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Apps for Pampering on Demand

iPhone and Android apps for scheduling last-minute massages, skincare treatments and salon services

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Illustration by Christoph Hitz for The Wall Street Journal



Zeel

Massage Therapy: Zeel

With Zeel, summoning a massage therapist to your home or, if you prefer, office in the New York metro area takes less time than it does to find your car keys. After entering a few preferences—type of massage (Swedish or deeptissue are offered), treatment length (60 or 90 minutes), male or female practitioner—the app will dispatch a massage therapist to your doorstep in as little as in hour in most cases. Zeel plans on expanding coverage to Miami later this year; San Francisco and Los Angeles are to follow in early 2014. Free, available for Android and iOS,



ZocDoc

Skin Care: ZocDoc

Tired of waiting on hold with your dermatologist's receptionist just to schedule a simple facial? ZocDoc may be best known for booking medical appointments, but it's also great for wellness treatments. Just select the type of specialist you'd like to see (dermatologist, chiropractor or acupuncturist, for example), your location and, if you like, your health-insurance provider. The app will present a list of insurance-approved practitioners and their next available appointment time. A few additional clicks bring up open appointments on other days. Free, available for Android and iOS. zocdoc.com



Vagaro

Salon Services: Vagaro

If you find yourself in desperate need of a bang trim, look no further. This app lets you book last-minute salon appointments at more than 7,000 participating establishments across the country. Only a fraction of salons in most big cities have signed on, but the app's range is still impressive. (Need a perm in Bozeman, Mont., or eyelash extensions in Waco, Texas? Not a problem.) Prices are displayed clearly, making it possible to find the best deal on a pedicure in your area. Bonus: Its extensive reviews can be an addictive read. *Free, available for Android and iOS, vagaro.com*—Laura Moser

