

Nails have become the ultimate form of self-expression in beauty. From classic French manicures and gel finishes to elaborate designs and bold neons, nails reflect your own unique style. This season, make sure your tips are healthy and perfectly polished to enhance your overall appearance.

Polish Your Look

Whether you want a pop of color to match a new outfit or a subdued nude overlay, a perfect polish is the final step needed to complete a well-crafted look. No matter your personal style, there are hundreds of shades to choose from. To nail your ideal shade, visit a store that has a wide color selection of nail polish.

Make Moisturizing a Habit

Before you break out the polish, be sure to also give proper attention to your hands. Invest in a deeply hydrating formula of hand cream or body lotion and apply to hands throughout the day, every day. Some key ingredients to look for include retinol, vitamin B and alpha-hydroxy acids, which work together to provide smooth, supple skin from the fingertips to the palms.

Maintain Your Manicure

The signs of healthy nails include a strong, smooth surface, free of dents and dings, with a consistent, uniform color throughout. Invest in quality nail care supplies to keep them looking their best. A complete kit should include a fingernail clipper, cuticle stick, emery board and a buffer. While the rate at which your nails grow can vary from person to person, filing about once a week is a good way to keep up with maintenance. Of course, filing is a good idea any time chips, breakage or rough edges appear. For the best results, cut and file right after bathing when your nails are soft.

Cuticle Care

The cuticle located above the nail bed also requires proper moisture, so be sure to use a special cuticle formula or your favorite lotion to apply onto this area. If you have brittle nails, invest in a strengthening base coat before you begin to polish.

By keeping your nails looking maintained, clean and polished, you'll set the tone for your beautiful appearance.

Tips for a Perfect Manicure

With so many wonderful nail care products available, it's easy to turn your home into your own mini salon. Here are a few simple tips to achieve a perfectly manicured set of nails.