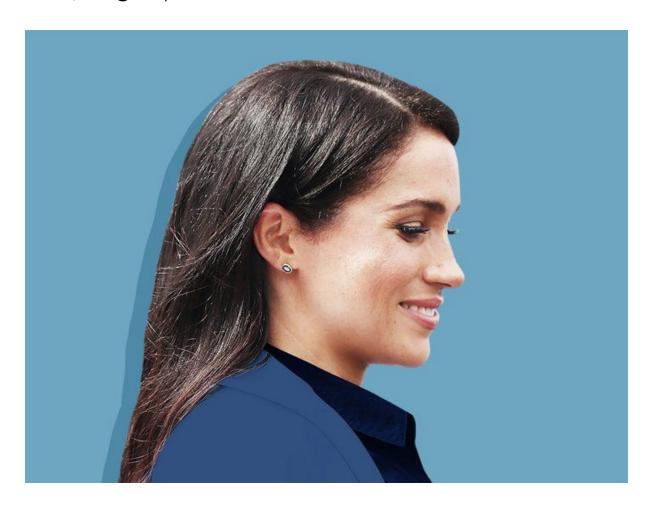
InStyle

Women Are Getting Plastic Surgery to Look Like Meghan Markle

By Jessica Schiffer

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"Wanted: [a nose like] Meghan Markle/Adele — more projection, straight, great definition, elegant contours," writes the user <u>BelleTully from California on RealSelf.com</u>, an online outlet for people to share their cosmetic surgery experiences and connect with doctors. "Are the characteristics I really want achievable?" she asks, sharing numerous pictures of Markle from every angle for reference.

Message board posts like this one <u>inquiring about Markle's look</u> have grown exponentially on the site, right in step with similar in-office requests. Though she's been an object of fascination since her relationship with Prince Harry went public, the <u>Markle Sparkle</u> mania has taken a turn towards the extreme: Women across the world are bringing pictures of the Duchess to plastic surgeons, hoping to replicate some of her most covetable features for themselves, most notably her nose, cheekbones, "flawless skin" and plump lips. In fact, some plastic surgeons claim that not a week goes by without someone mentioning Markle's name in their office.

Such inquiries are so common that Dr. Julian de Silva, of London, decided to conduct a computer analysis of Markle's face relative the <u>golden ratio</u> — an ancient Greek standard of beauty reliant on mathematics. While beauty today considered much more subjectively, <u>Markle's face symmetry</u> was found to be the most idyllic of all the Royal Family by these standards, at 87.4 percent.

"She has always been a beauty and style icon and someone that many women aspire to look like," says Dr. Rita Rakus, a London-based plastic surgeon whose customers have undergone plastic surgery procedures inspired by Markle for years. Since the Royal Wedding, however, such requests have increased tenfold – popping up at least once per week, according to one doctor. Rakus attributes this to her relatability: "I think they see her as a real person who has fulfilled the ultimate dream — being young, having your own career, and finding true love with a prince," she said.

Markle is also mixed race — her mother is black, while her father is white — which may make her look appealing to a wider swath of people. "She represents the broadening of widespread cultural beauty standards that I think can make a lot more people feel at home in the world," explains Dr. Lara Devgan, MD, MPH, FACS and RealSelf's Chief Medical Officer.

On a RealSelf forum, user Pippa12, a black woman in New York, writes, "My dream nose would be something like Meghan Markle's (nice, 'pointy' bridge but still with the cuteness of a wideish nose) which is still a kind of 'ethnic' nose."

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Today's Glossier-weaned consumers are especially drawn to Markle's pared-back beauty choices,

"She always looks extremely effortless, which is particularly impressive given her busy schedule," explains Dr. Rakus, who

adds that seeing Markle's skin in so many high-definition photos has "allowed people to appreciate what really healthy skin looks like."

