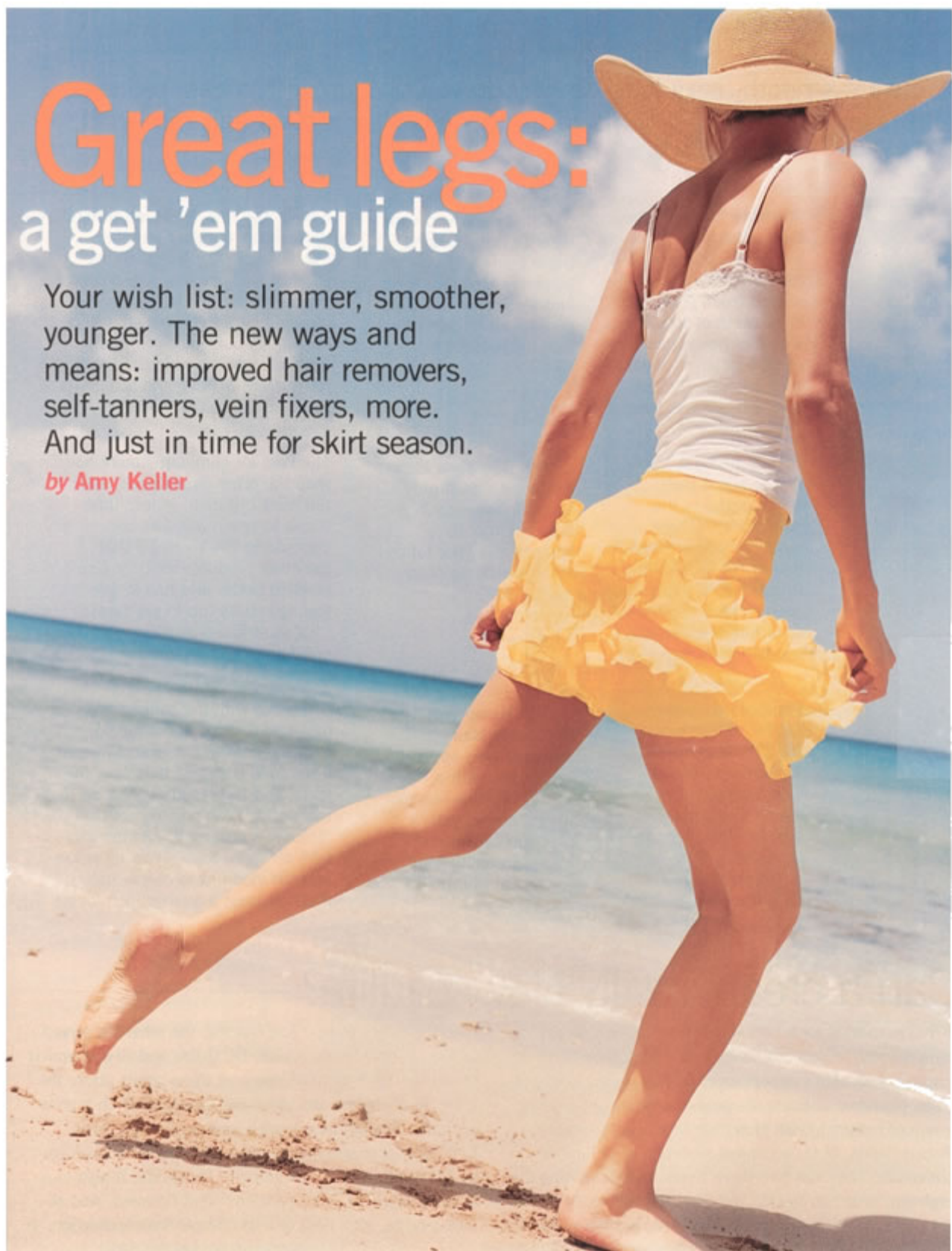


# Goodlooks

## Great legs: a get 'em guide

Your wish list: slimmer, smoother, younger. The new ways and means: improved hair removers, self-tanners, vein fixers, more. And just in time for skirt season.

*by Amy Keller*



# Take it off, take it all off

You want smooth, sexy legs—so why do you end up with nicks, redness, and razor burn instead? Time to try these GHI-approved hair removers.

## how we tested



1  
RAZORS

Panelists "divided" the front of each calf into two (creating a total of four sections). Then they shaved (each grew three days' worth of stubble) with four new razors, using a different one on each section. All rated well, but one was best.

## the winner

**1 Gillette Venus Divine razor** (it has a coated triple blade with an Intensive Moisture Strip and also comes with a convenient stick-to-the-wall holder), \$9.50

## what users said

Easy to use, the Venus left testers' skin smooth and hair free: "It felt like a closer shave than the others," said one fan. And no one experienced irritation or cuts. (Looking for a throwaway travel option? Try our runner-up: the triple-blade disposable Bic Soleil for Women, which got kudos for its good grip as well as for its results.)



2  
DEPILATORIES

Testers first did a spot test to see if their skin reacted to the depilatories. (These products—which dissolve hair at the root—can irritate.) After the three creams were applied to different leg areas, a clear winner emerged.

**2 Veet Bladeless Razor Kit** (a gel cream plus a "bladeless razor," a plastic tool that scrapes away the lotion along with unwanted hair), \$7.99

The Veet kit eliminated more hair than the other depilatories, with the least irritation, in less time (three to seven minutes, as opposed to the six to 12 that the other products took). It also smelled better and had longer lasting results (up to six days). "It's as efficient as a razor," said one former blade devotee.



3  
WAXES

Panelists with three weeks' hair growth tried three products. The process and results were evaluated by Susan Eren, spa manager of New York City's Completely Bare salon at Barneys, known for its pro waxes.

**3 GiGi Hemp Wax Microwave Hair Remover** (you apply it from a tub with a wooden spatula-like tool; the kit comes with a post-wax cream and also a prepping solution to prevent pain), \$17

Compared with the competition (pre-waxed strips and a roll-on), GiGi was messy, but testers raved it removed the most hair, hurt the least, and the results lasted up to two weeks. Eren pointed out that "thicker waxes adhere better and take off more hair." (Waxing works best on medium to coarse hair that's at least a quarter inch long.)

## Can a cream really slay cellulite?

If you're looking for a potion that'll make your thighs baby-smooth in seconds, dream on. If you'd be happy to improve your skin's appearance, keep reading. To assess three big-name anti-cellulite products, GHI sent a small group of testers to visit New York City plastic surgeon **Robert Guida, M.D.**, a clinical professor at Columbia University. They saw him three times: before starting the regimen, after two weeks, and after four weeks (the earliest point, at which results may be seen, per the

product labels). Testers treated just one leg; the other leg served as the control. On each visit, **Dr. Guida** and GHI chemists measured thigh circumference at three points above the knee, took photos, and rated the dimply stuff on a graded scale. Though no miracles were performed, Avon Cellu-Sculpt cream had an effect, taking off an average of 1.7 centimeters. According to **Dr. Guida**, it also slightly improved some panelists' skin firmness. And at \$16 a bottle, it's a heck of a lot cheaper than liposuction. [www.DrGuida.com](http://www.DrGuida.com)