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The New Hair Braid for Overachievers

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Meet the cooler—and, admittedly, more complicated—cousin of the French braid. Stylist Nicholas Penna Jr., the owner of SalonCapri, in Boston, calls it the “mermaid tail.” Here’s how to get this look, which he created:

1. Prep roots with L’Oréal Professionnel True Grip Texturizing Powder.
2. Add volume by backcombing the hair on your crown.
3. After backcombing, loosely braid one or two small sections of hair behind each ear. Twist the main portion of your hair into a pseudo-French twist and secure it to your head with bobby pins, leaving the ends hanging down.
4. Loosely braid the length of your hair, incorporating the little braids from behind your ears.
5. Secure the braid bottom with an elastic then mess the whole thing up a bit by pulling out a few sections of hair here and there.
6. Finish with a coat of Shu Uemura Sheer Lacquer Finishing Spray.



