

# GLOSSARYLIVE.COM

*Nails from A to Z*





# FROM *alisha*

Lights, camera, action! In the midst of creating a ton of content, we have started to design and develop our amazing platform. It's truly beautiful, vibrant and full of nail videos from experts around the world. I am so blessed to get to work on this, create it, and watch, what was once a dream, become a reality. I'm grateful to all the professionals on this project, making it happen. It takes a village. Without them, it wouldn't be possible. So, wish us luck as we groove into the next stage of development, and keep an eye on our social media so you know when this *Glossary* goes LIVE! **Xoxo, Alisha**

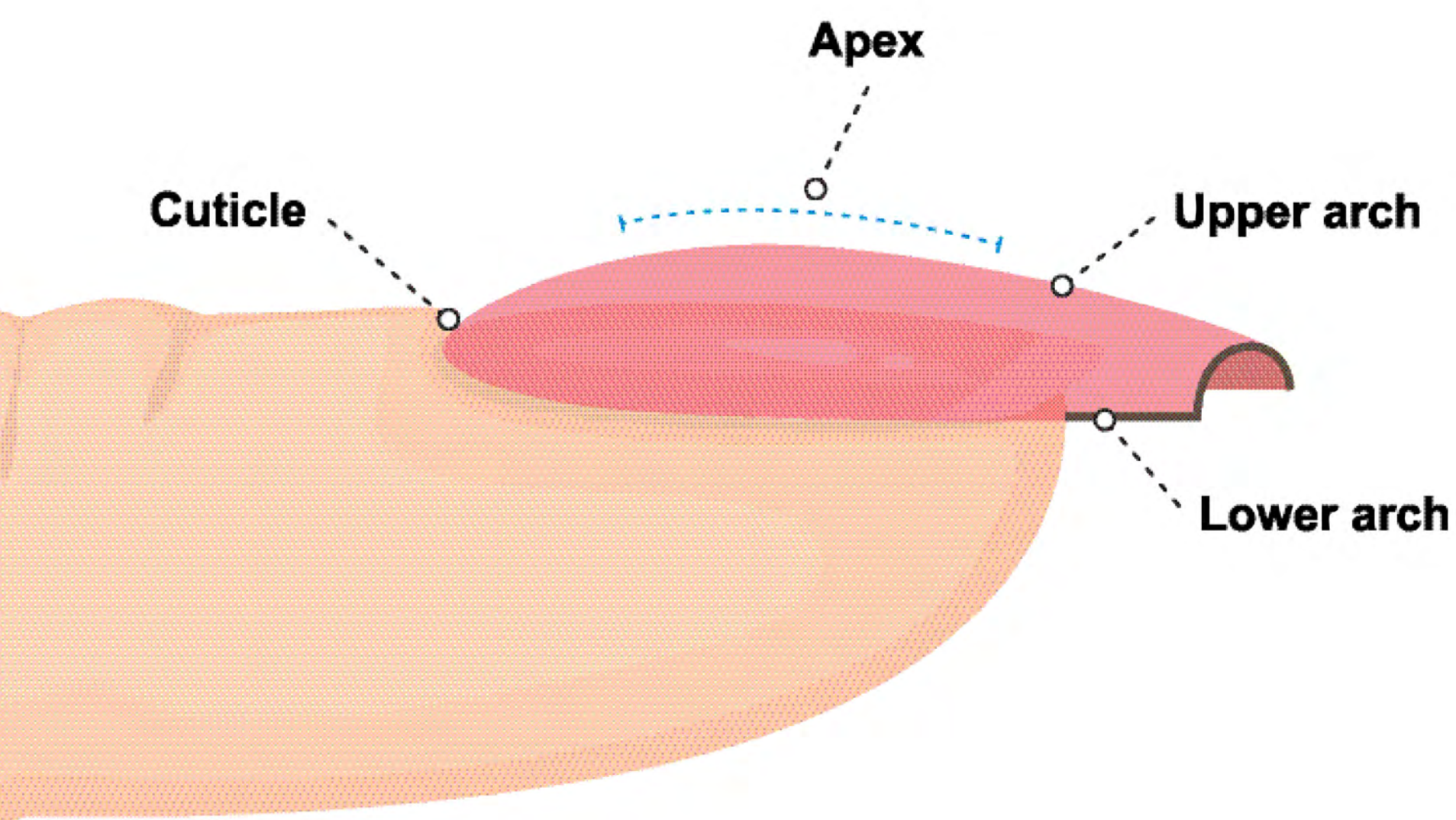


@alisharimando

## PRO Q&A

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF AN APEX ON THE NAIL?

The definition of the apex is that it's the highest point of the nail. However, when creating a nail enhancement it can vary from artist to artist where the apex is located. Its purpose is to provide a thicker area of product to give the most strength at the weakest point, which is in the center of the nail. In a perfectly balanced nail, there would be 50% nail bed (pink), and 50% free edge (white) and the center of that nail would be the smile line. This is where the apex would be placed. Remember the top of the nail is shaped like an egg. There's a slight graduation from the cuticle area up to the apex and then down to the end of the extension edge. For nails shorter or longer, a good rule of thumb is to keep the apex near the smile line or, as some call it, the 'breaking point'. The apex placement should be consistent from nail to nail.



## GLOSSARY

**plasticizers** plas-tuh-sahy-zers

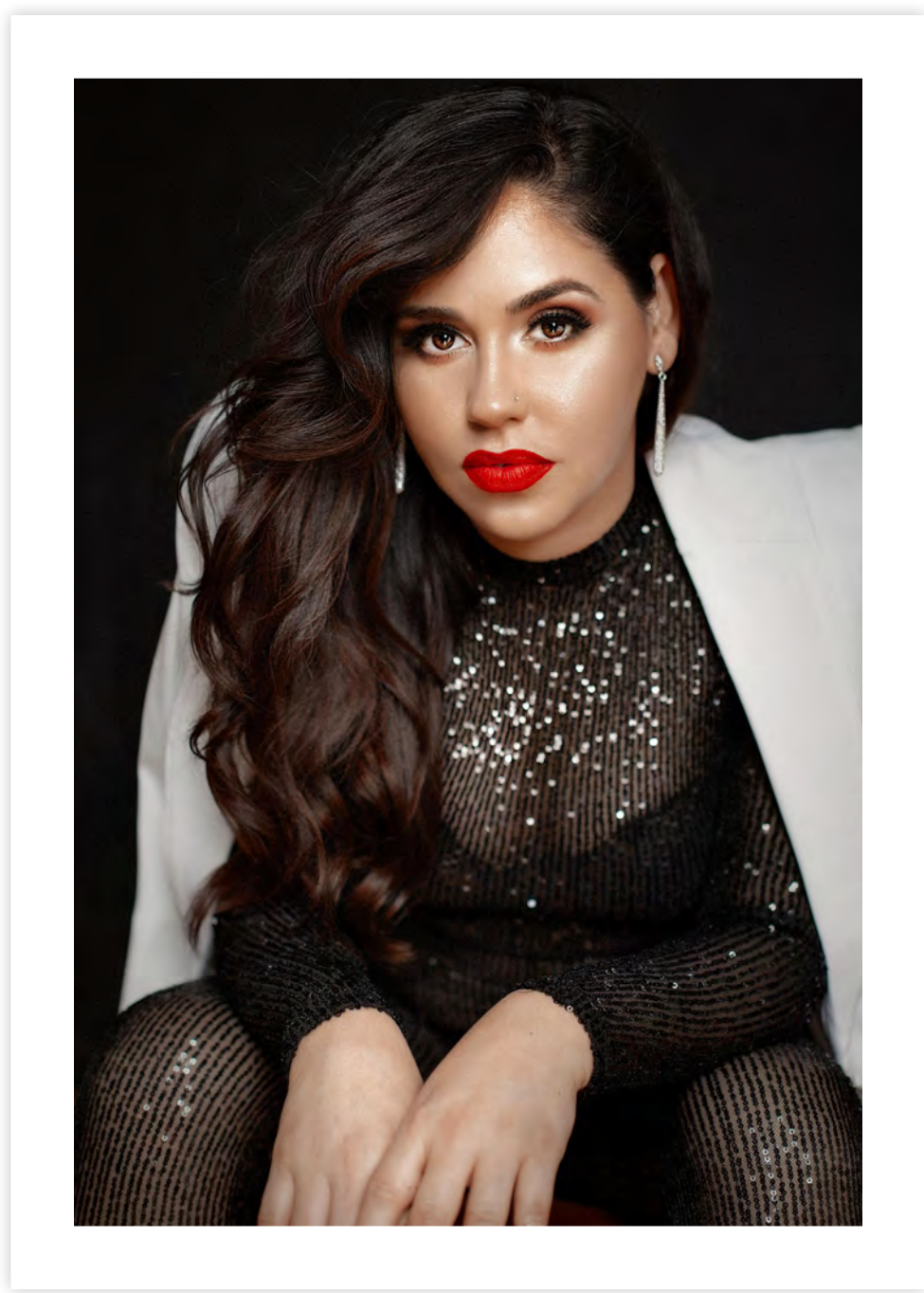
A chemical substance added to nail products to improve their flexibility and reduce brittleness

## FINGER FASHION FACTOID

Early polish was apparently made from a mixture that included beeswax, egg whites, gelatin, vegetable dyes and gum Arabic. In Egypt, members of high society painted their nails a reddish brown, using henna. In the ninth century, nails were tinted with scented oils, and polished or buffed.







Michelle Soto  
*@chellys\_nails*



# PEEL BACK THE POLISH: MICHELLE SOTO

*Stepping into the world of nails at the tender age of 12, Michelle Soto, then living in New Jersey, USA, was spoiled as her aunty used her to hand model for practice purposes.*

Later, after moving back to her birthplace of Puerto Rico as a teenager, Michelle mimicked what she'd picked up from her aunt. "My nails became a talking point and people asked me to do theirs, but I always said, 'No, I only do them for myself,'" Michelle reflects. "However, with time, I embraced my father's idea of going to nail school." On deciding to train in nails, Michelle enrolled at the Pierrette Academy in Puerto Rico. "I was offered to work at a well-known salon from the owner of the academy herself," smiles Michelle. "I agreed and worked in it for a year, then made the bold move to open my own salon; I was just 16 at the time."

Michelle continued to run nail salons for a number of years before changing her path to work more recently full-time with Valentino Beauty Pure LLC, since moving back to the States, specifically, Florida. "I've tried many products throughout the years and one of my favorites is Valentino," she asserts.

With the onset of the global pandemic changing Michelle's career course, she highlights, "Not being able to work for some time pushed me in a different direction; I had so much time to think about what I was doing and if it was the right pathway for me. I then changed my life completely. I've always wanted to dedicate myself to teaching full-time while helping others achieve their goals, but I was always too busy to commit. The pandemic gave me the opportunity to jump."

Living by the principle to always give any endeavor her best shot, no matter what the circumstances, Michelle instills, "One must always be reliable, consistent and never forget to be humble in this life. In these challenging times, take this opportunity to focus on yourself and your craft. Get prepared with all the knowledge and tools that will help you grow for when you're able to start working again; most importantly, keep posting content on social media platforms, don't give up!"

Praising social media as an excellent source of inspiration, Michelle notes, "The artist in me sees nail art everywhere I go! However, much of my inspiration comes to me at night, so I keep a sketch book on my night table to jot ideas down." On reflection, she adds, "Being able to express myself through my nail work alongside the happiness that it brings to my clients, is a blessing. The ability to express the client's emotions in the nail style is also extremely rewarding and now I take great pleasure in sharing my knowledge with others to support their career journey."

Citing her recipe for attaining great nail skills is to never stop practicing or getting educated, Michelle acknowledges that, "Consistency and knowledge are key!" Although when pressed, she reveals that her specialist skills don't present a specific strength, since her belief is that nail stylists should train and practice every skill in order to offer a wide variety to their salon public. "Foundation to me, is the most important thing in nails."

With education at the top of her menu, Michelle utilised time wisely during

the pandemic and originated a wide selection of courses. "As a result of quarantine, I developed online trainings that offer a variety of techniques called *Salon Success*. These courses offer a wide variety of topics from product & control management to commercial shapes (square, coffin, classic salon almond & stiletto), acrylic and nail art. I'm trying to get back to face-to-face classes, as soon I will expand on these options."

Moving onwards and upwards, Michelle is excited for a future where she envisions her facility not only teaching theory, but also practical skills too. Her goal is to coach students, "To hit the salon floor fully experienced and knowledgeable. Capable and ready to service!"

*@valentinobeautypure*

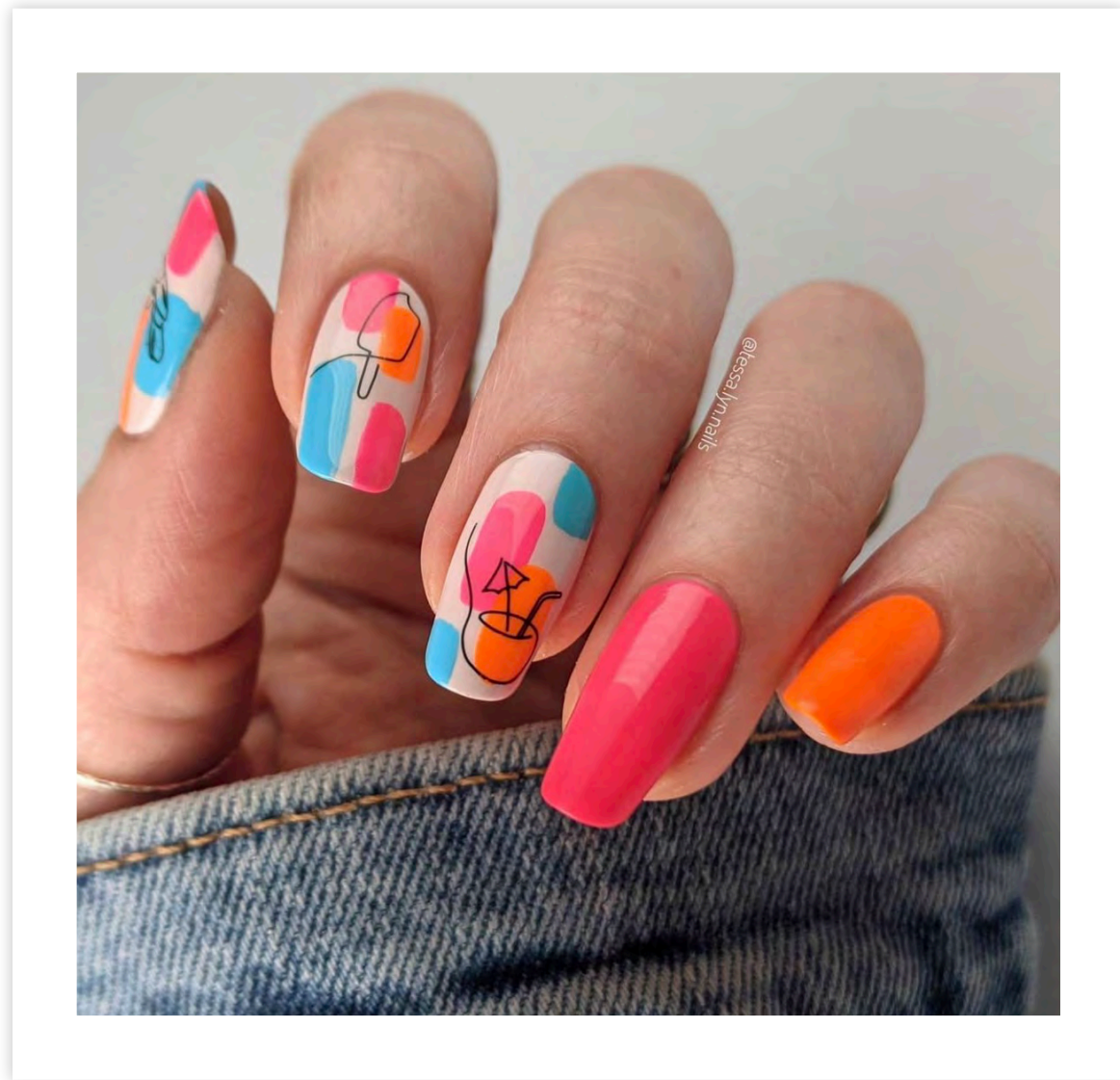




# TAG THAT TREND...


## WHAT'S HOT IN NAILS NOW: **SUMMER BRIGHTS & NEONS**

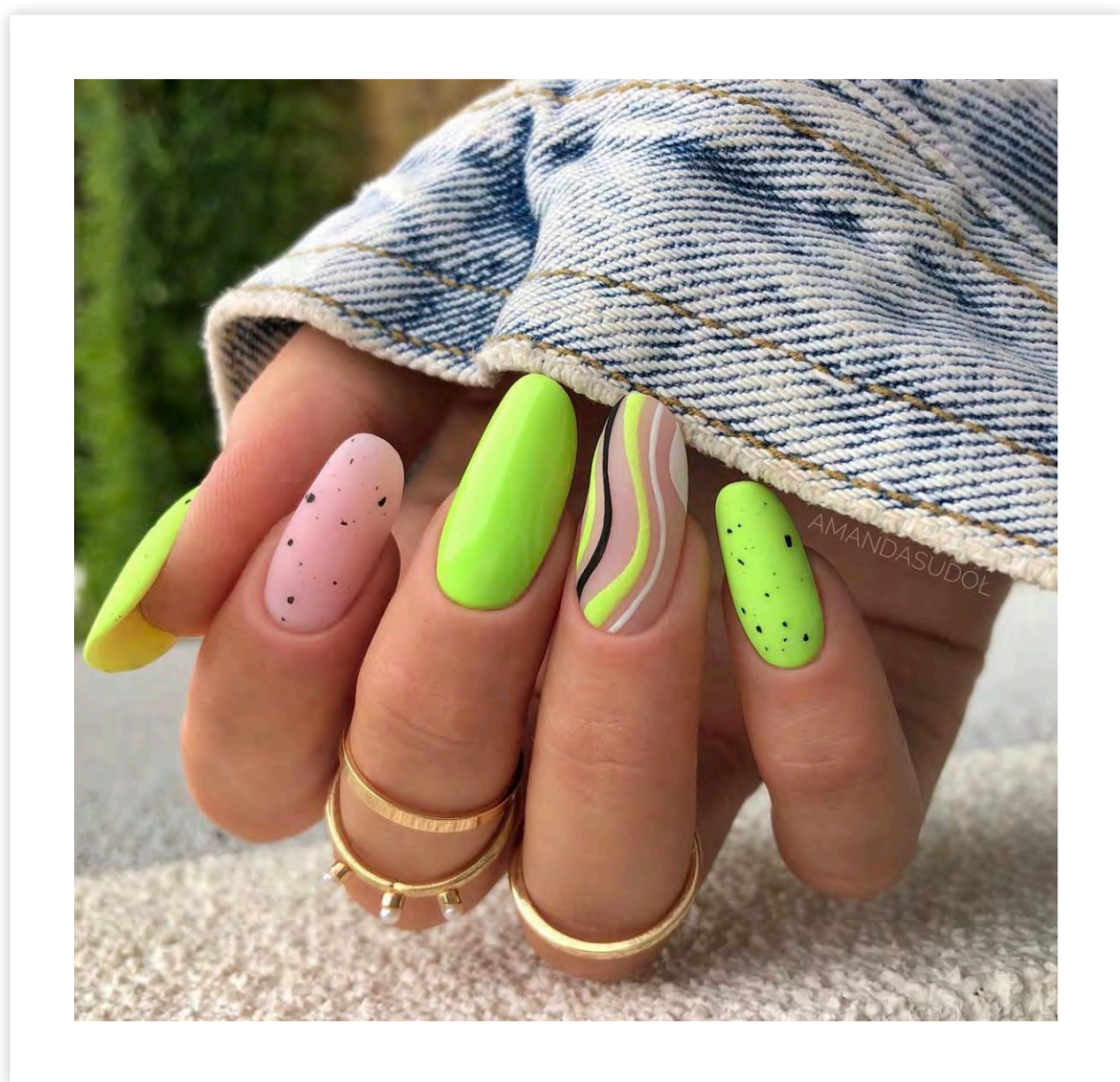
The height of summer in the Northern Hemisphere affords a wealth of stunning bright and beautiful nail designs. Right across social media we spot neons, dots, dashes and daisies, warm ombrés, swirls & brights. From corals to sunset orange, abstracts to geometrics – summer nails are flaunted far and wide keeping nail artists busy in their favorite pursuits – art, design and creativity.



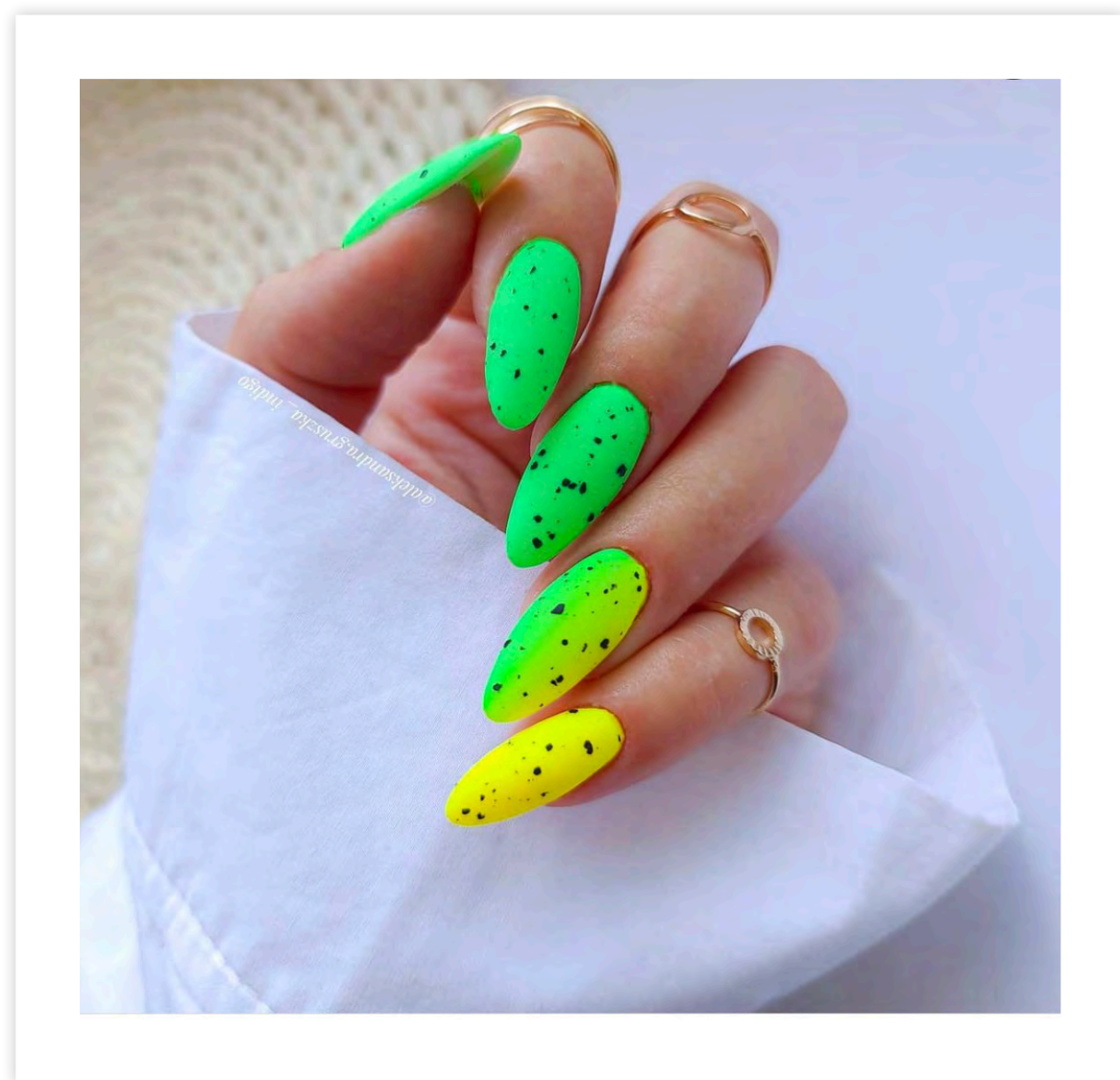
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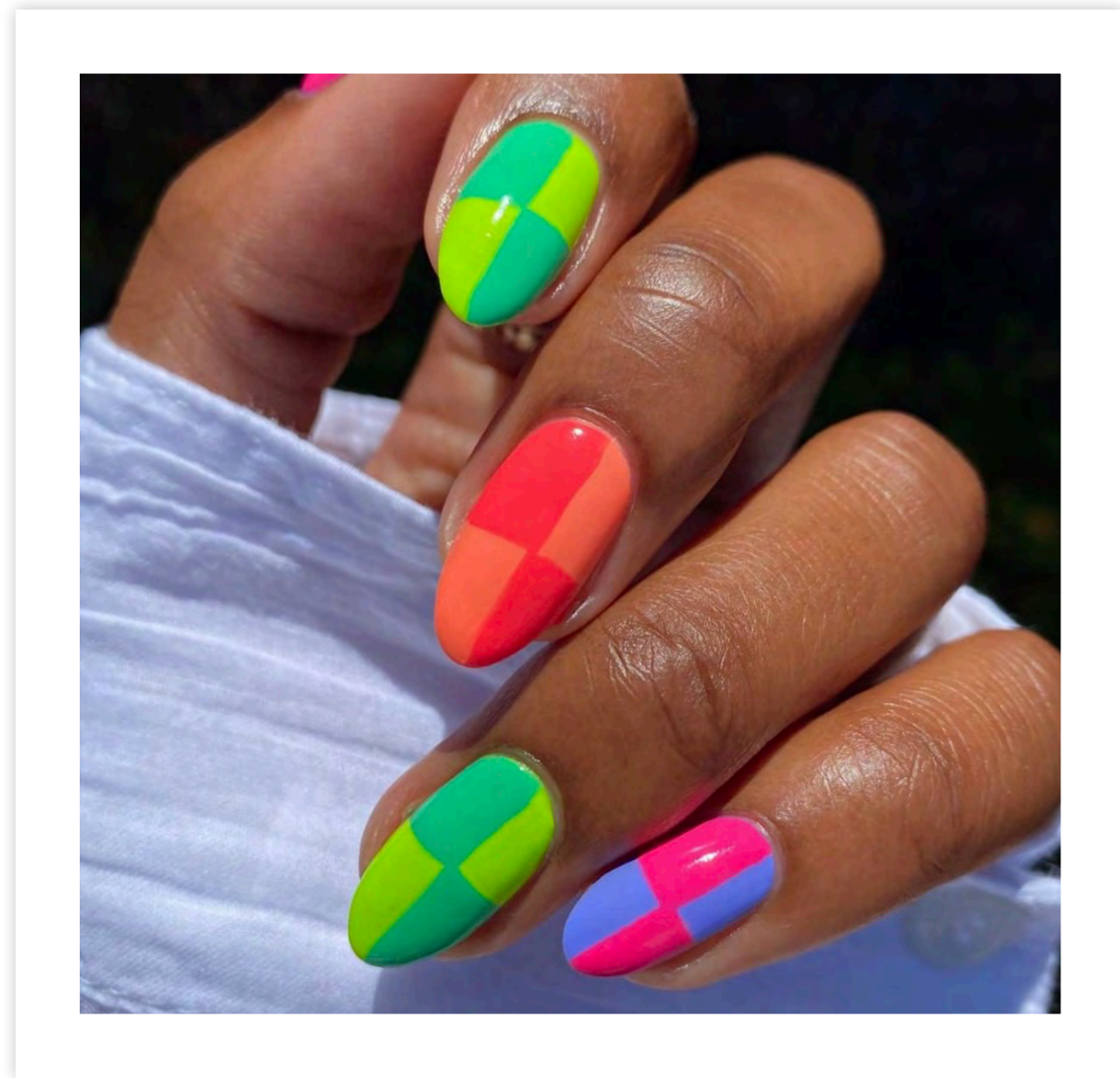
 @amandasudoll



 @alexandrarguzha\_indigo



 @eszterevelin\_nails



 @lolonailedit

# NEWSWORTHY TECHS



The USA Olympic team is making waves not only through its athletic performances (76 medals at time of writing), but also the nail designs that have been sported in Tokyo 2020. In true patriotic style, variations of red, white and blue nail designs (some with Olympia rings incorporated), have been seen in the swimming team (Katie Ledecky, Emma Weyant, Regan Smith), on the tennis court (Jessica Pegula), soccer (Alex Morgan), water polo (Williams and Gilchrist), table tennis (Lily Zhang), archery (Jennifer Mucino-Fernandez) and the gymnasts (Sunisa Lee, Jordan Chiles and Simone Biles). #tokyo2020

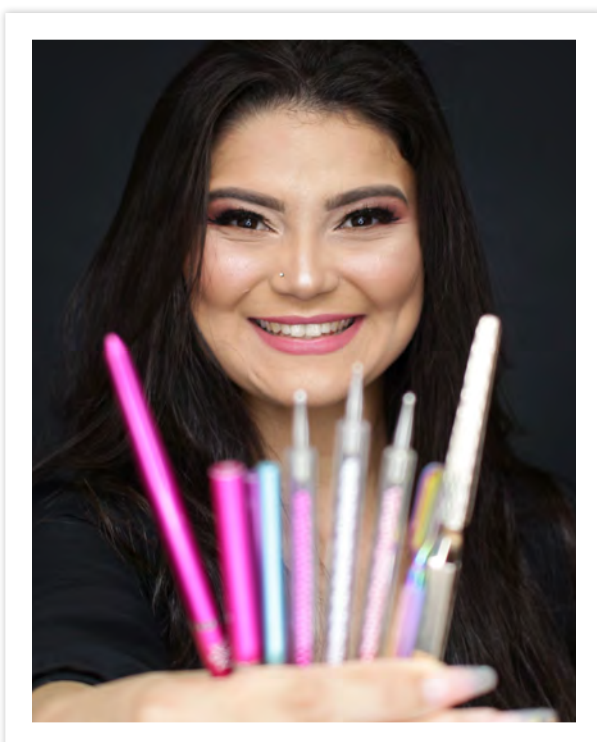
Sunisa Lee's nails by Nails by @littteluxuriesnailounge in Minneapolis, MN



@sunisalee\_

To have your work featured in Trends, Tag us @glossary\_live or #glossarylivenails





IARA MACIEL

# FREESTYLE NAIL ART

EASY 5-MINUTE NAIL ART



@iaramacieloficial



1

Apply two coats of white gel nail polish and cure each one completely. Apply neon orange nail polish to one side of the nail, use a beveled brush to blend in the center and cure completely.



2

On the opposite side of the tip, apply nail polish in a neon pink tone. Use the beveled brush to smooth the nail polish in the center of the nail and cure completely. Then repeat steps 1 and 2, and cure completely.



3

Apply a matte gel top coat and cure completely or apply a regular gel top coat and use a 400-grit nail file to remove the shine to get the matte effect.



4

With a brush designed for creating fine line detailing, use regular gel top coat to draw a zebra print.



5

With the help of a nail spatula, sprinkle orange sugar glitter over the print and then dry completely. At the end of the drying process, remove all excess glitter.

## NAIL HACKS & HUMOR

To extend the life of your lacquer, keep it cold! Pop your favorite nail polish in the fridge to lengthen its life.



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## About GLOSSARYLIVE

### THE MISSION:

To unite the nail artists of the world and create a global community focused on artistic expression and factual information.

### WHAT IS GLOSSARYLIVE.COM?

GlossaryLive is not only a glossary of technical information and videos created by world-renowned artists, it's an interactive community where nail professionals and hobbyists alike can get a behind-the-scenes look into the glamorous lifestyle of top execs, celebrity technicians, cutting-edge artists, global industry news and salon business tips from around the world. This is *Nails from A to Z...*

Contact us: [info@glossarylives.com](mailto:info@glossarylives.com)

Join the GlossaryLive social media community on Instagram [@glossary\\_live](https://www.instagram.com/glossary_live) & Facebook [@GlossaryLive](https://www.facebook.com/GlossaryLive)

Contact the team: [info@glossarylives.com](mailto:info@glossarylives.com) to get featured & showcase your career & nail work

[GlossaryLive.com](http://GlossaryLive.com)



*Believe you can,  
and you're  
halfway there.*

– THEODORE ROOSEVELT