

## top guns

» We tell you  
which hair dryers  
pack real fire power

## WHAT'S IN THAT? >>

Our panel of hair stylists overwhelmingly gave the **ELCHIM IL FUTURO** the highest marks among dryers for its powerful 2,000-watt motor, ionic technology (to speed drying and fight frizz), and light weight. **Our tester says:** "This dried my thick hair in less than 30 minutes. I looked like I had just gotten a salon blowout—so sleek, and frizz-free—and it stayed that way through an entire sticky, humid day." (\$169, [elchimus.com](http://elchimus.com))

**Casing**  
The polypropylene shell resists cracking; the nozzle design increases air speed for more efficient drying

**Ion Generator**  
A capacitor (a plate that can store energy) sends negative ions through the heat element

**Fan**  
The 2,000-watt motor sucks in air with nylon blades

**Heat Shield**  
Mica and a heat-resistant plastic cone absorb scalding temps so you're not burned

**Heat Coils**  
An alloy of nickel and chromium heats air to 200 degrees

## Q of the Month

» **Stylist Eva Scrivo**, owner of **Eva Scrivo Salon** in New York City, answers:

**Can I wear bangs if I have a cowlick at my forehead?**  
—Jen F., Hoboken, NJ

Yes, but you have only two options. You can do blunt, eye-skimming fringe by cutting a thick strip of hair that extends forward from about 2 inches behind your hairline to weigh down the cowlick. Your second and better option is side-swept bangs—cheekbone-length strands that part at your cowlick in an upside-down V and work with the natural growth pattern. To flatten the swirl, rub a pea-size dot of a medium-hold gel or cream, like **Bumble and Bumble Styling Creme** (\$22 for 8 oz, [bumbleandbumble.com](http://bumbleandbumble.com)), on the cowlick and pull it straight with a small round brush while you blow-dry.

