

## FLORAL NAIL ART—BEGINNER

**Ages:**

9-11, 12-14, 15-18

**Description:**

Participants will learn how to do floral nails.

**Time:**

30-45 minutes

**Materials Needed:**

- Nail polish (3 colors)
  - OR nail polish (1 color) + acrylic paint (2 colors)
- One or more of the following:
  - Bobby pin
  - Dotting tools
- One of the following to serve as a palette:
  - Wax-coated paper plate
  - Plastic palette (example [here](#))
- Nail polish remover



## Instructions

Nail art is a fun way to express your creativity on your nails! Today you'll learn how to do floral nails!

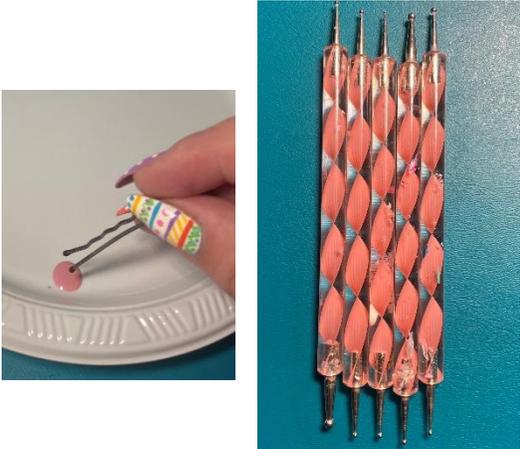
## Let's get started!

### Nail Art Guide

Follow the steps below to complete your nail art masterpiece!

<b>Floral Nails!</b>	<b>Time:</b> 30-45 minutes <b>Skill Level:</b> Beginner	
<b>Step 1</b>	Remove any existing nail polish with nail polish remover.	
<b>Step 2</b>	If you have a base coat, apply that first.	
<b>Step 3</b>	Pick a nail polish color that you'd like to use as the base for your design. It can be any color you choose, but you'll want to pick a color that goes well with the 2 colors you've chosen to do the floral design. Paint 2 coats and let your nails dry for 5 minutes.	

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<p><b>Materials Tip 1</b></p>	<p>For most of my designs, I use acrylic paint for the details instead of nail polish. If you've used nail polish to do nail art before, you may have noticed that it starts to dry and get a little tacky-tacky. Acrylic paint is a great alternative, as it doesn't dry out or get tacky when it's in your palette (see below), but once you paint a design onto your nails with acrylic paint, it dries quickly! Another benefit is that it allows you to custom mix your own colors.</p>	
<p><b>Materials Tip 2</b></p>	<p>I've included a picture of the palette I use for doing nail art. This is what I put my acrylic paint into. When I use nail polish for a design, I use something like a wax-coated paper plate, because it would be harder to remove polish from my plastic palette! The acrylic paint, once dried, pops out easily.</p>	
<p><b>Materials Tip 3</b></p>	<p>You can use a bobby pin to do this design, but you may also consider using dotting tools, which are made for doing all sorts of art. They have different sizes of rounded tips, which are great for doing polka dots, flowers, and all kinds of other designs. If you'd like to order your own set, they can be found for around \$5 on Amazon <a href="#">here</a>. Along with my small brushes, my dotting tools are an essential part of my nail art materials.</p>	

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<p><b>Step 4</b></p>	<p>This design works best when you use a medium shade with a lighter shade, or a medium shade with a dark shade, which will help your flower look like a flower when you swirl the 2 colors together!</p>	
<p><b>Step 5</b></p>	<p>Take your tool (bobby pin or dotting tool) and dip it into the darker color, then place a dot of paint on your nail to form the base of the flower. Then, dip your tool into the lighter shade, and imagine that you're drawing a small circle, and swirl the colors together gently by making a circular motion with your tool.</p>	
<p><b>Step 6</b></p>	<p>Continue adding flowers with the same technique. You can also use 2 additional colors to add in flowers of a different shade.</p>	

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<p><b>Step 7</b></p>	<p>OPTIONAL: If you have a small paintbrush and a green shade, you can add some leaves to your flowers!</p>	
<p><b>Step 8</b></p>	<p>Continue until you've finished each finger. It should look something like this.</p>	
<p><b>Step 8</b></p>	<p>Once your design is finished, seal your nails (and protect them!) with a topcoat.</p>	

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## ACTIVITY RECAP

### Discovery Questions:

- Which colors did you pick for your design? What additional elements would you add next time—ombre under the floral? Something else?
- How can creative/artistic activities like this help with stress? What are some other creative/artistic activities that you enjoy?
- What are some other items around your house that you might be able to use as improvised nail art tools? What are some other designs that you could do next time?
- With a parent/guardian's permission, share with us what you think of the Floral Nail Art on our Instagram page with the tag @girlsincindy.

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