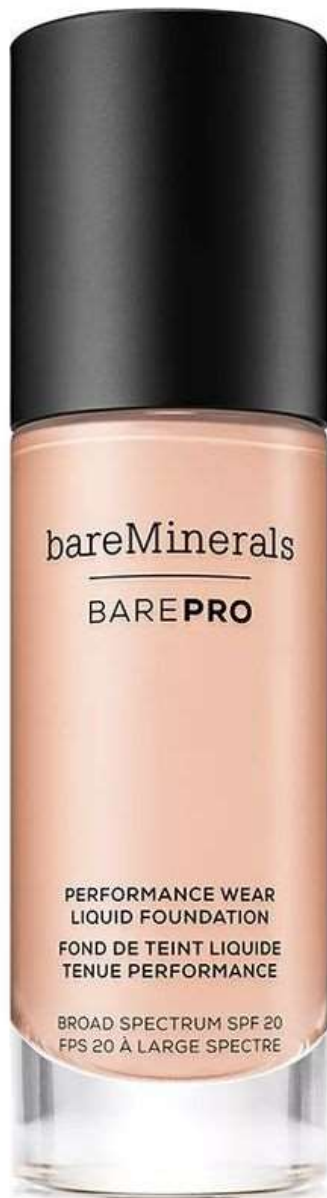
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# 2

## **BEST FOR BLURRING PORES**

bareMinerals Barepro Performance Wear Liquid Foundation



\$39 at Amazon

\$19 at Walmart

\$39 at Ulta Beauty

CREDIT: AMAZON



PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ SPF 20</li><li>⊕ Breathable</li><li>⊕ Helps improve skin texture and tone</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ Some may wish it was more hydrating</li></ul>

Cover *and* treat your blemishes simultaneously with this skincare-packed formula from bareMinerals. With ingredients like brightening bamboo extract and smoothing papaya enzymes, “it’s great at blurring pores and imperfections while improving skin texture over time,” says bareMinerals Global Makeup Artist and Brand Educator Carly Giglio. “I recommend this formula to anyone seeking all-day coverage and protection, as it offers 24-hour wear, mineral SPF 20, and a matte finish that’s still super breathable.”

**Coverage:** Full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 30

**Size:** 1 oz.

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# 3

## **BEST BUDGET**

L'Oréal Paris Infallible 24 Hour Fresh Wear Foundation



Now 28% Off

\$12 at Amazon

\$12 at Walmart

\$16 at Ulta Beauty

CREDIT: AMAZON

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Affordable</li><li>⊕ Dermatologist-approved</li><li>⊕ Reduces shine</li><li>⊕ Non-comogogenic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ May take some work to even out skin texture</li></ul>

Dr. Marmur calls this “a great affordable option,” as it’s “long-lasting and has SPF25 to keep your skin protected.” Offering buildable coverage, the under-\$12 formula won’t clog pores and contains oil-absorbing ingredients like perlite to minimize shine.

**Coverage:** Medium to full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 40

**Size:** 1 oz.

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# 4

## **BEST FOR A NATURAL FINISH**

Laura Mercier Real Flawless Weightless Perfecting Foundation



\$48 at Nordstrom

\$48 at Bloomingdale's

\$48 at Ulta Beauty

CREDIT: NORDSTROM

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Hydrating</li><li>⊕ Shine-reducing</li><li>⊕ Breathable</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ Not ideal for those who want full coverage</li></ul>

“Unlike other film formulas that can be drying and create a cakey look, this foundation incorporates flexible non-drying film formers that help to improve water resistance while maintaining comfortable coverage,” says Laura Mercier’s Global Beauty Director Tayaba Jafri. “Additionally, it’s long-wearing, hydrating, and helps reduce shine throughout the day.”

**Coverage:** Medium

**Finish:** Natural

**Shades:** 28

**Size:** 1 oz.

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# 5

## **BEST FOR ACNE-PRONE SKIN**

IT Cosmetics CC+ Cream Oil-Free Matte with SPF 40





\$47 at Sephora

CREDIT: SEPHORA

PROS	CONS
<div><div></div><div>Good for redness, fine lines and breakouts</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>Lighter shades may run dark</div></div>

⊕ Reduces oil without stripping the skin

⊕ SPF40

Fuller coverage foundations aren't for everyone. When you're looking for something lighter that will also help smooth fine lines and wrinkles, even out dark spots, *and* keep breakouts under control, IT Cosmetics' CC+ Cream is a beauty bag essential. In fact, it's earned Dr. Marmur's seal of approval. "It has anti-aging benefits, intense hydration properties, and helps to absorb natural oils from the skin," she says. Alongside a blend of plumping collagen and peptides, it contains detoxifying charcoal and colloidal clay as well as bacteria-fighting tea tree oil.

**Coverage:** Full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 12

**Size:** 1.08 oz.

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# 6

**BEST FOR COLOR-MATCHING**

Il Makiage Woke Up Like This



\$39 at [ilmakiage.com](https://ilmakiage.com)

CREDIT: IL MAKIAGE

PROS

⊕ Wide shade range

CONS

⊗ Pricey

⊕ Foundation quiz offered

⊕ Long-lasting

“The occasions in which I need my foundation to be waterproof are rare, but every time I’m caught in a torrential downpour or cry happy tears watching a video of a dog reunite with its owner, I appreciate the impressive staying power of Il Makiage’s I Woke Up Like This Foundation,” says ELLE Beauty Editor Margaux Anbouba. “The online color-matching software was spot on for selecting my shade and I love how silky it feels during application.” Featuring a blend of blurring powders, light-diffusing spheres, and nourishing hyaluronic acid—the Insta-famous formula is meant to dry down matte yet look anything but dull.

**Coverage:** Medium to full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 50

**Size:** 1 oz.

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7

**BEST FOR FULL COVERAGE**

Lancôme Teint Idole Ultra Long Wear Foundation



\$47 at Sephora

\$57 at Nordstrom

\$57 at Bloomingdale's

CREDIT: SEPHORA

<p><b>PROS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Long-wearing</li><li>⊕ Smoothing</li><li>⊕ Hydrating</li></ul>	<p><b>CONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ Pricey</li></ul>
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While getting my makeup done for a special occasion recently, a makeup artist used this Lancôme foundation on me—and it’s since become my go-to for a lasting, full-coverage beat. The luxe waterproof formula complemented my skin tone impeccably, masked blemishes without feeling heavy, *and* stayed put through hours of dancing and mingling in the sticky summer heat. (Trust, those selfies still go down in my camera roll as legendary.)

**Coverage:** Full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 50

**Size:** 1 oz.

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8

**BEST FOR A RADIANT FINISH**

NARS Natural Radiant Longwear Foundation



\$50 at Nordstrom

\$43 at Walmart

\$50 at Bloomingdale's

CREDIT: NORDSTROM

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Buildable</li><li>⊕ Breathable</li><li>⊕ Non-comedogenic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ May not be ideal for those with oily skin</li></ul>

Not a fan of matte waterproof foundations? This buildable Nars formula lets your natural oils shine through for a balanced, dewy finish. The breathable foundation is transfer-, fade- and sweat-resistant for up to 16 hours and stars a range of fruit extracts to smooth and hydrate your complexion. And for those with sensitive skin, it's non-comedogenic.

**A Nordstrom reviewer says:** "A lovely medium-to-full coverage foundation that leaves a natural, dewy, flawless look. It has a thin consistency that feels very light on the skin. It's buildable, so it easily covers any imperfections, and a little does go a long way. It's rare to find a full-coverage foundation that doesn't look too matte and heavy on the skin. I'm so impressed with this; I think it's become one of my new favorite foundations!"

**Coverage:** Medium to full

**Finish:** Radiant

**Shades:** 34

**Size:** 1 oz.

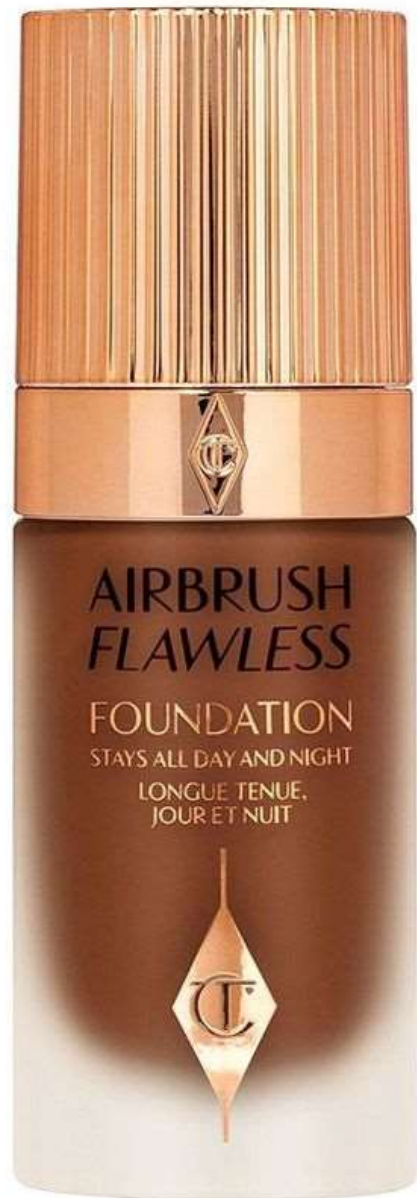
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9

**BEST FOR MATURE SKIN**

Charlotte Tilbury Airbrush Flawless Longwear Foundation



\$49 at Sephora

\$49 at Nordstrom

\$49 at Bloomingdale's

CREDIT: SEPHORA

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Helps smooth fine lines and wrinkles</li><li>⊕ Soothing</li><li>⊕ Hydrating</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ Pricey</li></ul>

Charlotte Tilbury's Airbrush Foundation is not only made to avoid settling into fine lines and wrinkles but actually target them, too. The waterproof formula features a complex of patented peptides, hydrating mosses, and the brand's menthol-infused AirCool technology to smooth and soothe the skin. According to studies performed by the brand, the foundation has been shown to reduce wrinkles by an impressive 22 percent in eight weeks.

**A Sephora reviewer says:** "This is the BEST full coverage foundation I've ever used. I have maturing skin (turning 50 in September) and this foundation makes my skin look flawless. Doesn't feel heavy or settle in my fines lines like a lot of full-coverage foundations do and stays on all day (even under my mask). Winning!!"

**Coverage:** Full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 40

**Size:** 1.01 oz.

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10

**BEST SHADE RANGE**

Estée Lauder Double Wear Stay-in-Place Liquid Makeup Foundation



\$49 at Nordstrom

\$39 at Walmart

\$49 at Skinstore

CREDIT: NORDSTROM



PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ 55 shades</li><li>⊕ 24-hour wear</li><li>⊕ Oil-free</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ May not be the best option for dry skin</li></ul>

Available in over a whopping 55 shades, Estée Lauder’s full-coverage foundation is sweat-, heat- and humidity-resistant for up to 24 hours and oil-free to minimize shine. What’s more, each shade has a specific undertone rating, from “cool 1” to “warm 4,” so you can find the most seamless match possible.

**A Nordstrom reviewer says:** “I probably own at least 15 different foundation brands, but this is hands down one of my favorite foundations. I have a tricky complexion to match. Not anymore!!! Thank you Estée Lauder for such a shade trajectory! I am wearing 5W1.5 in Cinnamon. I also have 5W2.0 in Rich Caramel. I am keeping them both. I was concerned that a matte foundation that stays in place would be too much, but not at all. It actually looks radiant. I will no longer be on the hunt for the perfect foundation.”

**Coverage:** Full

**Finish:** Matte

**Shades:** 57

**Size:** 1 oz.

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# 11

## **BEST MULTITASKING**

Covergirl Outlast Extreme Wear 3-in-1 Liquid Foundation



**Now 34% Off**

\$10 at Amazon

\$11 at Walmart

\$13 at JCPenney

CREDIT: AMAZON

PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊕ Good for face and under eyes</li><li>⊕ Has SPF</li><li>⊕ Affordable</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>⊗ Some users report shades are off</li></ul>

Looking to consolidate your makeup routine? This waterproof base acts as a primer, concealer, and foundation all in one. It's hydrating like your favorite moisturizer, can mask dark spots and pores, and is thick enough to conceal stubborn dark circles. In addition to offering up to 24 hours of full coverage, it comes in 21 shades, contains a touch of sunscreen, *and* is super affordable.

**An Amazon reviewer says:** “Good for daily wear. I have dry skin and it holds up very well for me, even through sweating and 15-hour competition days. I don't use any primer except on my chin to mattify the area, and I finish with setting powder. Provides a lovely full coverage and natural look. Great quality for the price!”

**Coverage:** Full

**Finish:** Natural

**Shades:** 21

**Size:** 1 oz.

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12

**BEST FOR FACE & BODY**

Dior Backstage Face & Body Foundation