

## **GISELLE/MIRA /TARA/BLACK DIVA /4C**

**INTRODUCTION:** Your textured: coily, curly unit will last longer if it is properly cared for.

The proper care for these textures is more dependent on the process than it is on products.

While some textures like Giselle which is the 4B afro kinky texture and the 4C texture are quite high maintenance in the sense that they require more time to style, other textures like Mira, Black diva, Tara, etc do not require as much time.

### **PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR UNIT COMES WASHED, TREATED AND READY TO WEAR!**

These textures can come in closure, frontal, full lace units. It is very important to know that irrespective of the type of unit they come in, they require the exact same care/maintenance process.

### **NONRECOMMENDED PRODUCTS**

**DRYING AGENT:** Certain brands of hair mousse, hair sprays, spray gels and sulphate high shampoos, etc.

**QUE:** What is it about these products that make them generally unsafe for afro kinky textures?

**ANS:** The aforementioned products often contain alcohol (such as ethanol, isopropanol, sd alcohol 40, propyl alcohol, propanol, etc.) which ensures that the product dries quickly and holds the style in place. This however has a downside to it as these products tend to prevent moisture absorption and retention as well as dehydrate the hair shafts.

While not all brands of these products are severely drying, especially modern formulas that include conditioning agents, frequent or improper use of them can strip the hair on your unit of moisture causing dryness which then leads to brittleness, shedding and matting up/ tangling.

### **TIPS TO PREVENT DRYNESS**

#### **ALCOHOL FREE/ LOW ALCOHOL PRODUCTS**

We recommend using the brands of these products that contain fatty alcohols (good alcohols like cetyl and stearyl that are moisturizing and safe) and of course using them in moderation; using products that have way less alcohol content or contain added nutrients and conditioning agents. Always read the ingredients/label on the products before purchase or use.

#### **USAGE**

Products should be used in moderation; that is in smaller quantity and nondaily use.

## **PROPER APPLICATION OF PRODUCT**

When using hair moose, always make sure that your unit is damp first. In the case of hair sprays and spray gels, spray at least 10-12 inches away to avoid a concentrated close-up blast unto hair. For shampoos, never apply shampoo directly onto hair, mix shampoo in water then dip to wash, make sure to put hair in big sections.

## **STORAGE**

Do not store your unit in high temperature places.

Always store your unit inside the satin bag it came in. For longer lengths, make sure to put unit in partings/sections of big twists before storage.

## **WASHING/CLEANING**

Limit daily washing of your unit; in the case of product use, make sure to wash off excessive product before storage (this should be after product has been applied on the unit several times; say 4-5 times). Make sure to follow washing instructions as stated in this guide book.

## **WEATHER**

We do not recommend wearing your unit daily during winter or in cold weather, just like your natural hair, the combination of low temperature and low humidity in winter can lead to severe dryness, brittleness and an increased risk of breakage.

### **Here are three ways to care for your unit in cold weather:**

- a) Use hydrating leave-in conditioner and argan oil to seal in moisture (do this by mixing very little leave in conditioner in water in a spray bottle, then spray all over your unit, seal in with some argan oil, you can run your fingers through hair to smoothen or define curls a bit, leave to air dry.
- b) Always store your unit inside the satin bag she came in when not in use, this prevents friction. Best to put her in big parts of twists before storage, for longer lengths (16" and above)

## **DEEP CONDITIONING**

Do a deep conditioning routine (as stated in this care guide) whenever unit starts to feel dry or after prolonged use (daily wear of 10-15 days, nondaily wear of 3-4 months) to restore moisture.

### **HOW TO DO A DEEP CONDITIONING TREATMENT:**

First Step: detangle your unit (see guideline on detangling process below).

Second Step: after detangling, your unit should now be in sections of big twist, add some leave in conditioner (enough to saturate unit) in a bowl or sink. Add 8-10 drops argan oil in the mix and mix properly.

Step Three: apply mix to hair, saturate hair with mix and leave to sit in for 25-30 minutes.

Step Four: rinse out mix and proceed to style.

**PLEASE NOTE;** There is no need to wash your unit upon delivery as it is already washed and ready to wear.

## **RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS**

**CONDITIONER:** Use a moisturizing conditioner, leave in conditioner while washing (wash as recommended in this guide).

### **ARGAN OIL:**

Your unit will do so well with an occasional application of good quality argan oil (best applied in damp state).

Curl Comb

Spray Bottle

Water

## **HOW TO WASH**

### **FIRST STEP**

#### **DETANGLE**

- 1) Your unit when not in regular use should be in parts of big twists; if not then go ahead and part into 6-8 sections.
- 2) Mix water and very little leave in conditioner in a spray bottle, spray each section right before you begin to comb (using your curl comb). Carefully comb from the tip, going upwards to the roots /scalp; this is how you avoid breakage and tangling.
- 3) Make sure to put each section back in twist after detangling.

### **SECOND STEP**

#### **WASH**

If there isn't a lot of products on your unit, there is no need to shampoo; if you have applied a lot of product; more than 6 times then it indeed needs a shampoo wash; if not then please refrain from washing with shampoo. Wash only with conditioner.

#### **HOW TO WASH WITH CONDITIONER**

This is the next step after your detangling process.

It is important to note that you do not necessarily need shampoo to wash your unit. If you did not apply a lot of product on your unit or get a lot of dirt or dust on it, there is no need to use a shampoo

as using shampoo on her often can lead to dryness, especially if it is not a moisturizing shampoo. You should often wash with only conditioner.

## **HOW TO:**

(washing the regular way, without shampoo):

- i. Add some drops of conditioner in a bowl, sink, etc. and add enough water to saturate the unit (dip hands into the water and properly mix the water and conditioner together.
- ii. Submerge your unit in it, rubbing on hair gently (remember that your unit must be in twists), if you are not satisfied with the cleanness after the first wash, repeat this exact process again.
- iii. Next you rinse out.
- iv. After rinsing out, add some drops of leave in conditioner in a bowl, sink, etc and add enough water to saturate the unit (dip hands into the water and properly mix the water and conditioner together.
- v. Dip hair twice or thrice and submerge hair in the water mix.
- vi. Rinse out only twice (as the goal is to retain some of the leave in conditioner).
- vii. Wear her on a dummy head and begin to comb her out; work in the sections as you have it, one sectioned twist at a time, you loosen one twist and then start to comb from the tips gradually to the root. Now you may notice that the front side of your unit is drying out by the time you get there; simply spray some water on such areas and continue comb process. Do this to all the sections and then apply argan oil while hair is damp.

## **HOW TO:**

Add some generous (but not too generous) drops of argan oil on palm, rub together and apply all over unit.

## **HOW TO WASH WITH SHAMPOO**

Having done your detangling process, now your unit is in big twists.

- i. Add 2-3 drops of shampoo in a bowl, sink, etc. and add enough water to saturate the unit (dip hands into the water and properly mix the water and shampoo together.
- ii. Submerge your unit in it, rubbing on hair gently (remember that your unit must be in twists), Doing this once is enough. Unless you have some serious unlikely substances on your unit (eg dye, alcohol, vomit, etc)

- iii. Next, you rinse out.
- iv. After rinsing out, add some drops of leave in conditioner in a bowl, sink, etc and add enough water to saturate the unit (dip hands into the water and properly mix the water and conditioner together).
- v. Dip hair twice or thrice and submerge hair in the water mix.
- vi. Rinse out only twice (as the goal is to retain some of the leave in conditioner).
  - v. Wear her on a dummy head and begin to comb her out; Work in the sections as you have it, one sectioned twist at a time, you loosen one twist and then start to comb from the tips gradually to the root, then style. If you notice that the section you are working on isn't wet enough, spray some water and leave in conditioner mix.

## **STYLING**

You are either styling your unit after a wash or just a regular styling right before wear to make it look better.

### **STYLING AFTER WASH**

This styling process should take place right as you are combing your unit after a wash. At that moment that you comb out; after combing each section, apply a water base hair mousse (apply enough but do not over saturate your hair with it) and immediately comb while the foam is still active on the hair. comb from tips to roots to define curls. Repeat process on each section (pick a section, comb then apply hair mousse, comb again to define curls and then leave hair to air dry.

### **REGULAR STYLING BEFORE WEAR**

Firstly, add some leave in conditioner in your spray bottle, add some drops of argan oil and shake to mix properly.

Part unit into much smaller sections.

Pick one section, spray your water and conditioner mix evenly on the hair section you are working on, saturate properly.

Start to comb with your curl comb, start from the tips, calmly and gently comb all the way to the roots till comb can run through hair.

Apply your water base hair mousse (do not over saturate your hair with it) and immediately comb while the foam is still active on the hair. comb from tips to roots to define curls. Repeat process on each section (pick a section, comb then apply hair mousse, comb again to define curls and then leave hair to air dry.

**PLEASE NOTE:** unless you are very certain that the hair mousse is water base (read product label to see ingredients and ascertain that it is devoid of the aforementioned ingredients in page 1

of non-recommended products; water should be the key ingredient), make sure to use it on damp hair, NEVER ON DRY HAIR.

## **STYLING FOR MIRA**

The Mira and Black Diva unit can be styled in several ways; should you want to style in a fro look, then skip the hair mousse application process. After the last step of your washing process, which is the conditioning process. Proceed to comb out each section as it is wet, comb from tips and gradually work your way to the roots.

Should you want to straighten, do the process above then leave hair to hair dry. When dry, part in horizontal sections and straighten. Make sure to use a heat protectant.