



## How To Be A Diva!

# Maybe it's time for you to evolve and show out your inner diva!

**By Shanterra Curry**

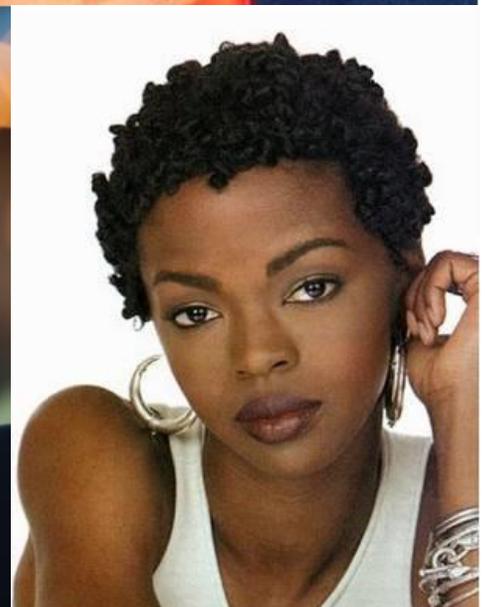
"Each of us has that right, that possibility, to invent ourselves daily. If a person does not invent herself, she will be invented. So, to be bodacious to invent ourselves wisely," said Maya Angelou, who could have not said it better herself.

Why settle for who you are today, when you have tomorrow to be the woman you wish to be? You are lacking confidence, self-esteem, and everyone pushes over on you, right? Or you are tired of going out every weekend with the girls, dolled up, and all the guys flock to your homegirls, and you leave with little self-assurance?

Well, honey, maybe it is time to reinvent yourself into a woman that has it all put together, right? Maybe it is time for you to evolve, and show out your inner diva?

"A diva is a female version of a hustler" Beyoncé lyrics might chime in your head when you think of what a diva might be. And she is absolutely right! A diva just doesn't limit herself to just that, she is overall everything she wants to be. Did Beyoncé sit around, and lay vocals on a track and settled on just being a singer? Or did she use her talent to become the ultimate self-proclaimed diva selling perfumes, establishing a clothing line and having the chance to hand pick her husband while making millions? No, she was not settling, nor should you!

A diva is a self-defined woman, and only you can determine how "divalicious" you are willing to summon out of you. So, here are a few simple steps, to take the reins of your life, and channel the diva in you.





**Step 1:** “A true diva’s heart is open, and she’s ready to play by her own rules,” says actress Jenifer Lewis. It takes confidence, and a lot of self-assurance to be a diva. You must fall in love with who you are, before trying to assert yourself with others. Strip yourself of all clothing and go find a full-length mirror. Go tell yourself how much you are loved. Find all your imperfections, and find reasons why you love them. Do this at least twice a day, until you believe your words are true, and fall in love with yourself! You will become not easily broken.

**Step 2:** “Style is a way to say who you are without having to speak,” says American fashion designer Rachel Zoe. You will need to define your own beauty. If you like hip huggers and bell bottoms, own it; you do not need to look like the rest. If you don’t have money to keep up with the new trends, don’t worry about it, set your own trends. Being a diva is not dressing like everyone else, it is all about dressing and becoming yourself. Don’t worry about being accepted into the “in” crowd or even standing out. Crazy? No! When you define your beauty, there is no competition, no one else exists, no one else matters. Period.

**Step 3:** You have mastered steps 1 and 2, now you need to master ATTITUDE! It is all about attitude, honey! From your walk to

your talk, the way you hold your head to your strut needs to speak volumes. Your walk needs to be similar to a model ripping the runway, or at least get people to notice and move out of your way! Hold your head up high, straighten your back, square your shoulders, and stick out your chest, this pose exudes confidence. When you walk with your head held up high, a feeling of no one is above you presumes over your being, and with your chest out no one wants to challenge you. Walk heel to toe. You are no longer tippy-toeing around with your life, so why walk on your toes?

The way you talk needs to be direct, and nothing less. Mean what you say, and SAY IT! If you mean “no,” stand behind that “no.” Look your opponent straight in the eye, don’t blink, don’t tip your head to the side, say it and don’t repeat it. When you finalize all your responses strong, no one will second guess you, and if they ask again, stare them down until they get the point.

**Step 4:** “I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels,” said the late Maya Angelou. Remember all your friends are not going to understand you, and all the people you meet are not going to go along with you. You have to learn how to be your own leader and follower. Be willing to stand alone. Did Beyoncé get her fan base by sticking with Destiny’s Child or did she leave her friends behind and dare herself into a solo career?

**Step 5:** “It takes a long time to get to be a diva. I mean you gotta work at it,” says legendary diva Diana Ross. Time and hard work will help you evolve into the diva you wish to be. Angelou, Zoe, Lewis and Ross did not become the divas they are known as today overnight. And no one really called them divas, they are self-defined, self-proclaimed divas. They are who they are because they did not let anyone come in and tell them who they were going to be. Each took the time to figure out what direction they wanted their life to flow and overcame the obstacles that could have blocked their journey. Take all the time you need to develop who you want to be and become it.

Beyoncé made a whole song about becoming a diva. She owned it! When you go against the grain, don’t compromise yourself to fit others’ illusions and don’t give attention to their nonsense, that is when you have evolved into a diva. Remember a diva is a self-defined and self-proclaimed woman, and you need to OWN IT!