

marie claire BEAUTY

“Make nudes edgy by applying a dot of black polish in your half moon”

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FRENZY

CHANEL

# Nudes V Glitter

Nail colour goes to extremes this season.

So will you go neat and chic or cutting-edge cool?

The ultimate season survivor is not going anywhere. But you can hang up your ballet slippers and put your baby pink in the corner because nude nail polish has been given an urban edge for a/w 12. Chanel is leading the pack with a future iconic lilac-grey that goes by the name of Frenzy – and is sure to spark one.

**THE TREND** ‘Nude nails have never gone away but they’re having a resurgence at the moment as an alternative to the extensive nail art,’ says Marian Newman, Chanel nail artist. ‘Nudes are the anti-statement of nails.’

**THE RULES** ‘When talking nudes, short nails should be squoval in shape,’ advises celebrity manicurist Trish Lomax, whose clients include Anne Hathaway. ‘Mid-length, oval nails are the best, though, ideally 2mm over your fingertip.’

**THE ART OF IT** ‘Make nude nails edgy by applying a dot of black polish in your half moon, using a cocktail stick,’ says Anatole Rainey, Essie UK Pro Team and backstage artist at Mulberry. ‘That’s nail art the chic way.’

**THE FINISH** ‘This season’s nude has a two-tone look, with part of the nail finished to a high shine, while the remainder is finished in a matte topcoat,’ says David Barton, Maybelline New York nail expert. At the a/w 12 Mark Fast show, he painted just the half moon matte for a super-modern look.

**THE SNEAKY TIP** Katie Hughes, lead manicurist backstage at Matthew Williamson for Butter London, says: ‘Lighter skin tones should look for a pink- or yellow-based neutral, while medium to dark skin tones are more suited to brown- and gold-based nudes.’

No longer sole property of the ghetto girls, glitter is the social climber of the nail world and now the Chelsea set has embraced it too. Give it some grown-up intensity with a slick of Estée Lauder’s Smashed. Glinting fabulous.

**THE TREND** ‘There are so many gradients of glitter for a/w 12,’ explains nail expert Leighton Denny. ‘Look out for metallic polishes with an accent of glitter but which still have that smooth, manicured finish. Aim for a sophisticated glimmer, rather than an obvious glitter.’

**THE RULES** ‘Get the colour right and glitter can be very sexy,’ says Tom Pecheux, creative make-up director for Estée Lauder. ‘Rich purples and deep burgundies make for a sophisticated nail that virtually winks at you.’

**THE ART OF IT** ‘If you want to indulge in the glitter trend, but aren’t quite brave enough to go the whole way, try a glittered ring finger,’ advises Zarra Celik, Max Factor celebrity nail artist and creator of catwalk nails for Erdem.

**THE FINISH** ‘For a glamorous glitter, go for a solid look by layering up the polish until it’s opaque,’ recommends Jenny Longworth, Revlon UK nail ambassador and talon artist to Rihanna. ‘Glitters with various-sized particles look more modern, but stay away from sheer washes of glitter as this can look childlike.’

**THE SNEAKY TIP** ‘To get an even glittering, the lacquer brush needs to be clean between each nail,’ explains Lena White, OPI nail expert. ‘Swipe it on a nail wipe so that each time you dip into the pot you’ll have a clean brush, which should pick up the same amount of glitter for each nail painting.’

Words by Jessica Hoogh. Still life by Lene Bakkara. Chanel Nail Colour in Frenzy, 48L. Estée Lauder Pure Color Nail Lacquer in Smashed, 18.5L



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