

Unit BT22 Enhance The Appearance Of Natural Nails Using Artificial Nail Systems

Unit Overview

This unit is about enhancing the appearance of nails using artificial nail systems. It covers consulting with the client to establish their requirements and identifying any contra-indications that may affect the treatment. It also covers preparing for, and applying, artificial nail enhancements using acrylic, UV gel and wrap systems.

To carry out this unit you will need to maintain effective health, safety and hygiene throughout your work. You will also need to maintain your personal appearance. Effective communication with the client is also an important feature of this unit.

The main outcomes of the unit are:

1. Consult with the client
2. Plan the treatment
3. Prepare for the treatment
4. Apply artificial nail using acrylic liquid and powder systems
5. Apply artificial nail using UV gel system
6. Apply artificial nail using the wrap system
7. Complete the treatment

Please note that the Habia Assessment Strategy and Evidence Requirements for these standards are available from the Habia website <http://www.habia.org>

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Performance Criteria

In order to perform this unit successfully you must:

1. Consult with the client by:

- a) using **consultation techniques** in a polite and friendly manner to determine the client's treatment plan
- b) discussing and agreeing the service and outcomes that are acceptable to your client and meet their needs
- c) maintaining the client's modesty and privacy at all times
- d) removing any existing nail polish and restoring nails to a natural state
- e) cleansing the treatment area to identify the condition of the nails and skin
- f) establishing and recording the condition of the client's nails and skin
- g) recognising contra-indications and taking the **necessary action**
- h) explaining your assessment of the client's nail and skin condition in a clear way to help the client's understanding.

2. Plan the treatment by:

- a) discussing and recommending suitable **artificial nail structures** and **products**
- b) identifying any corrective work to suit the client's natural **nail shape and condition**
- c) discussing and establishing a suitable treatment plan for the client
- d) making sure the preparation of the client meets the agreed treatment plan
- e) confirming the treatment plan with the client.

3. Prepare for the treatment by:

- a) preparing suitable **equipment, products** and systems for the treatment
- b) preparing the work environment to meet legal, hygiene and treatment requirements
- c) ensuring your personal appearance meets organisational requirements
- d) making sure that **environmental conditions** are suitable for the client and the treatment
- e) encouraging the client to find a comfortable and relaxed position that permits access and minimises the risk of injury to you and the client
- f) sanitising your hands prior to treatment
- g) wearing suitable personal protective equipment for the treatment.

4. Apply artificial nail using acrylic liquid and powder systems by:

- a) ensuring the natural nail is cleansed and dehydrated prior to treatment
- b) fitting the required sculpting form to the natural nail ensuring the correct shape and no seepage of the product
- c) using the correct choice and size of tips which are correctly fitted

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- d) ensuring blending of tips causes no damage to the natural nail and is undetectable
- e) cleansing the work area and natural nail prior to application of the acrylic system
- f) applying primer when necessary and allowing it to dry in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- g) pressing and smoothing beads of acrylic over nail surface to create an even finish to all nails in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- h) using buffing and filing techniques to leave the nail balanced with a smooth even surface shine
- i) correctly adapting your application techniques to meet client's **nail shape and condition**
- j) leaving a free margin around the cuticle and side wall area of the nail
- k) leaving the finished nails with an even and clearly defined smile line
- l) ensuring the finished nail shape and length complements the client's nails and hands/feet and is to the client's satisfaction
- m) taking appropriate and prompt remedial action where contra-actions occur during the course of treatment
- n) using chemicals in a safe manner without risk of overexposure to self and clients.

5. Apply artificial nail using UV gel system by:

- a) ensuring the natural nail is cleansed and dehydrated prior to treatment
- b) fitting the required sculpting form to the natural nail ensuring correct shape and no seepage of product
- c) using the correct choice and size of tips which are correctly fitted
- d) ensuring blending of tips causes no damage to the natural nail and is undetectable
- e) cleansing the work area and natural nail prior to application of the acrylic system
- f) applying gel coats in the correct sequence, to clean, dry nail surface in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- g) checking that the duration and frequency of UV curing is achieved in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- h) removing surface residue using manufacturer's recommended materials, at the correct stage in the process
- i) using buffing and filing techniques to leave the nail balanced with a smooth even surface before adding final gel coat
- j) correctly adapting your application techniques to meet client's **nail shape and condition**
- k) leaving a free margin around the cuticle and side wall area of the nail
- l) leaving the finished nails with an even and clearly defined smile line
- m) ensuring the finished nail shape and length complements the client's nails and hands/feet and is to the client's satisfaction and meets the agreed treatment plan
- n) taking appropriate and prompt remedial action where contra-actions occur during the course of treatment
- o) using chemicals in a safe manner without risk of overexposure to self and clients.

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6. Apply artificial nail using the wrap system by:

- a) cleansing and dehydrating the natural nail prior to treatment
- b) using the correct choice and size of tips which are correctly fitted
- c) ensuring blending of tips causes no damage to the natural nail and is undetectable
- d) cleansing the work area and natural nail prior to application of the wrap system
- e) preparing **products** for application in accordance with treatment plan
- f) cutting, shaping and applying wrap to all nails in the correct sequence
- g) applying subsequent layers of resin to seal wrap and achieve required shape, length and strength in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- h) using buffing and filing techniques to leave the nail balanced with a smooth even surface shine
- i) correctly adapting your application techniques to meet client's **nail shape and condition**
- j) leaving a free margin around the cuticle and side wall area of the nail
- k) leaving the finished nails with an even and clearly defined smile line
- l) checking that the finished nail shape and length complements the client's nails and hands/feet and is to the client's satisfaction and meets the agreed treatment plan
- m) ensuring **polished nails** are left with a smooth, even texture, colour and with cuticle and nail wall free of polish
- n) taking appropriate and prompt remedial action where contra-actions occur during the course of treatment
- o) using chemicals in a safe manner without risk of overexposure to self and clients.

7. Complete the treatment

- a) confirming with the client that the finished result is to their satisfaction and meets their needs
- b) ensuring the timing of the treatment falls within commercially viable and cost effective limits
- c) ensuring client records are up-to-date, accurate and complete
- d) giving **aftercare advice** and recommendations which are accurate, constructive and based upon up-to-date knowledge of the treatment and **products** available.

National Occupational Standards

Level 3 Beauty Therapy

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Range

Your performance must cover:

1. **Consultation techniques** include:
 - a) questioning
 - b) visual
 - c) manual
 - d) reference to client records

2. **Necessary action** includes:
 - a) encouraging the client to seek medical advice
 - b) explaining why the treatment cannot be carried out
 - c) modifying the treatment

3. **Artificial nail structures** are:
 - a) tip with overlays
 - b) natural nail overlays
 - c) free form sculpture

4. **Products** include:
 - a) adhesives
 - b) tips
 - c) coloured powders
 - d) acrylic liquid
 - e) primer
 - f) oils
 - g) UV coloured gels
 - h) natural nail cleanser and dehydrator
 - i) resins
 - j) setting agents
 - k) fibreglass
 - l) silk
 - m) polish
 - n) polish remover

5. **Nail shapes and conditions** include:
 - a) bitten
 - b) hook

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- c) ski jump
 - d) crooked
 - e) flat
 - f) discoloured, e.g. yellowing, stained, bruising and white spots.
 - g) fan
6. **Equipment** includes:
- a) brushes
 - b) tip cutters
 - c) sculpting forms
 - d) cuticle tools
 - e) files and buffers
 - f) covered dappen dish
 - g) consumables
 - h) UV lamp
 - i) scissors
7. **Environmental conditions** include:
- a) lighting
 - b) heating
 - c) ventilation
 - d) general comfort.
8. **Polished nails** are:
- a) dark colour
 - b) French manicure
9. **Aftercare advice** is:
- a) avoidance of activities which may cause contra-actions
 - b) future treatment needs
 - c) home care.

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Knowledge and Understanding

To perform this unit successfully, you will need to know and understand:

Organisational and legal requirements

1. why it is important to maintain standards of hygiene and the principles of cross-infection
2. your responsibilities under the Health & Safety at Work Act and the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations and any subsequent amendments
3. the possible risks to yourself of ineffective positioning of clients and how to avoid potential discomfort and injury to yourself
4. why it is important to complete services in the given time
5. why it is important to complete and maintain accurate client records
6. salon requirements for client record keeping
7. salon and legal procedures for waste disposal
8. commercially accepted timings for the treatment
9. the importance of achieving client satisfaction

Anatomy and physiology

10. the anatomy of the lower arms/leg
11. the bones of the hand, forearm, foot, lower leg
12. the effects of massage on skin, nails and muscles
13. the muscles of the lower arm and hand and lower leg and foot
14. the blood circulation of the lower arm, hand, lower leg and foot

Contra-indications

15. how to recognise contra-indications which prevent the service from taking place (e.g. fungal infections, bacterial infections, viral infections, severe nail separation, severe eczema and psoriasis, severe bruising)
16. how to recognise conditions which restrict the service (e.g. minor nail separation, minor eczema and psoriasis, severely bitten or damaged nails, broken bones)
17. the reasons why it is important to encourage clients with contra-indications to seek medical advice
18. the importance of, and reasons for, not naming specific contra-indications when encouraging the client to seek medical advice

The structure and growth of nails

19. the structure of the nail unit (i.e. the nail plate, nail bed, matrix, cuticle, lunula, hyponychium, eponychium, nail wall, free edge, the lateral nail fold)

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20. the process of nail growth (i.e. nail formation, growth rate, factors affecting growth, the effects of damage on growth, nail thickness)
21. the structure and function of the skin (i.e. dermis, epidermis, subcutaneous layer, appendages)
22. the different types of nail shapes you are likely to come across during manicure work
23. common skin and nail conditions
24. how to identify treatable nail and skin conditions (e.g. weak, dry, brittle and ridged nails; dry, split and overgrown cuticles; dry and hard skin)

Treatments

25. the chemical reactions which take place during the formation of the different artificial nail systems
26. the contra-actions which may occur during and after the course of treatment and how to deal with them; allergic reactions and overexposure; bacterial infections; fungal infections; onycholysis (nail separation); lifting of product; premature loss of extension; breaking or splitting of natural nail or nail extension; yellowing of natural nail or nail extension
27. why it is important to leave a free margin around the cuticle and side wall area
28. the importance of achieving maximum strength, appearance and longevity by use of correct nail balance and shaping
29. the importance of choosing the correct size of tip
30. the importance of correct blending
31. how the incorrect application of artificial nail structures can damage the nails and surrounding soft tissue
32. the critical differences in application and process for gel, wraps, powder and liquid
33. the importance of regular ongoing maintenance of the artificial nail structure
34. the importance of having a well ventilated working area
35. the importance of knowing when to use primer and what type of primer to use
36. the reasons for and methods of sanitising your hands
37. how to use sanitising and sterilising equipment correctly
38. how to adapt application techniques to meet the nail shapes and conditions in the range
39. the range and use of overlay systems available (i.e. gel, wrap, powder and liquid)
40. the maintenance requirements for artificial nails
41. the range and use of products available for home care
42. how to protect artificial nail structures
43. how to deal with accidental damage
44. how to select and use personal protective equipment.