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## *sculpted knot*

"This architectural style works best on day-old hair as strands will be less slippery," says L'Oréal Paris UK hairstylist Peter Gray, who added a small amount of wax to the ends of our model Laura Haddock's hair to give it grip. After securing her hair into a ponytail, he held the tail two thirds of the way down and pinned that section to the base. "To give this look a further twist, I wrapped and pinned pre-plaited pieces of hair around the up-do," explains Gray, who says that strong-hold hairspray is key. To get the look at home, buy a braided headband (try [daniehersheson.com](http://daniehersheson.com)) and pin into place.



## *pretty pearls*

From the structural Alice bands at Fendi to the mini braids at Mulberry, this season's styles focus on the finishing touch. "It's an easy way of adding a statement to a simple style!" says Gray, who updated Laura's side ponytail with pearl hair elastics from Chanel's s/s 2013 collection. Not got a designer budget? Faux-pearl necklaces and bracelets wrapped around an elastic look really cute. Top tip: add volume by tonging the mid-lengths and ends before securing ▶

THE PAGE: ORÉAL PARIS/CHRISTOPHER KANE (MATTIUSO/REXUS/GETTY)

Plaits tied with leather, ponytails and pearls... Brit actress Laura Haddock debuts summer's sexiest new hairstyles



## *romantic texture*

"This is a more polished version of 'bed hair,'" says Gray, who began by prepping Laura's locks with a volumising heat protector before rough-drying. Next, he tonged random inch-wide sections. "I let them cool for added definition, then brushed them out for a softer, summery look, finishing off with shine spray." Team your texture with an ombre manicure. "It's the nail look of the season," says nail expert Kim Treacy, who applied Essie's nail polish in Come Here! on the base and a darker shade on the tips.



## *ladylike plait*

You can thank Valentino for this one, as the models paraded down the runway with long, perfectly braided tresses. And the best bit? You can recreate this style in less than five minutes. Start by combing a smoothing serum through dry hair. To keep it modern, Gray created a strong side parting before dividing and securing the hair in a traditional three-way plait. "Leather is a big trend right now, so we tied a long piece at the end of the plait to give this feminine style a tough edge." >

\*HAIR: PRESS. & TONG (HARRIS.COM); MAKEUP: PRESS. & TONG (HARRIS.COM)

## *party* hair

"This look is very Jerry Hall," says Gray. After blow-drying a shine serum into Laura's hair, he made a near side parting, then took small sections from the mid-lengths and ends (ignoring the roots) and used a curling iron to create lots of tight curls. "It looks like you're creating ringlets, but you need to remember you'll be brushing them out for a fluffy, Saturday Night Fever style." Once Gray had tonged all of Laura's hair, he set it with hairspray and left it for ten minutes. "I gently combed the curls out, gathered the hair, and pinned it to one side with large bobby pins." >

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meet **laura**

"It's a tricky one because, in a traditional way, I do really want to..." Laura Haddock is talking me through whether or not she will change her surname when she marries her actor boyfriend Sam Claflin (from *Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*, *Snow White & The Huntsman* and the upcoming *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*) later this year. "I've heard every joke in the book about my name, but I think I'll keep it."

Laura has just landed back in London following a ten-day tour of Europe and America promoting the much-anticipated TV drama *Da Vinci's Demons*. It's written and directed by David S Goyer – the man who co-wrote Christopher Nolan's *Batman* series. Laura describes him as the coolest, most laid-back and normal guy, despite his Hollywood success. "The trip was a complete whirlwind!" In a good way, I ask? "A really good way. I don't know what I was expecting as this is the first time I've done a big press junket, but it was so good being able to finally talk about such an exciting project."

The character Laura plays in *Da Vinci's Demons* is Lucrezia Donati, a wife, mistress and celebrated beauty who she describes as complex with many secrets. "She's powerful and a fighter, yet very lonely. I've never played a part like this before, so it's been an amazing experience. Tiring, but very satisfying." Her co-stars include Tom Riley and Blake Ritson, who she worked with in *Upstairs Downstairs*. "It's been nice to work with Blake again – like hanging out with an old friend."

Has she missed Sam while she's been travelling? "He's in the business, so he understands. It's so nice when we can walk the red carpet together, though, like we did for *Snow White & The Huntsman*. You feel like you've got your best bud with you."



Having grown up in Hertfordshire, Laura moved to London at 17 to attend Chiswick's Arts Educational School. "Moving was a big deal. I remember thinking how noisy it was at night, with all the traffic and sirens." It was just after she graduated that she scooped her debut role in the TV show *The Trial Of Gemma Lang*, shortly followed by an appearance in the BBC sitcom *My Family*. "That was a brilliant experience. We rehearsed for several days and then played to a live audience." Laura also has theatre credits to her name, having performed in *When We Are Married* at the Garrick Theatre in London, and it's certainly left an impression. "I'd love to do theatre again. There's nothing like the buzz."

THE HAIR KIT

From left, Elnett Satin Heat Protect Spray, £5.99, Studio Architect Shine Wax, £3.56, Studio Go Create Sculpting Spritz, £3.56, Expertise Ever Riche Intensive Mask, £6.99, Expertise Ever Pure Colour Care Shine Serum, £7.99, Smooth & Polish Aqua Serum, £6.12, Expertise Ever Riche Nourishing & Flowing Conditioner £5.99, all L'Oréal Paris (nationwide)

It was 2011's *The Inbetweeners Movie*, though, that really propelled Laura into the limelight. "It was very exciting to be a part of. You can't help but have a good time around those boys [Simon Bird, James Buckley, Blake Harrison and Joe Thomas]. It took several attempts to get a lot of the scenes as we just couldn't stop laughing."

A blonde for *The Inbetweeners Movie* but a light brunette now, it's clear that Laura is obsessed with hair and make-up the minute she arrives on set. She rushes straight to the make-up station after a whistle-stop tour of the *InStyle* fashion rail. "I saw Valentino and Burberry – I just couldn't help myself! But don't get me wrong, I love Whistles and ASOS." It's while Laura is telling me about the trauma of her favourite lipstick being discontinued that I realise she's a die-hard beauty devotee. "It's the perfect natural lipstick. I don't know what I'll do without it. I won't stop searching, even if it means trawling the web for leftover stock." □

*Da Vinci's Demons* is showing on Fox now



THE MAKE-UP KIT

Clockwise from top, Eye Studio Master Precise Liner in Black, £5.99, Maybelline New York (nationwide); Nail Polish in Mademoiselle, and Come Here!, £7.99 each, Essie (boots.com); The Mega Plush Mascara Volum' Express, £7.99, 24hr Color Tattoo in Eternal Silver, £4.99, Color Sensational lipstick in Fuchsia Flesh, £7.19, and Dream Touch Blush in 02, £6.49, all Maybelline New York; Apricot Cuticle Oil, £11.50, Essie

PHOTOGRAPH ASSISTED BY WALL GROUP; AND ANDY REDD; HAIR BY PETER GRAY AT COLLECTIVE GRAFT; MAKE-UP BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; STYLING BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; SET DESIGN BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; PROP STYLING BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; MAKE-UP BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; HAIR BY PETER GRAY AT COLLECTIVE GRAFT; AND ANDY REDD; HAIR BY PETER GRAY AT COLLECTIVE GRAFT; MAKE-UP BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; STYLING BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT; PROP STYLING BY JESSIE ROSS AT LOVELY MANAGEMENT.