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Five Questions With ... SPA EXPERT BARBARA DEYO

here's nothing like eye contact to create good rapport with someone you are meeting for the first time. But what about making *eyebrow* contact? When you meet Barbara Deyo, she may be doing just that. "I always notice brows first," says Deyo, owner of the 1-year-old Deyo for Face and Body in Birmingham. "I look at each eyebrow individually and how it sits on a person's natural brow area."

Her astute attention to detail has earned Deyo a reputation as one of the best eyebrow shapers and makeup experts in town. That becomes apparent the minute you step into her second-floor beauty boutique. On a recent weekday afternoon, a customer waits excitedly, knowing that Deyo, who's been in the beauty business for nearly 25 years, can magically reveal an engaging curve in even the straightest of brows. "I always thought I'd never be able to have a pretty arch like other women, but

Barbara somehow does it," the client shares. "I look awake, pert, when I leave here."

Deyo's beauty emporium is located in what was once a title company. Now, the busy mom and entrepreneur, a former co-owner of Touch studio, offers clients an elegant escape into the world of pampering — massages, facials, airbrush tanning, waxing, makeup application and lessons, eyelash extensions, brow and lash tinting, and more. Also special: a nice assortment of hair accessories, jewelry, and fragrant-free, hypoallergenic makeup.

Amid plush settees, pretty chandeliers, fine antiques, and pleasant artwork (á la interior designer P.J. Whitehead), Deyo shares beauty insights, tips, and inspirations:

Q: When did your fascination with makeup and beauty begin?

A: My mother was in theater. As a little girl, I would watch her working with makeup. I still remember the smell of her Avon cold cream.

Q: What are clients surprised to learn about makeup application?
A: You can wear a lot less than you think and still look polished and finished. Beauty is about seeing your skin.

Q: What's in for fall lips?
A: Glossy berries, burgundies, and jewel tones.

Q: Have you ever made up a celebrity? A: I was with NBC, so I worked on broadcasters like Stone Phillips for "Dateline NBC," Jane Pauley, and Tom Brokaw. And I worked on Jack Ford (legal correspondent) during the O.J. Simpson trial. I don't miss those hours, the long nights, now that I'm a mom. (Her son, Quinn, is 3 years old.)

Q: What do you say to those who are unsure about beauty indulgences?
A: These treatments are about taking care of yourself. They go a long way — never underestimate the power of feeling good.

- Megan Swoyer

Information: Deyo for Face and Body, 576 N. Old Woodward Ave., 248/203-1222, deyostudio.com.