

Irish National
nail
TOURNAMENT



Sunday 4th March RDS, Dublin

COMPETITORS' PACK



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RDS, Dublin

Competitors' Pack
Pro Competitions

NEW – Dip system's

NEW – Dip system's & Permanent polish

NEW- Designer disc

Top Tech Competition Nails

Top Tech Stiletto

Top Tech Permanent Polish

Salon Nail Challenge

Top Tech Photographic Classic – Disco

Top Tech Photographic Nail Art – Disco

Top Tech Boxed Nail Art - Mixed Media – Disco

Top Tech Boxed Nail Art – Hand Painted Techniques –Disco

Student Competitions

Student Tech Permanent Polish

Student Boxed Nail Art – Disco



Competitors' Pack

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Competition Schedule

Deadline for submitting all Photographic Entries: Friday 16th February

Sunday 4th March

Competition	Registration	Briefing	Start time	Finish time	Judging
Top Tech Competition Nails 1 hour 30mins	8.30am	8.45am	9.00am	10.30am	10.30am
Top Tech Permanent Polish 30mins one hand	8.30am	8.45am	9.00am	9.30am	9.30am
Student Tech Permanent Polish 45mins both hands	8.30am	8.45am	9.00am	9.45am	9.45am
NEW Top Tech Dip System 45mins	8.30am	8.45am	9.00am	9.45am	9.45am
NEW Top Tech Permanent Polish & Dip System Enter both so you don't miss out you just stay in your seat! 1hour 15mins	8.30am	8.45am	9.00am	10.15am	10.15am
Salon Nail Challenge 1 hour	11.00am	11.15am	11.30pm	12.30pm	12.30pm
Top Tech Stiletto 2 hours	11.00am	11.15am	11.30am	1.30pm	1.30pm
NEW Designer Disc 1hour 30mins	1.00pm	1.15pm	1.30pm	3.00pm	3.00pm
Competition Boxed Hand in by 11 am	11am – All boxed entries must be submitted at or before 11am Judging starts at 11.30am				
Photo Classic / Photo Nail Art	Sent photos Pre Judged prior to the show				
Awards Presentation	5.00pm – Judges available to give feedback				

Newcomers / Salon Nail Challenge

Qualified Nail Techs who have not entered any previous professional nail competition before should enter the Salon Nail Challenge category. Those who have **previously been placed 1st in Salon Nail** Challenge at the Irish National Nail Tournament **may not** compete in this category again.

Irish National Nail Tech 2018

Overall Winner

As well as naming winners (1st, 2nd and 3rd place) in each category, the competition will reward the nail tech with the overall highest score, taking into account all points accumulated for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements, over two days of competition including any Photographic and Boxed Nail Art entries.

This means that the more competitions you are placed in, the better chance you have to be named overall winner and Irish National Nail Tech 2018.

Please take into account the competition timetable when booking places, as you will be unable to enter categories that run concurrently.

The only category placements NOT eligible to be considered for the Overall Winner are Student Tech Tip & Overlay Challenge, Student Tech Permanent Polish and Student Tech Boxed Nail Art.

If you have previously been placed 1st in the Salon Nail Challenge category at the Irish National Nail Tech competition, you may not enter this category again.

All competitors (apart from Student Competitors) will be automatically entered into the Overall Winner competition, and there is no additional entry fee.

The winner will be announced at the Awards Presentation on Sunday 4th March.



Inga Balciunaite
Irish National Nail Tech 2015



Amie Pike
Irish National Nail Tech 2016



Victoria McManus
Irish National Nail Tech 2017



General Rules of Entry

The following General Rules apply to all categories. Please ensure that you read, understand and follow them.

If you have any questions regarding the rules, please contact Competition Director, Denise Wright, on +44 (0) 7960 095 951. If you have questions about **registration** and availability of places, please email Competition Coordinator, Amelia Black, at amelia@irishbeauty.ie

Entry forms & fees

All Professional and Student nail techs should be booked before Friday 16th February to avail of the Early Bird entry fee of €35 per pro competition / €20 per student competition, and to guarantee your place.

All bookings should be made online at www.IrishBeauty.ie

It is the competitor's responsibility to enter themselves into the correct category.

Entry is in agreement with the rules and regulations.

Students who wish to enter Top Tech / Pro categories, e.g. Photographic Classic or Photographic Nail Art, may do so but will be charged €35 per entry before 16th February / €50 after 16th February and will be judged alongside pro competitors.

Places cannot be guaranteed for those who book on the day. Should you decide to enter after 16th February, please contact amelia@irishbeauty.ie to confirm whether places are available.

An entry confirmation email will be sent upon receipt of cleared payment. Your email will outline registration times and confirm your place. Please check this to ensure you have booked a place for the correct competition that you would like to enter and if there are any errors please email Amelia Black at amelia@irishbeauty.ie without delay. **You must bring your confirmation email to the competition as proof of payment. Anyone who does not bring their confirmation, and is not listed on the competition register, will not be permitted to enter unless full payment of €50 per category is made on the day, subject to places being available .**

In a change to previous competitions, all photographs must be submitted via email to amelia@irishbeauty.ie before Friday 16th February. This is because photographic entries will be added to our photographic gallery on the nail tournament page and blind judging will take place ahead of the live competition. Photographs will NOT be accepted on the competition day. Your photographic entry should be supplied as a high resolution jpg, and accompanied by the Step by Step (see below).

Boxed Nail Art entries should be brought to the competition area on Sunday 4th March by 11am OR posted to Irish National Nail Tech c/o Amelia Black, Associated Beauty Therapists, The Courtyard, Wixford Park, George's Elm Lane, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire B50 4JS, UK to arrive by Friday 16th February. Please make sure you have registered online at www.IrishBeauty.ie before 16th February to ensure that your boxed entry is judged. Please note that winners will not be announced until the Awards Presentation on Sunday 4th March.

All photographs and boxed nail art entries must be accompanied by a written and visual Step-by-Step, detailing how the 'look' was achieved, using the Step by Step Word document, available to download from the competition website, as a template. Points will be awarded for this. Include your design ideas,

details of products used, props used and how the design was achieved. The Step-by-Step is also used to confirm the authenticity of your entry, and if this is not available the entry may not be judged.

Boxed Nail Art, Step-by-Steps and **scoresheets** will only be distributed after the Awards Presentation when judges will be available for critiques. They will **NOT be kept or available thereafter** and will NOT be sent back via the post to any competitor.

On the day registration

All competitors and their models are required to register their attendance at the front of the nail competition area at the time detailed below. Pre-booked competitors will be seated prior to any competitors booking places on the day. We have limited places so booking in advance is recommended to avoid disappointment. If you have not booked a place before Friday 16th February and there are no places available on the day, you will not be able to compete.

You must be seated with your model in time for the briefing as once briefing starts neither you nor your model will not be allowed to leave the competition area. Please allow time for visiting the 'ladies / gents' and allow time for a light snack, as eating is not permitted inside the nail competition area. Anyone arriving after the briefing has begun may not be permitted entry. Competitors entering both morning and afternoon categories will be allowed to register for both in the morning.

Sunday 4th March Registration

Competition	Registration
Top Tech Competition Nails 1 hour 30mins	8.30am
Top Tech Permanent Polish 30mins	8.30am
Student Tech Permanent Polish 45mins	
NEW Top Tech Dip System 45mins	8.30am
NEW Top Tech Permanent Polish & Dip System Enter both so you don't miss out you just stay in your seat! 1hour 15mins	8.30am
Salon Nail Challenge 1 hour	11.00am
Top Tech Stiletto 2 hours	11.00am
NEW Designer Disc 1hour 30mins	1.00pm
Competition Boxed Hand in by 11 am	8.30am – 11am

Competitor judging numbers / labels will be given to you on the day of the competition at the registration desk. The label must be on your model's hand throughout the competition and during judging.

Pre-competition Briefing

Once seated for briefing, all equipment / personal belongings must be stored neatly under the tables. Please note that once briefing starts competitors will NOT be able to retrieve any items from their bags /

belongings and points may be deducted if this happens. The briefing will take approximately 15 minutes, where rules and regulations will be read out. Should you have any questions, please raise your hand and a Floor Judge will come to you.

Models

Models must NOT wear any identifiable garments below the elbow, and must not have tattoos on their hands / fingers. All jewellery below the elbow (with the exception of a wedding band) must be removed prior to judging.

Models should also **wear Black** and suitable clothing as they often get cold sitting still, and comfortable shoes as they may also be required to stand for some time during judging. Please inform your model that judging can sometimes take up to two hours.

If any competitor or model has a serious medical condition or serious special need, please inform the competition staff at the registration desk (this includes pregnancy or diabetes.)

During the Competition

All mobile phones MUST be switched off or on Silent Mode (including your model's phone). Competitors will be disqualified for phones ringing / vibrating / answered during the competition, as this is a distraction to your fellow competitors. You are allowed to use your mobile phone as a 'silent' timer. You may wish to leave a mobile phone on 'silent' with your model so that they can contact you once they have been judged.

All products / pump dispensers / bottles / jars etc. must be correctly labelled. Manufacturers' labels are acceptable and must be in English. You do not need to label your small dappen dishes.

Competitors will be provided with: a table, 2 chairs and 1 electric socket. Each competitor must provide their own **EXTENSION LEAD**, model, lighting, towels, water, small metal bin with a lid and plastic liner, completed client consultation card, eye protection, mask and all materials needed for competition. If warm water is required, competitors must supply their own in a suitable container, such as a flask.

No smoking or eating is allowed during the competition or in the competition area. Soft drinks are acceptable. It is advisable for competitors and models to eat prior to the competition. This is essential for your model as the judging process may take some time.

If your category requires you to paint one hand in red crème polish, you MUST use the polish provided on your desk. However you do not have to use the lid brush, and may apply the polish with a brush of your choice.

Please ensure that you follow the individual rules for which products are allowed / not allowed in your category. Any products that are not allowed will be removed from your desk by the Floor Judge / Organiser and may incur a 10 point deduction or disqualification. For the categories that are NOT ALLOWED to use cuticle oil, this also includes ANY oil-based products such as most cuticle removers, hand creams, oil sprays etc.

Judging

The live competition will be judged by a panel of independent industry experts, who will be positioned behind a screen and will only be able to see the models' hands. For the Photographic and Boxed Nail Art competitions, competitor names will be covered.

Competitors must be aware that Floor Judges will also be observing working practices. Marks will be awarded for hygiene, tidiness and personal presentation.

Floor judging rules apply to all categories (except Photographic and Boxed Nail Art). Many points are lost due to not completing a client consultation card, not having a metal bin with a lid and plastic liner, no eye protection and not removing jewellery. Refer to the separate Floor Judging information sheet for full details.

At the conclusion of the competition, competitors MUST leave the competition area until the competition staff say that you are allowed back in. Please take both your own and your model's personal belongings with you, such as handbags, as the Organiser is not held responsible for these items at any time. The competition staff will inform you when you are allowed to pack your kit away (normally once the models are lined up for judging). This may be later in the day as it may disturb other competitors competing in the other categories. This rule MUST be adhered to as disruption to other competitors may cause serious complaints. Please consider your fellow competitors whilst they are working – it could be you! All kits must be packed away and removed before registration for afternoon competitions opens and / or in time for the Awards Presentation.

Models will be called up for their nails to be pre-judged before the main judging so that the judges can have a general look at the overall standard of the nails. It is your model's responsibility to ensure they are judged a second time and that they are seen by all of the judges, and must remain in the competition area until all the judging has finished. If your model is in any doubt whether their nails have been fully judged or not, they must ask a member of the competition staff BEFORE leaving the judging area. Once your model has left the competition / judging area, they will NOT be allowed back in.

Ensure that your model has read and understood the General Rules and rules specific to your category so that marks are not lost unnecessarily.

All score sheets will be distributed after the Awards Presentation on each day. The judges will be available for critique so please have your model with you. Serious competitors gain valuable advice and feedback from the judges to improve their confidence and technique in both the working and competition environment.

All competitors and models are required to **attend** the **Awards Presentation** (optional for Photographic and Boxed Nail Art). Should you be placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd, you and your model will be required to be photographed. Your model's nail should remain untouched (i.e. not removed or polished over) until after the Awards Presentation, as they will also be photographed.

In the event of a tie, the appointed adjudicator's decision will be final. There will be a count back of 10s, 9s, working backwards and awarded a 0.5 to determine the winner. The Rules and regulations or amendments will remain at the discretion of the competition organiser.

All entries are accepted with the competitor's agreement of all the rules and regulations.

All competitors must be fully insured and work is carried out at their own risk.

Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

ABT Ltd reserve the right to amalgamate, at any time, any categories if the entrance level is five competitors or below. They also reserve the right to withdraw any categories up to 7 days prior to the competition. The organisers will contact you if this happens. If any category is withdrawn, you will have the option of a refund of payment or the option to move to a different category.

Floor Judging Rules

Floor Judging rules apply to EVERY category, except Photographic and Boxed Nail Art.

One point is given for each section, with a possible total of 10 points available. These points form an important part of your total score so it is essential to follow all of these rules. Many competitors lose points as they do not bring full eye protection, a previously completed client consultation card and a metal bin with a lid and plastic liner. If you prefer not to be interrupted during the competition time, then please ensure that these items are visible at all times for Floor Judging. Please note that face / dust masks must be present.

Professional Uniform

This should be as you would wear in the salon:

- A professional tunic, jacket, dress, apron or tabard must be worn, it can be any colour. Male competitors are allowed to wear a plain white shirt or therapy top.
- T-shirts with business / industry logos are allowed. A unlogoed plain T-shirt is not classed as business wear.
- Recognised nail / beauty industry logos / your business name logos / badges are acceptable.
- Sensible skirt or trousers. No jeans or shorts.
- Sensible shoes with NO open toes.

Jewellery

You may have a wedding band and a watch only. No bracelets, necklaces or large hoop earrings (stud or very small hoops are acceptable). No facial piercings can be showing (please remove or cover).

Hair

Long hair must be tied back. Fringes that fall below the eye level must be clipped back. Competitors' hair should not hang down or forward onto the nails.

Eye protection and face mask

One pair of safety glasses / goggles must be visible on your desk throughout the competition but it is up to the individual competitor or model whether they wish to wear the eye protection. Standard glasses are not acceptable as they have no side protection.

A face mask must be present and visible to the Floor Judge to show compliance with Health and safety but need not be worn unless you choose to do so.

Completed client consultation card

An appropriate professionally printed client consultation card should be visible on the desk and filled in with your model's personal details, including medical conditions and service / treatment details and signature before the competition briefing starts.

Neat and tidy desk

Keep files in pots / containers. Remove dust and debris as often as possible. Keep any lids on products when you have finished with them. The Floor Judge will be looking to see that you are working in a neat and tidy manner.

Disinfection / sanitation

A wet solution, such as correctly diluted Barbicide, should be labelled and present on your desk (any liquid such as Barbicide must be diluted to manufacturer's instructions). You must also provide sanitation for your files (such as sanitiser spray) and for you and your model's hands (such as a spray or gel). These also need to be labelled.

Disposal of waste

A small metal bin with a lid and a plastic liner should be on or under your desk (even if it is a small table top container such as a coffee canister). Carrier bags, open top bins and plastic / wooden bins are not acceptable.

Products labelled correctly

All bottles, pots and containers should be labelled clearly and correctly. These should be in the original manufacturer's container with a label of ingredients written in English. This includes pump dispenser bottles for liquids such as nail varnish remover. Please ensure that you do not have any products on your desk that are not allowed in your category as they will be removed by the Floor Judge, points deducted and you may be disqualified. For example: if cuticle oil or any oil-based products such as some cuticle removers, including oil sprays and creams are not allowed in your category, then please do not bring them. Plain water sprays are allowed and will be tested by the Floor Judge.

Tip boxes and sculpting forms (if appropriate to your category)

Tips must not be pre-blended / tailored prior to the competition or during set up and briefing. All tips must be inside a box (not laid out on your table) with no less than 50 tips in the box. Sculpting forms must remain untouched on the paper roll or in a box and will be checked by the Floor Judge.

NEW Top Tech Dipping systems – Rules

If entering gel polish also just stay in your seat. The clock will stop for your dipping competition. Your nails will be checked and photoed then you just carry on when the clock starts again

Please refer to the General and Floor Judging Rules as they apply to this category.

Competitors are given **45 minutes** to complete one hand of nail enhancements using a dipping system .

You should include nail shaping, prepping and application.

Pinkie – Natural nail French finish no shimmer

Ring - Tip application French finish. No shimmer

Middle – Tip application Natural Finish using clear or sheer pink (no opaque)

Index - Tip application full colour powder using your choice of colour

Thumb – Natural nail full colour powder using your choice of colour

Pearl finishes in the French or glitters will have a 10 point deduction

The product must be applied in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Clear or natural tips only.

Product companies cannot be mixed.

LED and UV are allowed.

Oil is allowed.

You must provide all the products needed for the competition.

Nails can be to any length or shape.

Drills and electric files are not permitted.

All products including pump dispensers on the table must be labelled. Floor Judges will be checking your workstation during set up, briefing and throughout the competition.

Floor Judges will be marking you on health and safety including general hygiene and a tidy desk. You must have a completed client consultation card, metal bin with liner, eye protection and a sanitation system must be present. Check general rules and regulations for more information.

Judges will also be marking your nail skills such as tip shape, product control, application and finishing skills.

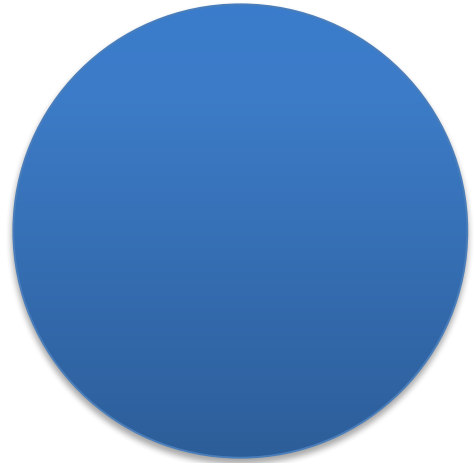
Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

Top Tech Dipping Nails Scoresheet

Judge 1 Pinkie – Natural nail French	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Free edge shape <i>(Consistent in shape all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smile line shape & density of colour of the product <i>(Even distribution) on the pinkie</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness of product <i>(Even distribution) pinkie</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smoothness of finish on the nail -pinkie	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2 Ring -Tip application French finish	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Free edge shape <i>(all tipped nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smile line shape & density of colour of the product <i>(Even distribution) on the ring finger</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness of product <i>(Even distribution) ring finger</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smoothness of finish on the nail -Ring	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3 Middle-Tip application natural finish	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Tip / form fit <i>(all tipped nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Soft Apex across <i>(all tipped nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Clarity of product.No bubbles or cloudy finish, middle finger	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smoothness of finish on the nail –middle finger	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 4 Index- Tip application Full colour	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Clarity and depth of colour – index finger	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Neatness of colour around cuticle area. <i>Neat thin product Index finger</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smoothness of finish <i>Index finger</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness of product, Even distribution <i>Index finger</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 5 Thumb -Natural nail Full colour	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Clarity and depth of colour thumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Neatness of colour around cuticle area. <i>Neat thin product thumb</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smoothness of finish thumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness of product, Even distribution thumb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

NEW Top Tech Designer Disc – Rules

Designer disc
No larger than 6cm



You must bring your disc pre made using any colours, and glitters in Gel or Acrylic finished so it is flat smooth & undecorated.

1. You have 1 hour 30 mins to decorate your disc.
2. You can use any nail art mediums , for example, gel polish ,gels ,acrylics ,gel paints etc.
3. You will be judged on colour, clarity, difficulty, control of the mediums and the complex it your design will win you points.
4. No restrictions on height or width but must consider proportion and balance.
5. Work created on the disc must be made and applied on the day.
6. Nothing premade can be used. Disqualification if used.
7. Crystals , embellishment's, are allowed .
8. Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

Examples



NEW Top Tech Designer Disc

Judge 1	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Does the showcase have the 'WOW' factor?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Design, flow of finished art.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Base Design , color creativity	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Creativity of base, compliments the art	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Does the showcase have the 'WOW' factor?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Control of different mediums	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Use of colour in design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Clarity, of colours used	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Does the showcase have the 'WOW' factor?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Difficulty of design -	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Complexity and skills used	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Overall finish to a high standard	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TOTALS											

Top Tech Competition Nails - Rules

Please refer to the General and Floor Judging Rules as they apply to this category.

You will have one and Half hours (90 minutes) to complete **one hand** set of square pink and white competition nails, for which you can use any system:

- Tip and Overlay Gel
- Tip and Overlay!Liquid & Powder
- Sculpt
- Tip & Overlay Wrap

You must only use ONE system, not a combination.

The judges are looking for 5 competition standard nail extensions The pink must be 20mm.

The Free Edge is 20mm measured from the corner of the smile line to the free edge.

Paint in red crème polish (provided) on the thumb and Pinkie over the pink and white.

All nails will look the same from the underside.

If using tips, all tips must be inside a box (not laid out on your desk) with no less than 50 tips in the box. Tips must not be pre-blended / tailored prior to the competition or during set up and briefing. This will be checked by the Floor Judges.

White tips may NOT be used. You may use natural or clear tips only – the underside of both hands must look the same.

If sculpting, any type of standard sculpting forms may be used. Sculpting forms must remain untouched on the paper roll or in their packaging and will be checked by the Floor Judge. They cannot be pre taylored prior to the competition.

Smile lines ARE required for this category.

Cover pinks are allowed.

Oil and any associated products (including hand creams and some cuticle removers), white tips, base / topcoats or drills / electric files are NOT allowed at any stage of the competition, and **if found on the table will lead to disqualification.**

The product application must be flush at the cuticle area, with no bubbles or visible. The free edge shape, length, apex arch, side walls and C Curve must be consistent across all 5 nails.

Nail polish on the underside of the nail is not allowed and will lose marks.

UV / LED Gel - Specific Rules & Regulations

- UV or LED lamps must be used otherwise this will be classed as liquid and powder.
- Gel sealants can be used as it is part of your gel system.

Liquid and Powder - Specific Rules & Regulations

- No UV Gel products can be used as topcoats or finishers.
- Unpolished nails must be buffed with files and buffers to a high gloss shine.

Sculpting - Specific Rules & Regulations

- Any type of standard sculpting forms may be used.
- No UV / LED Gel products can be used as topcoats or finishers.
- Unpolished nails must be buffed with files and buffers to a high gloss shine.

Wrap - Specific Rules & Regulations

- The wrap fabric must cover at least two thirds of the nail.
- Resins applied with a brush or nozzle are acceptable.
- No UV / LED Gel products can be used as top coats or finishers.
- Unpolished nails must be buffed with files and buffers to a high gloss shine.

Top Tech Competition Nails - Hints & Tips (Tip and Overlay Gel / L&P)

- Look for a good shape tip with a high apex and good C Curve. Achieve a deeper C curve by pinching during curing.
- Choose a good nail model with long, healthy, pink nail beds and good cuticles and skin, who looks after their nails.
- Manicure your model a week before the competition. Teach them how to use oil every night before the competition and then manicure them the day before to ensure their cuticles are in tip-top condition.
- Make sure you have enough products to hand, including some soak off / remover and a bowl just in case you want to start again.
- Make sure you have enough files and buffers – you may want a new buffer for every finger of the unpainted hand.
- The length and shape of the nails is your choice but must be consistent. The free edge length will be measured to match the length of the pink – from the corner of the smile line to the free edge. Therefore, ensure that the smile line is deep enough to allow the length of the free edge to look elegant.
- A square shaped nail will achieve more points on side walls and parallel sides. Look in magazines for previous winning nails.
- If you use natural tips, the judges should not be able to see the colour of the tip and then the layer of acrylic. Achieve this by blending the tip very thin: the thinner the tip, the thinner the end nail will be.
- Whether smile lines are deep or soft, they MUST be consistent.
- The apex arch must be consistent and in the same place on each nail.
- Intensify your colour by blotting the liquid out of the back of your brush.
- The red crème polish provided on your desk MUST be used.

- Ensure the polished hand is buffed to a shine as this will make polish look glossier.
- No polish should be seen underneath the nail.
- Polish should be close to the cuticle but not touching it. Achieve this by pushing back the cuticles, painting and then pulling the skin back to look like a tight fit. You can use an artist brush for the edges.
- Use pink and white powders or gels to ensure maximum marks.
- Use clear powder or UV / LED Gel in Zone 2 behind the white to avoid clouding / shadowing of the smile line.
- The use of oil, or any product containing oil, is NOT permitted. Use a water spray and tissue / towel to remove debris and dust.
- Look at magazines and pictures of past winners to see winning nails.

Top Tech Competition Nails - Hints & Tips (Sculpt)

- Choose a good nail model with long, healthy, pink nail beds and good cuticles and skin, who looks after their nails.
- Manicure your model a week before the competition. Teach them how to use oil every night before the competition and then manicure them the day before to ensure their cuticles are in tip-top condition.
- Make sure you have enough products to hand, including some soak off / remover and a bowl just in case you want to start again.
- Make sure you have enough files and buffers – you may want a new buffer for every finger of the unpainted hand.
- The length and shape of the nails is your choice but must be consistent. Most competitors choose to create a medium length square nail but this is not always the choice of the winners! Look in magazines for previous winning nails.
- Achieve a deeper C curve by pinching during curing.
- The apex arch must be consistent and in the same place on each nail.
- Whether smile lines are deep or soft they should be consistent.
- Intensify your colour by blotting the liquid out of the back of your brush.
- The red crème polish provided on your desk MUST be used.
- Ensure the polished hand is buffed to a shine as this will make polish look glossier.
- No polish should be seen underneath the nail.
- Polish should be close to the cuticle but not touching it. Achieve this by pushing back the cuticles; painting and then pulling the skin back to look like a tight fit.
- Use pink and white powders or gels to ensure maximum marks.
- Use clear powder or UV / LED Gel in Zone 2 behind the white to avoid clouding / shadowing of the smile line.
- The use of oil is NOT permitted. Use a water spray and tissue / towel to remove debris and dust.
- Follow all floor judging rules to achieve higher marks.
- Look at magazines and pictures of past winners

Top Tech Competition Nails Scoresheet

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS	
Free edge shape <i>(Consistent in shape all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Length <i>(Consistent length on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Parallel sides <i>(Not fanning, no bulk on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Side wall straight <i>(From side view on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 2	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Apex arch placement <i>(Consistent on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
C Curve depth <i>(Consistent on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Thinness of product <i>(Even distribution)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Product control <i>(No bubbles)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 3	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Curvature of smile line flatters the nails	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Consistency of shape at the smile line	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Density of colour from smile line to free edge	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Sharpness of smile line <i>(Where pink meets white)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 4	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Tip / form fit <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Shine on finish <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Smoothness of finish <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Cuticle area - thin product, no cuts <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 5	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Polish finish <i>(Shine, smoothness)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Neatness of cuticle area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Side edges covered	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Clean underneath <i>(No polish residue or dust)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

TOTALS

Top Tech Stiletto - Rules

You will have **two hours (120 minutes)** to complete one hand of Pink and White Stiletto nails, for which you can use either of the following systems:

- Gel Sculpt
- Liquid & Powder Sculpt

You must only use ONE system, not a combination.

You may work on either hand (left or right).

The white must be a minimum length of 1 inch (2.5 cm) from the highest point of the hyponychium. It can be longer if desired.

The length of pink should be approximately one third of the overall length. The free edge can be longer but not shorter.

The under curve must be minimum of 40%.

Cover powders or gels are allowed to extend the nail plates.

The pink of the nail plates must match across all the nails.

The length is your choice across all the nails.

Any type of standard sculpting forms may be used.

Prior to the competition starting, sculpting forms must remain untouched on the paper roll or in a box and will be checked by the Floor Judge.

Smile lines **ARE** required for this category on all nails.

Opaque pink powders are allowed.

Oil and any associated products are allowed.

Drills / electric files **ARE** allowed

UV / LED finishers are allowed

The product must be flush at the cuticle area, with no bubbles visible.

Sealants on the underside of the nail are not allowed and will lose marks.

Base and top coats polish are NOT permitted.

All products including pump dispensers on the table must be labelled.

Floor Judges will be marking you on health and safety including general hygiene and a tidy desk. You must have a completed client consultation card, a metal bin with a lid and a plastic liner, eye

protection and a sanitation system. You do not have to wear a face mask but have one present and visible to the Floor Judges.

Please refer to the General and Floor Judging Rules as they apply to this category.

Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

Top Tech Stiletto - Hints & Tips

- Choose a good nail model with long, healthy, pink nail beds and good cuticles and skin, who looks after their nails.
- Manicure your model a week before the competition. Teach them how to use oil every night before the competition and then manicure them the day before to ensure their cuticles are in tip-top condition.
- Make sure you have enough products to hand, including some soak off / remover and a bowl just in case you want to correct a mistake.
- Make sure you have enough files and buffers – you may want a new buffer for every finger of the unpainted hand.
- The free edge shape, length, apex arch, side walls and C Curve must be consistent across all 10 nails.
- Make sure you extend the pinks enough to flatter the stiletto.

Top Tech Stiletto Scoresheet

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Free edge shape <i>(Consistent in shape all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Length <i>(Consistent length on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
style of enhancement in keeping with stiletto no bulk from top view	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Enhancements align perfectly <i>(from side view on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Apex arch placement <i>(Consistent on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Depth of curvature is min. 40% and follows through the length of the nail	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Form fit	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thickness <i>(Consistent on all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Product control <i>(no bubbles)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Curvature of smile line flatters the nails	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Consistency of shape at the smile line	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Density of colour from smile line to free edge	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Sharpness of smile line <i>(Where pink meets white)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 4	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Length of pink approx. 1/3 longer than nail plate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Shine on finish <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smoothness of finish <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Cuticle area - thin product, no cuts <i>(all the nails)</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TOTALS											

Salon Nail Challenge – Rules

This competition is open to ANY competitor who has not previously been placed 1st in this category at the Irish National Nail Tournament.

It is a great introduction to competing if you have never entered a professional nail competition before, and is therefore the category to choose if you are a qualified nail tech but a newcomer to competing.

Competitors are given **one hour (60 minutes)** to complete 5 Square SALON nail extensions on one hand

The judges are looking for 5 salon standard nail extensions, short to medium length suitable for everyday wear that must complement the model's hands.

The Free Edge should be no longer than 50% of the nail plate.

You can use liquid and powder, UV / LED gel or a wrap system to complete your set.

UV / LED lamps and UV / LED topcoats MAY be used with any system.

Base / topcoats and polish drying products MAY be used.

Sculpting forms, natural, white or clear tips MAY be used.

The Free Edge length is up 50% of the pink. If you are completing just one colour, this will be measured from the hyponychium to the free edge.

If in two colours, the pink will be measured from the cuticle to the extended pink, the free edge a 1/3 of the pink from the corner of the smile line to the free edge.

Cover pinks are allowed.

Oil and any associated products (including hand creams and cuticle removers) MAY be used.

Drills / electric files ARE allowed.

If used, tips must not be pre-blended / tailored prior to the competition or during set up and briefing. All tips must be in a box on your table with no less than 50 tips inside the tip box.

This will be checked by the Floor Judges.

The free edge shape, length, apex arch, side walls and C Curve must be consistent and suitable for everyday wear.

Product application / thickness must be suitable to withstand everyday wear.

Paint in red crème polish (provided) on the thumb and Pinkie.

Nail polish on the underside of the nail is not allowed.

Topcoat is allowed.

The model's unpolished nails should be buffed to a high shine or have a topcoat applied.

All products on the table, including pump dispensers, must be labelled.

Floor Judges will be checking your workstation during set up, briefing and throughout the competition.

Floor Judges will be marking you on health and safety including general hygiene and a tidy desk. You must have a completed client consultation card, a metal bin with liner, eye protection and a sanitation system. You do not have to wear a face mask but have one present which is visible to the floor judges.

Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

UV / LED Gel - Specific Rules & Regulations

- UV / LED Gel products can be used as topcoats or finishers on both hands.
- White, cream, beige, opaque and pink or clear gel can be used to create a natural nail enhancement.

Wrap - Specific Rules & Regulations

- The wrap fabric must cover at least two thirds of the nail.
- Resins and activators applied with a spray, brush or nozzle are acceptable.
- Silk / nylon / fibreglass / fabric may be used. It must be an industry-recognised product.
- UV / LED Gel products can be used as topcoats or finishers on both hands.

Liquid and Powder - Specific Rules & Regulations

- UV / LED Gel products can be used as top coats or finishers on both hands.
- White, cream, beige, opaque and pink or clear acrylic can be used to create a natural nail enhancement.

Salon Nail Challenge - Hints & Tips

- Choose a good model with long, healthy, nail beds and good cuticles and skin, who looks after their nails.
- Manicure your model a week before the competition. Advise them how to use cuticle oil and hand cream every night before the competition and then manicure them the day before to ensure their cuticles are in good condition.
- Make sure you have enough products to hand, including extra files and buffers, some soak off / remover and a bowl just in case you need to correct a mistake.
- The length and shape of the model's nails is your choice but must be consistent. Remember that this category is for salon standard nail enhancements that are suitable for clients wearing everyday.
- Most competitors choose to create a medium / short length round / oval nail but this is your choice! Look at your model's nails and decide what would be flattering.
- Salon nails are not as thin and do not have very deep / pinched C curves as normal competition nails would.
- Intensify your colour by blotting the liquid out of the back of your brush.
- Do not flood your model's hands / nails with oil.
- Ensure the polished hand is buffed to a high shine prior to the polish application, as this will make polish look glossier. You MUST use the red crème polish provided on your desk.
- No polish should be seen underneath the nail.

- Polish should be close to the cuticle but not touching it. Achieve this by pushing back the cuticles, painting and then pulling the skin back to look like a tight fit.
- Use a water spray and tissue / towel to remove debris and dust.
- Look in magazines for previous winning nails.

Salon Nail Challenge Scoresheet

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS	
Free edge shape (<i>Consistent in shape all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Length (<i>Consistent length on all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Parallel sides (<i>Not fanning, no bulk on all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Side wall straight (<i>From side view on all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 2	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Apex arch placement (<i>Consistent on all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
C Curve depth (<i>Consistent on all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Thinness of product (<i>Even distribution</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Product control (<i>No bubbles</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 3	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Tip / form fit (<i>all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Shine on finish (<i>all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Smoothness of finish (<i>all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Cuticle area - thin product, no cuts (<i>all the nails</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 4	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Polish finish (<i>Shine, smoothness</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Neatness of cuticle area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Side edges covered plus free edge	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Clean underneath (<i>No polish residue or dust</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

TOTALS

Top Tech Permanent Polish – Rules

Competitors are given **30 minutes** to complete a set (two hands) of nail enhancements using Permanent Polish.

You should include nail shaping, prepping and application.

Paint in red crème on the thumb and Pinkie.

The other nails completed to a traditional French finish.

The base colour and top coat must be applied in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

LED and UV are allowed.

Oil is allowed.

You must provide all the products needed for the competition.

Nails can be to any length or shape.

You may use any products from your chosen Permanent Polish brand to create your treatment.

Drills and electric files are not permitted.

All products including pump dispensers on the table must be labelled.

Floor Judges will be checking your workstation during set up, briefing and throughout the competition.

Floor Judges will be marking you on health and safety including general hygiene and a tidy desk. You must have a completed client consultation card, metal bin with liner, eye protection and a sanitation system must be present. Check general rules and regulations for more information.

Judges will also be marking your nail skills such as tip shape, product control, application and finishing skills.

Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

Top Tech Permanent Polish Scoresheet

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Neat & tidy desk	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Disinfection/sanitation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Appearance of manicurist - are they to industry standard?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Products labelled	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Completed record card	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Is system applied according to Manufacturer's instructions?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Red application - clarity, dull patches, wrinkling, even colour	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Red finish (shine, smoothness)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Neatness of red product around cuticle area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness/bulk of product	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Shrinkage of product on both hands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
French application - clarity, dull patches, wrinkling, even colour	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
French finish (<i>shine, smoothness</i>)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Neatness of French product around cuticle area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness/bulk of product	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smile line flatters shape of nail	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Clean underneath on both hands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Choice of model's hands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Overall finish to a high standard	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

TOTALS

Top Tech Photographic Classic Nails – Rules

Theme – 'Disco'

All nails featured in the photograph must be completely natural or have natural / standard French nail extensions / overlays applied or have a clear or single coloured polish applied (no glitter topcoats are allowed).

No nail may have any form of a nail art design on. If a photograph is entered into this category with any nail art on, it will automatically be moved to the Photographic Nail Art category.

The style, background and theme of the picture will also be judged. The theme is 'Disco'.

Your image must be **Portrait** in composure (think of your image as a magazine front cover).

Landscape images will be **disqualified**

You can enter as many photographs as you wish, each of which will be classed as a separate entry and must be paid for accordingly. The content of multiple entries must be different, and not feature the same set of nails.

In a change to previous competitions, all photographic entries must be submitted online at www.irishbeauty.ie once paid you will be sent a link to your email address provided per each time you have entered a photographic category. You will need to upload your photographic entry via the link you have been sent. You will need to **upload your photographic entry before Friday 16th February**. This is because blind judging will take place ahead of the live competition. Photographs will not be accepted on the competition day.

The image you send in must be a high resolution jpg (min. 300 dpi) in a portrait view
Judges will not know the identity of the nail technician when judging the photographs.

The use of image enhancing software, such as Adobe Photoshop or similar, to alter the appearance of the nails in your photograph is forbidden. Any photographs deemed to have used such image enhancing software for this purpose will be disqualified/ deduction of points.

Competitors are unable to enter photographs previously entered for competitions globally or previously seen, used or commissioned for other work / magazines / promotional material etc. Photographs must not have been displayed prior to the competition on any website or through social media - failure to comply will result in disqualification.

Please note unless you have paid before Friday 16th February, your entry will be charged at €50.

Event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use your photograph in their magazines / websites / for promotional use.

By submitting your entry to the competition, you are giving ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show permission to reproduce your image in full for display purposes at the show.

Top Tech Photographic Classic Nails - Hints and Tips

Plan your photograph carefully. Consider the following:

- Ensure the judges can determine your picture reflects the theme.
- If the back of the nails can be seen, does it distract from the picture or design? Check it is clean and free from dust or decorate the reverse of the nails too.
- Your model should have good, young skin and hands (these shoot best), and long slender fingers with long nail beds, and light to no hair on hands and arms. No abrasions, scars or bruises should be visible.
- Research ideas. Choose a nail design and decide how you are going to portray this, for example:
 - Will the nails be the main focus? This is essential.
 - Does the whole picture reflect the theme?
 - Can we tell what the theme is?
 - There are many nail shots available. Look on the web, magazines, product shots, the main issue is, is it a nail picture?
- Consider whether you need the services of hair or make-up professionals?
- Do you need props to enhance the picture?
- Is your picture original or has the composition been seen before?
- Does it have a 'wow' factor?
- Look at the position of the hands. Do they complement the picture?
- Can you see the nails clearly? Many points are lost if the judges cannot see all the nails clearly.
- Make sure the photograph is not too dark and can be seen clearly, in focus and is a high resolution suitable for a front cover image.
- Do not submit entries in a landscape (or horizontal) format, as this will lose you marks – you are aiming to create a magazine 'cover shot' so take this into account when planning your design.
- Minimum of one hand must be in the shot.
- Remember you are not allowed to use image enhancing software to alter the appearance of the nails in your photograph.

Example of Photographic Classic Nail entry from Scottish Nail Tech 2014 – Theme 'Cocktail Hour'



Nails by Ania Kesiak (1st Place)

Top Tech Photographic Classic Nails Scoresheet

Theme – 'Disco'

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Would it make a good magazine cover shot (portrait)?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Does the photograph follow the theme?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Originality of photograph idea	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Structure of photo/use of background, props etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Focus & lighting of the overall photograph	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
How much are you drawn to the nails as the focal point of the photograph?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Nail polish or finish - is it to a high standard?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Hands/feet/nails positioning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3											
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Are the nails attractive in balance, shape, length?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Consistency of length & shape of nails	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 4	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Structure & bulk of nails	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Choice of model's hand	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Hands/feet well manicured	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Overall finish, is it to a high standard?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TOTALS											

Top Tech Photographic Nail Art – Rules

Theme – ‘Disco’

This year’s Photographic Nail Art theme is ‘Disco’.

Nails must have nail enhancements and nail art designs applied to them.

It is the whole picture that will be judged, not just the work on the nails. Points are awarded for nail design, theme and overall ‘wow’ factor. The style, background and theme of the picture will also be judged.

Your image must be **Portrait** in composure (think of your image as a magazine front cover).

Landscape images will be **disqualified**

You can enter as many photographs as you wish, each of which will be classed as a separate entry and must be paid for accordingly. The content of multiple entries must be different, and not feature the same set of nails.

In a change to previous competitions, all photographic entries must be submitted online at www.irishbeauty.ie once paid you will be sent a link to your email address provided per each time you have entered a photographic category. You will need to upload your photographic entry via the link you have been sent along with your step by step guide. You will need to **upload your photographic entry before Friday 16th February**. This is because blind judging will take place ahead of the live competition. Photographs will not be accepted on the competition day.

The image you send in must be a high resolution jpg (min. 300 dpi) in a portrait view document Judges will not know the identity of the nail technician when judging the photographs.

The use of image enhancing software, such as Adobe Photoshop or similar, to alter the appearance of the nails in your photograph is forbidden. Any photographs deemed to have used such image enhancing software for this purpose will be disqualified..

Competitors are unable to enter photographs previously entered for competitions globally or previously seen or used in other work / magazines etc. Photographs must not have been displayed prior to the competition on any website or through social media - failure to comply will result in disqualification.

Please note unless you have paid before Friday 16th February, your entry will be charged at €50.

Event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use your photograph in their magazines / websites / for promotional use.

By submitting your entry to the competition, you are giving ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show permission to reproduce your image in full for display purposes at the show.

Top Tech Photographic Nail Art - Hints and Tips

Plan your photograph carefully. Consider the following:

- Ensure the judges can determine your picture reflects the theme.
- If the back of the nails can be seen does it distract from the picture or design? Check it is clean and free from dust or decorate the reverse too.
- Nail Art designs can include hand-painting, encapsulation and 3-D designs.
- Your model should have good, young skin and hands (these shoot best), and long slender fingers with long nail beds, and light to no hair on hands and arms. No abrasions, scars or bruises should be visible.
- Research ideas. Choose a nail design and decide how you are going to portray this, for example:
 - Will the nails be the main focus? This is essential.
 - Does the whole picture reflect the theme?
 - Can we tell what the theme is?
 - There are many nail shots available. Look on the web, magazines, product shots, the main question you should ask yourself is, is it a nail picture?
- Do you need the services of hair or make-up professionals?
- Do you need props to enhance the picture?
- Is your picture original or has the composition been seen before?
- Does it have a 'wow' factor?
- Look at the position of the hands. Do they complement the picture? Can you see the nails and design clearly? Many points are lost if the judges cannot see all the nails clearly.
- Are the colours in the picture complementary to one another and to the design of the photograph?
- Does the design flow from nail to nail and complement the photograph?
- Make sure the photograph is not too dark and can be seen clearly, in focus and is a high resolution suitable for a front cover image.
- Do not submit entries in a landscape (or horizontal) format, as this will lose you marks – you are aiming to create a magazine 'cover shot' so take this into account when planning your design.
- Minimum of one hand must be in the shot.
- Remember you are not allowed to use image enhancing software to alter the appearance of the nails in your photograph.

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Example of Photographic Nail Art entries from Scottish Nail Tech 2014 – Theme 'Cocktail Hour'



Nails by Linda Reinsone (1st Place)

Top Tech Photographic Nail Art Scoresheet

Theme – ‘Disco’

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS	
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Would it make a good magazine cover shot (portrait)?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Originality of photograph idea	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Structure of photo/use of background props etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Structure, length & shape flatter the nail overall	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 2	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Nail art design - is it appropriate to the theme?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Nail art technique/skill - is it to a high skill level?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Combination & execution of nail art mediums	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
How much are you drawn to the nails as the focal point of the photograph?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 3	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Positioning of hands/feet/nails	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Focus and lighting of the overall photograph	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Judge 4	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless		
Degree of 'WOW' factor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Good use of colour?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Choice of model's hand	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Nail finish - have they been finished to a high level (smoothness & shine)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Intricacy of finished design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
TOTALS												

Boxed Nail Art – Rules

Theme – ‘Disco’

Please note: There are 3 separate Boxed Nail Art categories – Top Tech Mixed Media, Top Tech Hand Painted Techniques, and Student Boxed Nail Art. The following rules apply to all three competitions.

This year's Boxed Nail Art theme is ‘Disco’.

You must supply a set of 10 nails pre-decorated to the above theme.

Any sized nail tips can be used. They can be of various sizes or all the same size.

The 10 nails must be displayed, securely fixed, in a display case / box with a **plain coloured background**, with no added decorations or props on the inside of the box. This is so that all 10 nails can be seen clearly for judging purposes.

Competitors are unable to enter Boxed Nail Art previously entered for competitions globally or previously seen or used in other work / magazines etc. Boxed entries must not have been displayed prior to the competition on any websites or through social media. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

The outside of the box / case can be decorated to match the theme and points will be given.

Boxes / cases can be up to a maximum of 12" x 6" (30cm x 15cm) in size

Top Tech Mixed Media and Student Boxed Nail Art entries MUST use at least 3 different mediums / techniques to demonstrate your skills.

Top Tech Mixed Media and Student Boxed Nail Art entries may use nail art products and techniques to create and enhance your nail designs e.g.

- Embedding and Encapsulation
- 3-D sculpting
- Cut outs, various tip shapes and lengths
- Coloured acrylics / UV Gels
- Airbrushing
- Hand painting
- Polishes, base coat and topcoat
- Decals, glitters, foils, rhinestones, polish secure, lace and feathers
- Wire, adhesive and electrical devices...the choice is yours

Top Tech Hand Painted Boxed Nail Art must only feature hand painting / polishing techniques – 3D sculpting, decals, foils, rhinestones etc are not permitted. Any Hand Painted Boxed Nail Art entries featuring these and other mixed media will be moved to the Mixed Media category.

Colour, clarity, difficulty, control of the mediums and the complexity of the design will win you points.

Artwork must not extend more than 1" (2.5cm) off of the nail in any direction.

You may not use pre-designed / pre-patterned tips.

All work to be put on the nails must be created by the competitor for the competition.

All Boxed Nail Art entries must be accompanied by a written and visual Step-by-Step, detailing how the 'look' was achieved, using the Step by Step document as a template (download this from the competition website). Points will be awarded for this. Include your design ideas, props used and how the design was achieved. The Step-by-Step is also used to confirm the authenticity of your entry, and if this is not available the Photographic entry may not be judged.

You can enter as many Boxed Nail Art entries as you wish, each of which will be classed as a separate entry and must be paid for accordingly. The content of multiple entries must be different and must not have been entered into any competition previously.

Please ensure that your name is only written ONCE on the step-by-step and ONCE on reverse of the box / case. This will be covered with your competitor number labels by the organisers prior to judging.

Boxed Nail Art entries, step-by-steps and score sheets must be collected from the nail competition area after the Award Presentation on Sunday 4th May after 5.00pm, and will not be returned after the competition by post or any other means.

Boxed Nail Art entries should be brought to the competition area on Sunday 4th March by 11am

OR

Posted to Irish National Nail Tech c/o Amelia Black, Associated Beauty Therapists, The Courtyard, Wixford Park, George's Elm Lane, Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire B50 4JS, UK to arrive by Friday 16th February. Please make sure you have registered online at www.IrishBeauty.ie before 16th February to ensure that your boxed entry is judged. Please note that winners will not be announced until the Awards Presentation on Sunday 4th March.

Please note unless you have paid before Friday 16th February entries, including those of Students, will be charged at €50 each.

Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

Boxed Nail Art - Hints & Tips

- Although there is a set theme for the Boxed Nail Art, it is still important to use your imagination and come up with something that has never been seen before! Originality will win you points.
- Inspiration is all around e.g. magazines, the internet and books.
- Plan your entry carefully. The standard and skill of previous entrants is very high.
- Can the judges tell what the design is meant to be? Does it have a 'wow' factor?
- You can win or lose marks on the complexity of the design if it doesn't flatter the nails.
- Make sure you can tell what each nail design is.
- If the back of the nails can be seen, make sure they are either decorated or are clear of any debris.
- Ensure you secure the tips into the case to avoid damage in transit.

Example of Boxed Nail Art Mixed Media Irish National Nail Tournament 2015 – Theme 'Red Carpet'



By Adriana Onofrei (1st Place)

Example of Boxed Nail Art Hand Painted Irish National Nail Tournament 2015 – Theme 'Red Carpet'



By Joanna Figasinska (1st Place)

Boxed Nail Art – Scoresheet

Theme – ‘Tropical Garden’

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Does the showcase have the 'WOW' factor?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Continuation of design, flow from nail to nail	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Showcase - nails clearly displayed?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Step by Step	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Creativity - Is the design relevant to the theme?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Does the showcase have the 'WOW' factor?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Originality of nail design - is design new & innovative?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Clarity of design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Technique / skill / mediums used?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Detail too much or too little for design	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3	Below Average			Artistic Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Does the showcase have the 'WOW' factor?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Difficulty of design - complexity and skills used	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Control of different mediums	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Colour - good use of colour, is it appropriate?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Overall finish to a high standard	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TOTALS											

Student Tech Permanent Polish – Rules

This category is open to Students only.

Competitors are given **45 minutes** to complete **both hands** of nail enhancements using Permanent Polish.

You should include nail shaping, prepping and application.

The thumb and pinkie must be painted with two coats of red crème permanent polish, whilst the other nails should have a French finish. Pearl finishes or glitters will have a 10 point deduction.

The base colour and top must be applied in accordance to manufacturer's instructions.

LED and UV are allowed.

Oil is allowed.

You must provide all the products needed for the competition.

Nails can be to any length or shape.

You may use any products from your chosen Permanent Polish brand to create your treatment.

Drills and electric files are not permitted.

All products including pump dispensers on the table must be labelled.

Floor Judges will be checking your workstation during set up, briefing and throughout the competition.

Floor Judges will be marking you on health and safety including general hygiene and a tidy desk. You must have a completed client consultation card, metal bin with liner, eye protection and a sanitation system must be present. Check general rules and regulations for more information.

Judges will also be marking your nail skills such as tip shape, product control, application and finishing skills.

Photographs will be taken by an official photographer and event organiser ABT Ltd / Irish Beauty Show reserves the right to use the work in their magazines / websites / promotional use.

Permanent Polish - Hints & Tips

- Choose a good model with long, healthy, nail beds and good cuticles and skin, who looks after their nails.
- Make sure you have enough products to hand, including product remover and a bowl just in case you want to correct a mistake.
- The length and shape of the model's nails is your choice.
- Use a water or air spray and tissue / towel to remove debris and dust.
- Bring a spare bulb for your lamp in case one is damaged in transit
- Adhere to the rules.

Student Tech Permanent Polish Scoresheet

Take a look at this sample scoresheet so you can see where points can be gained / lost.

Judge 1	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	TOTALS
Neat & tidy desk	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Disinfection/sanitation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Appearance of manicurist - are they to industry standard?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Products labelled	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Completed record card	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Is system applied according to Manufacturer's instructions?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 2	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
Red application - clarity, dull patches, wrinkling, even colour	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Red finish (shine, smoothness)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Neatness of red product around cuticle area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness/bulk of product	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Shrinkage of product on both hands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Judge 3	Below Average			Salon Skills			Above Average		Excellent Skills	Flawless	
French application - clarity, dull patches, wrinkling, even colour	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
French finish (shine, smoothness)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Neatness of French product around cuticle area	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Thinness/bulk of product	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Smile line flatters shape of nail	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Clean underneath on both hands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Choice of model's hands	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Overall finish to a high standard	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

TOTALS



Venue Information

The Irish National Nail Tournament 2017 takes place as part of the Irish Beauty Show, held at the RDS Simmonscourt, Dublin on Sunday 4th March

Find out more about the RDS venue at www.rds.ie

Find out more about the Irish Beauty Show at www.irishbeauty.ie

Entry Passes

As the Irish Beauty Show is a trade-only event you must make sure that you, your model and anyone accompanying you has registered for an entry pass. Competitors and their models will be registered automatically when you register your competition place, but it is your responsibility to register for tickets for anyone else accompanying you, online at www.IrishBeauty.ie. Your entry passes will be posted out to you ahead of the show.

If you are entering morning competitions (8.30am registration), for health and safety reasons anyone accompanying you (apart from your model) will not be permitted entry to the exhibition hall until 10am (when the show officially opens).

Don't forget to bring your confirmation email as proof of competition booking and payment.

Without exception, **anyone who does not bring a copy of their email and is not listed on the competition register, will not be permitted to enter the competition unless full payment of €50 per category is made on the day, subject to places being available.**

Travel Directions

The RDS Simmonscourt is located on Simmonscourt Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. The venue's Loc8 Code is NN5-95-LB7

By Car from Dublin City Centre

Outside Trinity College, take Nassau Street (N11) for about 150 metres then turn right following the signposts for the R118. Follow the R118 (also known as Mount Street which becomes Merrion Road) for approximately 2km. You will pass the RDS Main Complex on the right hand side, and take a right

turn into Simmonscourt Road. The RDS Simmonscourt Complex is situated on the left hand side after the two office buildings.

By Bus

The RDS is serviced by bus routes number 4,7,8 and 18 (directly) which stop outside the Main Hall Entrance to the RDS on the Merrion Road. These bus services can be availed of on Nassau Street outside Trinity College. Routes numbers 46a and 145 (walking distance).

By Local Train

Dublin DART (Dublin Area Rapid Transport) service also operates from the City Centre to Ballsbridge. Travel southbound to Lansdowne or Sandymount stations.