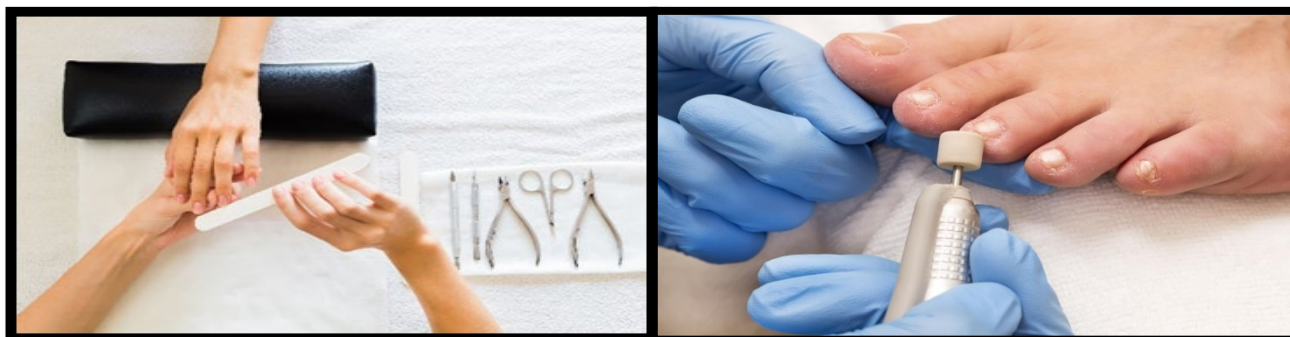


# Nail Services Information Sheet

## What are Nail Services?

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Nail services consist of manicures and pedicures, and their associated procedures. They are cosmetic treatments performed to hands and feet to enhance the appearance of nails and soften skin. During these treatments many tools and equipment are used to help achieve the desired look. Tools include metal implements (eg. clippers, cuticle nippers, pushers, files, credo blades, etc.), other equipment (eg. hand and foot bowls, jetted foot tubs, dremels, etc.), nail polishes, paraffin wax, artificial nail application, and nail jewelry application.



## What are the Potential Risks?

Photos: Nail filing (Dollar Photo Club); Foot buffing (www.nailartmag.com)

- Transmission of blood borne diseases, such as HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C
- Transmission of skin Infections (i.e. warts, fungus, Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus, etc.)
- Allergic reactions to products used during the service
- Indoor air quality concerns (i.e. chemicals associated with nail products, nail and skin dust, etc.)

## How are Infectious Diseases Transmitted and Prevented?

SOURCE	TRANSMISSION	What can an Operator do for Prevention?
Operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of handwashing</li> <li>• Inadequate infection control measures followed</li> <li>• Person to person</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thorough hand washing at appropriate times</li> <li>• Thorough hand rubbing with hand sanitizer</li> <li>• Proper use of disposable gloves</li> <li>• Refraining from work with active signs and symptoms or a lab positive for a communicable disease</li> </ul>
Client	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross-contamination (i.e. from skin bacteria)</li> <li>• Person to person</li> <li>• Poor aftercare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antiseptic used on body site before procedure</li> <li>• Do not perform procedure on or near irritated skin</li> <li>• Refrain from performing services on clients with active signs and symptoms or a lab positive for a communicable disease</li> <li>• Do not touch contaminated area on client with clean gloves</li> <li>• Provide proper after care instructions to clients</li> </ul>
Equipment/ Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improperly disinfected</li> <li>• Re-use of soiled, single-use instruments</li> <li>• Contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sterilize or disinfect re-usable equipment</li> <li>• Properly discard single-use utensils after use</li> <li>• Do not let tools and instruments come in contact with unclean surfaces or equipment</li> <li>• Use products from a reputable supplier and inspect package integrity of tools, products, and polishes prior to procedure</li> </ul>

# Infection Control Requirements Nail Services Equipment and Tools

## Equipment and Tool Categorization

<b>Critical</b>	Any instrument intended to penetrate the skin or mucous membrane, or contact the puncture site, contact blood or body fluid, or a sterile instrument before puncturing the skin.
<b>Semi-critical</b>	Any instrument intended to contact non-intact skin or a mucous membrane but does not penetrate it.
<b>Non-critical</b>	Any instrument intended to contact intact skin, but may accidentally contact non-intact skin or receive blood or body fluid splatter.
	Any instrument or equipment that does not directly contact the client or contacts only intact skin.



Photos: Pedicure Tools ([www.culturevie.info](http://www.culturevie.info)); Nail Tools (Dollar Photo Club)

## Level of Disinfection Required by Item Type

ITEM	CATEGORY	LEVEL OF DISINFECTION
Metal implements (clippers, nippers, pushers, files, graters, etc.)	Semi-critical	High-level disinfectant
Buffers, non-metal files, pumice stones, credo blades, razor blades, etc.	Semi-critical	Single-use Only
Paraffin wax, lotions, gels, etc.	Non-critical	Single-use Only
Hand and foot soaking bowls	Non-critical	Intermediate Level Disinfectant
Jetted foot tubs	Non-critical	Intermediate Level Disinfectant
Nail molds / forms for artificial nails	Non-critical	Intermediate Level Disinfectant or Single-use Only
General surfaces (chairs, tables, etc.)	Non-critical*	Low-level disinfectant

*\*If a non-critical item receives blood or body fluid splatter or accidentally contacts non-intact skin it must be disinfected using an intermediate-level disinfectant.*

## Instrument Reprocessing

Refer to “Instrument Reprocessing – Disinfection” and “Instrument Reprocessing – Sterilization” Fact Sheets for information and examples.

For Further Information, please contact your local Public Health Inspector (PHI). A list of PHI offices can be found here: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/public-health/public-health-inspectors>

The Saskatchewan Personal Services Best Management Practices and other Saskatchewan personal service fact sheets can be found here: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/environment-public-health-and-safety/environmental-health/personal-service-facilities>