

# Woman's World



pg 16-17 Check out our picks for the best neem products in the market

ADC

pg 18 We speak to Shehnaz Treasuryvala about her extensive career

Afternoon Despatch & Courier

MUMBAI | THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2012

# NAILED!

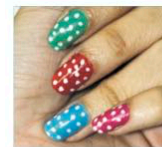
You don't have to head to a salon to get funky nails anymore.

**Rhea Dhanbhora, Samreen Samad & Gargi Bansod** put some of the latest trends in D.I.Y nail art to the test!

Thanks to pop stars such as Rihanna, Lady Gaga and Katy Perry, we're ready to take our nails to the next level! And no, you don't have to burn a hole in your pocket to get glamorous nail art; because it's easy to do at home. From glitter and stickers to paints and scotch tape, we tried some funky but simple nail art techniques. Check them out.

## POLKA DOTS

Polka dot nails are all the rage this season and they're really easy to do!



**You need:** 5 different nail polish colours, a white nail art pen, a base & top coat.

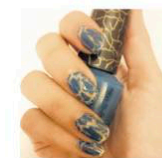
**How to:** This is one of the easiest ways to get pretty looking nails. Apply your base coat, let it dry, then paint a bright colour on each nail. After the colour

dries, take a nail art pen and lightly dot each nail. Apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** We chose speed dry nail polish, which made this one of the quickest types of nail art we've done. The vibrant colours brightened our nails and the dots are easy to draw on. We suggest not pressing the pen too hard or you may end up with a few blotches. Make sure you let your top coat dry completely, ours turned out a little smudgy because we were impatient.

## CRACKED

Cracked nail paints are very popular and easy to use, so we decided to try one out from Miss Claire.



**You need:** Cracked nail polish, a base & top coat.

**How to:** Apply two coats of base polish and let it dry completely. Apply the cracked polish on your nails. Let it dry and apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** It looks simple, but it can be tricky. We learnt the hard way that if you don't let your base coat dry, the polish will smudge through and not crack properly. It begins

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Jaina Kumar | HRM

>> We try out some of the most fun DIY nail art techniques

# ADC

## Afternoon

Despatch & Courier

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# 48hrs

8hrs

12hrs

16hrs



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to dry very quickly, so we suggest you practice quick stroke application and apply only one coat of the polish. The nail polish will dry into a light colour but don't worry, the top coat brings it back to the colour you purchased.

### SPLATTER

This is an easy way to move the bright splash trend onto your nails.

**You'll need:** Nude, orange, green, yellow, silver and black nail polish, a base & top coat, a needle.



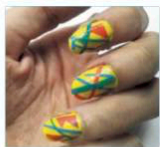
**How to:** Apply a base coat, then apply nude nail polish and allow it to set. Place blobs of your first colour on your nail, sweeping it down gently with a pin to form the illusion of splatters. Let it dry and repeat with the next colour. After you're done layering all the colours, dip the needle in black polish and fill in dots. Let it dry and apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** This is easy but you have to be careful not to trace big splatters or they will cover your entire nail. Also, if you press too hard with a pin, you'll get unsightly lines across your nail. Use a blunt pencil instead. Let each colour dry thoroughly or they'll mix and form a marbled effect. We had one nail smudge because it was still damp. Sigh!

### SCOTCH TAPE

This is one of the most innovative types of nail art we've seen, so we just had to give it a go.

**You'll need:** Bright coloured nail polish, a base & top coat, scotch tape, scissors.



**How to:** Before you start on your nails, paint scotch tape in different colours. Apply a base coat and paint your nails a bright colour. Once its dry, cut the tape into strips and shapes and apply it to your nails. Apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** We opted for a yellow base, so the orange, green and blue strips looked great.

### MOON MANI

The moon manicure is a hot nail style on the red carpets

**You'll need:** French manicure pink, a base & top coat, black nail polish.

**How to:** Apply a base coat, then apply French manicure pink and let it dry. Draw a half moon on the tip of your nails and let it dry. Apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** We're not big fans of this look. We recommend you try it on shorter nails because it looks out of place on long nails.

Make sure that your nails are filed round.

### PEN LINES

A nail art pen can make the most boring colours look dressed up. Here's how.

**You'll need:** Orange, pink, green, blue and purple nail paint, a base & top coat, a black nail art pen.



**How to:** Here's where steadiness counts. After you apply your base coat, paint your nails in different colours and let it dry.

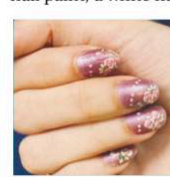
Taking your nail art pen, draw simple lines in a variety of combinations, making sure each nail looks different. Apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** This was a bit of a challenge because the black nail paint tends to smudge if you press too hard. Leave the pen at a distance from your nail to get smoother lines. If it's done neatly, it looks great!

### 3D ART

Nail stickers are the simplest way to make your nails look party ready.

**You'll need:** Nail stickers, a base and top coat, nail paint, a white nail art pen.



**How to:** Paint your nails the colour of your choice after applying a base coat. Place the stickers and dots with a nail art pen. Apply the top coat.

**Our verdict:** We chose purple, with white flowers. It was done in a jiffy and with a good top coat, stays on for at least a week.

### SPONGE OMBRE

If doing ombre is too much of a challenge, choose this cheater's way to gradient nails.

**You'll need:** A base & top coat, light and dark nail polish, a sponge, earbuds, acetone.

**How to:** Apply a base coat and let it dry. On a flat surface, mix two shades of the same colour in a swirling pattern. Dip a sponge in it and press it on your nails. Apply a top coat and clean the edges with a earbud and acetone.

**Our verdict:** This was simple and looked so great that even we were surprised! Use a thin brush with acetone to remove messy lines.

### GEOMETRIC COLOUR

Mixing and matching colours in geometric designs is a cool and easy nail trend.

**You'll need:** Yellow, red, pink and orange nail paint, a base and top coat.

**How to:** Apply different colours to each nail after you put your base coat and let it dry completely. Take a colour and draw a line across from 3/4 up the side of your nail to the tip. Let it dry. With another colour, do the same thing on the other side, joining at the tip to form a triangle. Apply your top coat.

**Our verdict:** Again, we opted for quick dry colours to make it easier to do the design without it smudging over each other.

### GLITTER TIPS

Another variant on the French manicure, we love how easy but fancy this looks.

**You'll need:** A base and top coat, glitter nail polish, a coloured nail polish of your choice.

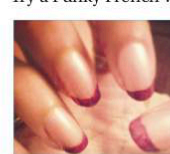


**How to:** Apply a base coat and paint the tips of your nails with the colour of your choice. Dab on heavy glitter. Let it dry and apply a

top coat.  
**Our verdict:** You don't need a steady hand, because the glitter covers up any imperfections with the tips. But, we recommend that you use a good quality polish or try loose glitter instead.

### FUNKY FRENCH

How about a manicure with a difference? Try a Funky French with a riot of colours.



**You'll need:** Coloured nail polish, a top and base coat, a brush.

**How to:** Apply a base coat and let it dry. Apply the nail polish of your choice. Let it set and draw a thin line on the tips in another colour. Let it dry and apply a top coat.

**Our verdict:** While initially the light and dark pink combination was alright, the second time we tried different colours, which looked gorgeous. Try putting deeper shades such as brinjal and maroon with silver tips. Use a nail art pen for the tips as it's easier and neater than sticking to nail polish.

### MONOCHROMATIC TIPS

If you're an artsy person and have a flair for paints and painting, this one's for you.



**You'll need:** Solid poster colour, white poster colour, brushes, a base & top coat.

**How to:** Apply a base coat then apply poster colour on the right bottom tip of your nail. Mix white and the chosen shade. Apply this above the other. Keep adding white to get more shades. Apply two layers of a top coat.

**Our verdict:** It's quicker than you think. You can play around with as many shades of colour as you want.

### YOUR ULTIMATE NAIL KIT

No matter what sort of nail art you choose, if you've got a nicely filled nail kit, you can try different nails often, to keep changing your look. So, apart from stickers and decoration, here's what you should have with you:

**Nail extensions:** Not to wear, but if you're going to be trying a particular type of nail art for the first time, we suggest you place the nail lightly on your finger and practice till you get it perfectly to avoid a mess.

**Nail art pens:** Even if you don't want to invest time in funky nail art, a few squiggles, some interesting letters or a couple of stripes can dress your nails up in no time.

**Nail glue:** We prefer using a base coat to help rhinestones and stickers stay put, but sometimes glue works better. Just make sure you have a thick base coat on before you apply it.

**Scotch tape:** Not only does it help make great designs, scotch tape will help keep the sides of your fingers clean when you're doing nail art.

**Nail polish:** Have an array of colours, textures and types. You get neon coats, glow in the dark, glitter and cracked varieties that can really spruce up a dull nail with minimal effort from you.

**Base & top coats:** Your nails are delicate, so don't forget to apply a base coat. Apply a top coat to help your nail polish stay on for longer.

**Glitter:** Whether you want to put a spattering on your tips or coat your entire nail, you can't do without glitter!

**Remover & cotton:** If you're going to be applying nail polish regularly, don't forget to keep this with you.

**Earbuds:** Even if you're just applying a plain coat of polish, your polish can bleed onto the sides of your fingers. Earbuds help to clean up the mess as well as neaten up fingers.

**Files:** A nail file can help shape your nails according to your preferred style so they don't look shabby.

**Quick dry colours:** When you're doing nail art, it can save a lot of time if you use speed dry nail polish as you can work on several layers without waiting eons for your nails to dry.

### BEST NAIL BLOGS

Here's a list of blogs you can check out for DIY techniques and inspiration:  
[www.chromaticmisadventures.com](http://www.chromaticmisadventures.com)  
[www.heynicenails.com](http://www.heynicenails.com)  
[www.polishmepretty.com](http://www.polishmepretty.com)  
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