

# BEAUTY FILE

## How to do nail art

Candy-stripes, flowers and even portraits can turn a simple manicure into a conversation starter. Nail artist Catherine Wong of Ecsalonce Nail Professionals transforms your nail beds.



### 01 PRIME THE NAIL BED.

File and buff your nails – it removes any stains or ridges, smoothening out the nail surface, and helps polish glide on and bond better.



### 02 LAYING THE FOUNDATION.

Each nail-art design sits on a base coat of colour (we used white). Give nails a coat of polish (two if you're using a sheerer colour) and leave to dry completely. Catherine advises that you pick neutral colours for the base, to set off the colour of your designs.



### 03 GET CREATIVE.

For novices, Catherine recommends stripes or simple floral motifs, first. Here, diagonal candy-stripes were used. Do let each stripe dry (a minute at least) before overlaying the next colour. Then seal the design with a top coat. Option: Tip each layer with some glitter polish for pizzazz.

To develop the nail artist in you, Catherine offers basic courses (\$200 for 10 three-hour classes that cover manicure, pedicure and simple nail art) to professional acrylic nail-art courses. For enquiries, call 9109 4127.

## The fine art of tipping



A good base coat will protect and bond nail enamel longer. Try Bourjois's range of base coats and nail hardeners, \$10.90.



The bigger the nail bed, the more space to work with – paisley swirls, cartoons, animals and flowers can be painted on larger nails.



Put a touch of luxe on nails with crystals of various shapes, colours and sizes, available at most nail salons.



Stick-on nails now come in a variety of patterns like these reusable nail veneers (from \$39.90) we found at BasicBeauty.

For the design challenged: Nail-art kits (from \$19.90 at Konad Nail Bar, The Heeren basement) with polish and handy stencils let you cheat.

# Style

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