



Mystery Nails

RULES & GUIDELINES



This category encourages quick thinking. Envision a scenario where your client presents you with an image, maybe it's a cake, or a dress or simply a colour palette. You must create a set of nails to match. This was previously a live category, so we have added some limitations to help keep your brain ticking. Using only one nail tip for the design. The chosen art should reflect the image given by the New Zealand Nail Competition and be simple enough to recreate across all ten nails. The chosen design can be in a style that may be adaptive across the set, so long as it's easily replicable. The nail can be any shape you feel best suits the vision, but must not exceed 2 inches in length. Showcase your creativity in any way you choose while adhering to our rules and guidelines. If desired, provide a brief description of the techniques employed or elaborate on the meaning behind your work. Let the magic of nail art commence!

- This is a submitted art category.
- New Zealand Nail Competition will provide an image for you to draw inspiration from. This will be sent via email to all competitors on the same day. After registration has closed.
- The design is to be created on 1 full cover fingernail tip.
- The chosen design should reflect a well-executed simple styled nail art design that can be reproduced easily across all 10 nails to make a complete design. Potential variations of the reproduced design are allowed, but the nail submitted **MUST NOT** be in a standout, feature nail style.
- The nails can be any shape but be no longer than 2 inches -
- The Nail is to be securely attached onto a black (foam/card) board no larger than 10cm x 20cm.
- All nail art products are allowed; including but not limited to, gel polish, gel paint, acrylic (L&P), foils, glitter, studs, crystals, bullion beads, pigments, chromes, pearls, charms, chains etc.
- Decals and Stamping art allowed.
- Any raised elements of the design must not extend more than 5mm in any direction from the surface of the nail.
- All NZNC general and submitted art rules and guidelines apply.



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JUDGING CRITERIA



- **NAIL SHAPE**

Super straightforward this one. Does the nail shape compliment the design.

- **EXPERTISE AND TECHNICAL SKILL**

The aim here is to demonstrate your technical abilities and how well you can execute those skills. Looking at the overall design, is it the best reflection of your skill level? Is it reflective of the division you're competing in?

-**Technical abilities** involve taking the practical knowledge of a skill or technique and demonstrating it.

- **COLOUR THEORY**

Colour has the ability to evoke feeling and direct focus.

Consider how the colour palette works in harmony with the given image. For example, in creating contrast, or to showcase the design in a way that emphasises any key elements or feelings.

- **PRODUCT KNOWLEDGE**

This is an opportunity to demonstrate your vast product knowledge. Focusing on using them in an artistic and creative way. Consider how the nail art mediums complement each other.

- **VISUAL DESIGN**

It's all about balance and flow. When considering the design concept, it's important to show a visual rhythm throughout the artwork. Is it in symmetry and does the design show it can flow across all 10 nails as well as independently.

- **PRODUCT CONTROL AND WORKMANSHIP**

This is a chance to showcase our ability to maneuver and manage nail products.

For example, has your gel been applied evenly without streaks, transparent patches, bubbles, pitting or dull/shiny spots -depending on the finish. If glitters or other nail art supplies (such as foil) are used consider the finish, is it controlled and sitting where it was intended.

The finishing touches, once the piece is complete are there are any imperfections left behind from creating the nail art design. ie; smudged polish, dust, excess adhesive around embellishments etc.

- **UNIQUENESS**

It's good to think outside the box and express yourself creatively. Aim to show a creative interpretation of the image given, whether that be through colour, design, theme or something depicted in a new or different way.

- **OVERALL IMPRESSION**

They say don't judge a book by its cover, but first impressions are important. What is the initial feeling you're wanting to evoke; have you captured that in the design?

Now looking past first impressions of the artwork, does the design draw you into new elements or techniques used. The more you look, the more details you want to discover.