

# MASTER class

## HAUTE COUTURE, HIGH FASHION NAIL DECO



## Max Estrada



Being born into the beauty industry and with more than 10 years of expertise and experience, Max Estrada has always had a strong belief in nail education and artistry. Max started playing with his mother's nail products and reading trade publications at a very early age, even attending his first trade show at the age of 5. He started his professional career working in his family's salon in Arizona. Within the first year, he aspired to grow bigger as a nail technician and decided to enter his first competition. At the tender age of 16 and already sporting a quick and accurate acrylic application, Max entered his first professional nail competition.

Confident in his work, Max competed and placed in the top 10 for his division and category. Full of determination, his goal was to improve his skills and conquer the competitive world of nails. Now, Max places in every competition he enters and his focus is on further refining the nail shape and developing nail technologies that make the nail artist's life easier. He believes that the best competition to win is the one with yourself; always strive for your personal best. Max's ultimate dream was to have the best products to complement his education for the nail care industry. In 2014, he designed and invented his own product line, aptly titled Exclusive Nail Couture Professional. Today, Max competes all over the world and hones a true passion for his art. Max is now sharing his knowledge around the world in his classes and through his product line.

Being an industry trendsetter, Max says, "The nail industry is not about where it has been, but where it's going."

### WHAT YOU NEED

Acrygel, embellishment adhesive, thick viscosity adhesive, peel off base coat, cuticle oil, rhinestones, LED/UV lamp, cuticle pusher, gel top coat, pink gel polish, glitter gel polish, e-file, extra long full well tips, lint-free wipes, 100-grit file, buffer, implements.

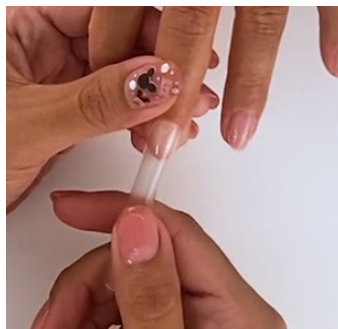
### GETTING PREPARED

Set up your table ready to learn how to create interesting and diverse color compositions for crystal nail art designs. Make sure you work from an uncluttered working space. Place the nail tips and all other necessary products on a tray with your chosen colors on the table.

## NAIL PREPARATION



**1** Take manicured nails & gently buff the surface with a 180-grit buffer. Then apply a thin layer of Peel Off Base Coat & allow it to air dry.



**2** Choose your nail tip for each nail. Pre-measured, full-well nail tips must fit from side to side & the cuticle area really snug & perfect. Line the nail extension up with the knuckle to ensure a straight line.

## PRO TIPS

- If you are creating nails for a photo shoot & want to remove the extensions after, use Peel Off Base Coat to easily remove the nails & save your nail art.



### Max Estrada E NAIL COUTURE

Arizona, USA.  
www.enailcouture.com  
IG: @kingofnail



**3** Use acrylic gel to apply all full-well preformed nail tips.



**4** Look at each nail from the client's perspective to ensure it is perfectly straight. Flash cure after each one is placed.



**5** Now apply the nails to all 5 fingers.



**6** Fully cure all 5 fingers when the tips are applied.



**7** Remove the surface shine from all the nail tips with a purple buffer. This ensures the decoration will adhere well to the surface.

## PRO TIPS

- While filing or buffing a long extension, hold the tip of the nail with your thumb & use your other fingers under the extension to support the pressure of the buffer. This will give the nail stability & ensure client comfort.

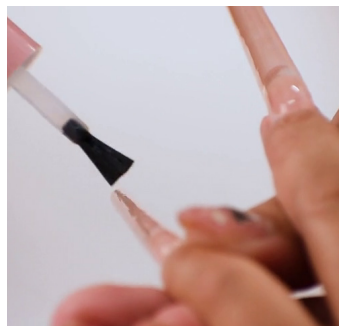
## CREATE YOUR COUTURE DESIGN



**8** Apply 1 coat of glitter UV/LED gel polish to 2 accent nails & cure.



**9** Apply chosen color UV/LED gel polish color to remaining nails & cure.



**10** Apply top coat to seal in the color before the deco stage begins.



**11** Use a thick viscosity embellishment gel to set the larger stones & charms.



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**12** Place your large charm in the thick gel & flash cure to secure it.

## PRO TIPS

- When creating avant-garde & couture designs, always use an odd number of embellishments, while keeping the larger stones in the middle, as this creates a beautiful composition with a sleek look.



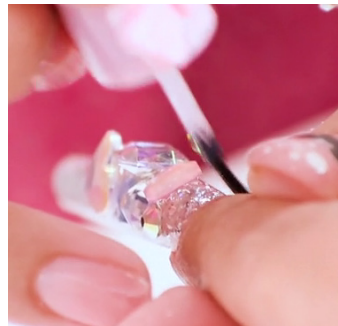
**13** As you move down the nail, choose smaller charms & stones to gradually taper off the design to keep the feeling of long & sleek, chic nail styling.



**14** Fill in all the gaps & crevices between the embellishments with embellishment adhesive & completely cure the design.

## PRO TIPS

- Apply a thin viscosity embellishment gel between the charms to ensure the design does not get caught in hair or clothing. This gel will give a really strong seal to prevent any charms or stones from coming loose.



**15** Apply nail oil to the cuticle area & surrounding skin.

## PRO TIPS

- After curing product, wait 10-seconds before applying nail oil, this will ensure the product has cooled & does not absorb the oil & take away the shine.



In this workbook you have learned how to create long, sleek and chic looking nail designs that are perfect for special events, fantasy nail art, commercial and editorial photography, mixed media, runway nails and competitions. These are show stopping nails delivering high fashion crystal bling and glamor.