

# SAFETY AND HEALTH PRACTICES FOR NAIL SALON WORKERS



## Personal Protective Equipment

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants or skirts that are at least knee-length to protect yourself from acrylic nail and other dusts.
- Wear goggles and the appropriate type of disposable gloves when handling and transferring products.
- Throw away disposable gloves immediately after using them or if you notice any damage to the glove.
- Cover and protect cuts or cracks in your skin. Damaged skin can increase chemical absorption and exposure.
- Do not continue to use a product if you see signs of skin irritation.
- If your hands are irritated, you may be using the wrong type of glove for the product you are using. For example, nitrile gloves (usually blue or purple) protect against many chemicals used in nail salon products, but only latex or vinyl gloves are appropriate when handling acetone.



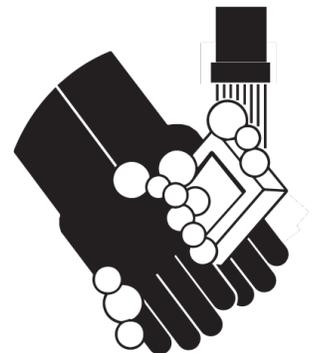
## Storage, Handling, and Disposal, cont.

- Use metal trashcans with tight, self-closing lids or put cotton balls and soaked materials in a sealed bag before putting them in the trashcan.
- Put cotton balls and other soaked materials into the trashcans immediately.
- Empty trashcans often and move them outside at the end of each day.
- Follow instructions for safely disposing of used chemicals. DO NOT pour them down your sink or toilet.



## Best Practices

- Use only the amount of product you need to perform services.
- Wash your hands before eating, drinking, putting on cosmetics, and smoking.
- When you have a break, go outside to get some fresh air.
- Keep food and drinks covered at all times, and do not store or eat food in work areas.



## Storage, Handling, and Disposal

- Store chemicals in small bottles with small openings.
- Label products with information from the manufacturer's label.
- Close bottles tightly when you are not using them.

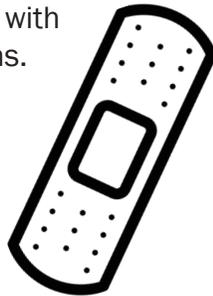


# SAFETY AND HEALTH PRACTICES FOR NAIL SALON WORKERS



## Biological Hazards

- Avoid touching any blood or bodily fluids.
- Avoid touching clients with cuts, open wounds/sores, blisters, or visibly infected skin without gloves.
- Always wash your hands with soap and water before and after working with clients to avoid spreading germs.
- Bandage open cuts or broken skin to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
- Consider getting immunized against hepatitis B. Your doctor can help you determine whether this is needed. Your employer must offer you hepatitis B immunization without charge if you are likely to be exposed to blood or other infectious materials at work.



## Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Clean and disinfect tools after each client according to the policies of your state's cosmetology board:
  - » Always wear the right gloves for the product you are using.
  - » Wash tools with soap and water. Use a scrub if needed.
  - » Soak tools in an EPA-registered disinfectant for 10–30 minutes, according to manufacturer directions.
  - » Dry tools with a clean cloth.
  - » Store all disinfected tools in a clean, covered area. Only use ultraviolet (UV) sanitizing boxes to store already clean and disinfected reusable metal tools.
  - » Disinfect foot basins and spas after each client and at the end of the day. Follow your state cosmetology board's rules.

Note: OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens standard, 29 CFR 1910.1030, requires your employer to evaluate whether you may come into contact with blood or other potentially infectious material. If this risk exists, then the employer must follow the requirements of the standard, including providing training, vaccination, and personal protective equipment

Graphic credit from Noun Project

- Nail polish with brush created by Chananan
- Nail polish bottle created by Bonnie Beach
- Bottle created by misirlou from
- Bandage created by Creative Stall

This material was produced under grant number SH-27640-15-60-F-48-SH5 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

