

# Two of a kind

Tapping into the wisdom of her Australian facialist and friend Melanie Grant, Victoria Beckham's latest skincare formula proves there's power in pairing up. By Remy Rippon.

In the popular Netflix documentary series *Beckham*, the soccer star quizzes his wife of 24 years on her day ahead. Clad in a baseball cap, leggings and bright white sneakers, Victoria clips back, "I'm going to work." He insists mischievously: "No, where are you actually going?" "Facial," she deadpans, before blowing a kiss and heading out the door.

It may have been one of many they're-just-like-us moments within the four-part series, but what viewers didn't know is that when you're formulating a skincare product with your beloved facialist, the London-based Australian skin whisperer Melanie Grant, a treatment *is* technically research.

"Truly, the product development process on this particular product was done during facials," says Beckham of the newest addition to Victoria Beckham Beauty, the extraordinarily successful beauty line she launched with a make-up focus in 2019 and has since expanded to skincare and fragrance.

That the pair would conjure up a product together seemed inevitable; the duo haven't stopped swapping skincare advice since they were introduced by their mutual friend and *Vogue* Australia editor-in-chief, Christine Centenera. "I was in Australia and I asked Christine what must I do in Sydney, and her answer was go to see Melanie for a facial. So off I went, and the rest is truly history."

It was Grant who connected Beckham with German skincare virtuoso, Augustinus Bader, who partnered with the designer on the brand's now-iconic Cell Rejuvenating Moisturizer and Power Serum. For Grant, a simple but powerful cleansing protocol – an at-home iteration of the cleansing method that kicks off every facial at her LA, Sydney and Melbourne studios (or if you're a Spice Girl, the home-studio within Grant's West London digs) – remained elusive from both the Victoria Beckham Beauty roster and the pair's own routines. "Melanie and I often – with me on the facial bed – talked about finding the perfect cleanser," Beckham says of the brainstorming session. "Everything we both tried was never perfect, there was always something we wanted to change, whether the texture, the system, or the ingredients."

The Daily Cleansing Protocol is the latest addition to Beckham's thriving beauty line-up. Like the brand's bestselling Satin Kajal Liner or Posh



Lipstick, the dual cleansing system, which includes a Daily Oil Cleanser and Daily Lactic Acid Gel Cleanser, is both results-driven and efficient. Beckham's emulsifying oil cleanser is jam-packed with camellia seed, avocado and olive fruit oil (a natural anti-inflammatory) while the AHA-boosted Daily Lactic Acid Gel Cleanser is both hydrating and brawny enough to dissolve impurities and clear out pores. "Melanie has taught me the importance of getting the cleansing part of your skincare routine right, and how that truly makes a difference to all the further skincare products you apply after," says Beckham of the decision to launch a twin cleansing system, designed to be used in tandem to slough away make-up, sunscreen and the day's pollutants, or solo for a gentle but efficient clean suited to your skin type.

What Grant brings to the collection in skincare know-how, Beckham brings in lived experience; pop icon-worthy 1990s make-up was typically budget-proof, and the cycle of applying and removing a smoky eye proved fertile training ground. "Victoria's a skincare aficionado. She knows all of her ingredients and her product. You can talk about anything with her, from a prebiotic in skincare to lactic acid," says Grant, who first introduced the designer and beauty entrepreneur to double cleansing, which she now adheres to religiously every evening. "She knows her stuff, so it makes it really fun to work with her."

**Above:** Melanie Grant (left) and Victoria Beckham.  
**Below:** VICTORIA BECKHAM BEAUTY Daily Cleansing Protocol, \$200.

