

Did Paula have

Has the *American Idol* judge turned back time? Top surgeons give the straight-up answer!

When the fifth season of Fox's talent competition *American Idol* premiered on Jan. 17, one thing immediately took center stage: Paula Abdul's youthful new look! The 43-year-old star's dramatic change of face was enough to prompt übercandid fellow judge Simon Cowell, 46, to ask, "What have you had done?"

Paula didn't answer — but *Life & Style*'s experts will! (A rep for Paula strenuously denies that the star has had any work aside from surface skin treatment.)

SKIN

According to Dr. Anthony Youn, a Michigan-based plastic surgeon who hasn't treated the star, Paula's skin rejuvenation is likely thanks to a combo of Botox injections (around \$500 a pop) and a chemical peel (around \$2,000). Dr. Steve Faliek, a plastic surgeon in NYC who also hasn't treated Paula, says she may have also had laser treatment and a small-incision face-lift, a minimally invasive procedure that limits scarring. Price tag? Around \$6,000!

EYES

Dr. Youn guesses that Paula's peepers were perked up with a lower-lid lift (\$2,700), a chemical peel and fat grafts (around \$3,500).

CHEEKS

Paula sure has gotten cheekier! Dr. Faliek thinks the plumping may be the result of a midface-lift (around \$6,000), which raises the cheeks and smooths lines around the nose and mouth.

LAST YEAR



American Idol Carrie Underwood tells *Life & Style*, "Paula always looks great!" Still, Dr. Youn says that during *AI*'s previous season, "Paula had aged quite a bit. She had ruddy skin and wrinkling under and around her eyes."

plastic surgery?

NOW

Now,
what a
difference
a year
makes!

"Paula has taken off seven to eight years in just one year!" says Dr. Youn. Now that's Idol-worthy!