

NAIL CANDY

A hand is shown holding a large blue lollipop. The hand's fingers are decorated with various candy-themed nail art designs. The thumb has white polish with yellow and blue dots. The index finger has white polish with pink and blue dots. The middle finger has white polish with blue dots. The ring finger has white polish with pink dots. The pinky finger has white polish with yellow dots. The palm side of the hand is covered in a dense layer of multi-colored sprinkles. The background is a solid light pink color.

50+
IDEAS FOR
TOTALLY
COOL NAILS

DONNE & GINNY GEER

Nail Candy

50+ IDEAS FOR TOTALLY COOL NAILS

NAIL ART & TEXT
DONNE & GINNY GEER

PHOTOGRAPHS
NICOLE HILL GERULAT

PROP STYLING
MALLORY ULLMAN

ILLUSTRATIONS
DEBBIE POWELL

weldonowen







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This book is dedicated to our mother. Thank you for giving us life, love, and fingernails!

A Note

FROM THE AUTHORS

As sisters, our relationship has always had its ups and downs, but the one thing that never fails to pull us together is our love of nail art. Growing up, we looked to our mother for nail inspiration—sure, we may have found her collection of red and pink polish a little boring, and she often rolled her eyes at the outrageous colors we liked best. But Mom always showed her support for our habit by lending us her coveted fast-drying topcoat. Fast-forward 20 years, and she still shows her support—not just for us as her daughters, but also for our work as creative directors of Hey, Nice Nails, our very own nail salon in Long Beach.

Trust us, we didn't start out as the nail artists we are now! We got here through clouds of acetone vapors and flooded cuticles. Blogging gave us an outlet to share our favorite manicures, play around with new techniques, and gather inspiration from the recent explosion of nail-art ideas. From the blog came an online shop, a gig painting manis at a local speakeasy (everyone starts somewhere!), and involvement in a growing community of nail-art nuts. Then one day we made our love affair with nails official: We got licensed as beauty professionals, opened up shop, and brought our manis to the masses.

Painting art on your fingertips turns a part of your body into a statement-making accessory, and each of the projects in this book is a chance to transform your nails into ten tiny canvases. From easy designs that you can doodle on during commercial breaks to more ambitious hand-painted looks that'll take some time, there's something for everyone in these pages! We give you permission to take these techniques and make them your own—to experiment, make a mess, and develop your own signature nail styles, just like we did.

Nail Candy represents a totally disposable art form and a playful means of self-expression that lifts your spirits and won't break the bank. The joy of a fresh, well-painted manicure is a small luxury that all women can appreciate, especially when someone stops you and says, "Hey, nice nails!"

XOXO
Erin & Donne 

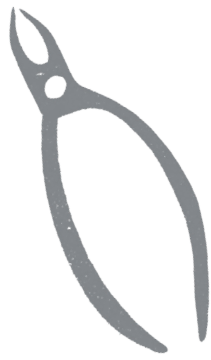




*We hope this book inspires you
to make the most of your manis,
whether you're a nail-art noob or
a seasoned lacquer veteran!*

The background of the image features a repeating chevron pattern in two shades of teal. The pattern consists of interlocking V-shapes that create a zig-zag effect across the entire page. The top and bottom sections are filled with this pattern, while the middle section is a solid white background where the text is located.

Nailcare Basics



Every artist needs a fresh canvas! Clean and healthy nails will make your nail art shine every time.

NAIL BED The flat area under the nail where the finger attaches to the nail.

NAIL PLATE The part of the nail that you paint on. This is where the good stuff goes down.

SIDEWALLS The side edges of the nail bed.

FREE EDGE The part of the nail that extends past the fingertip.

HYPONYCHIUM The thickened skin that grows underneath the nail, especially under the nail's free edge.

CUTICLE A thin layer of dead skin that grows on the nail plate, usually around the eponychium and sidewalls.

EPONYCHIUM The thin strip of skin at the base and sides of the fingernail. No chewing!

LUNULA The graceful, whitish crescent shape at the base of the fingernail.



PREP YOUR NAILS FOR A

Perfect Mani

MATERIALS

COTTON BALLS

POLISH REMOVER

ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP

NAIL BRUSH

ORANGEWOOD OR PLASTIC
CUTICLE PUSHER

CHEMICAL CUTICLE REMOVER

CUTICLE NIPPERS

CUTICLE OIL

MOISTURIZER

ACETONE

STEP 1 To remove your old polish before starting a new manicure, soak a cotton ball in an acetone-based polish remover and apply it to your nails. Hot tip: Don't scrub your nail with the cotton—instead, press on the nail until the remover soaks in. The polish will slide right off. Easy!

STEP 2 Wash your hands with a mild antibacterial soap and warm water. Use a brush to scrub underneath the nails and along the sides to remove any traces of oil or dirt.

STEP 3 Be sweet to your cuticles: Gently use an orangewood or a plastic cuticle pusher to push back any skin growing on the nail plate. If you have stubborn or overgrown cuticles, apply a chemical cuticle remover according to the manufacturer's directions.

STEP 4 If you have any hangnails or pieces of skin that are loose or jagged, snip them off carefully using your cuticle nippers. Be very careful not to pull on the skin as you trim or you'll hurt yourself—cuticles are delicate business.

STEP 5 Wash your hands again with soap and warm water, then apply cuticle oil to the areas where you pushed or nipped for an intense boost of hydration. Be sure to moisturize your hands with your favorite lotion, too. Dry cuticles are the enemy of excellent nail art!

STEP 6 Before you paint, use a cotton ball soaked in acetone to clean the nails—this prevents the polish from chipping or peeling, making your mani go the extra mile.

