MEANS FOR ORNAMENTING FINGERNAILS AND TOENAILS

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4 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Fingernails and toenails can be ornamented in precise position with tiny floral or other designs to match dress color, make-up or nail lacquer. A heavy vinyl covered board with differently colored rectangles is provided with a plurality of side by side bands each of which has a central portion with a decalcomania transfer pattern, flank portions coated with adhesive and blank terminal portions, which can be omitted in modifications, for handling and for displaying purposes. An applicator is a part of the invention and has cisscrossed teeth arranged in staggered rows and longitudinally arcuate with a depending tongue projecting at one end for supporting and rubbing action. The strips may optionally be made up as a roll with transverse perforations for severing individual strips, the decalcomania of each of which is protected as by a piece of vinyl plastic or glossy paper.

The invention relates to the ornamentation of female fingernails and toenails and to means for accomplishing the same.

The general purpose of the invention is to add cosmetical beauty to the female hand and foot so that women and girls may enjoy more pleasure and gracefulness in life.

A more specific purpose of the invention is to provide an instrument which will make it possible to set and fix a tiny ornamental pattern precisely at a desired spot and at an upright or other favorable position on the nail. It is of great importance to achieve precise setting and fixing; otherwise it may produce no sense of beauty.

Another purpose is to provide an instrument which will help the application handily and easily with satisfaction result in an instant, which will facilitate matching color of dress, make-up, or nail lacquer, and which will prevent the tools from possible damage both before and after purchase by ultimate users. Briefly, the above is attained by means of a transparent band which carries a desired design on a decalcomania and a baseboard that has been proved the simplest yet the best mode of carrying out the invention. In view of this factor and the fact that only common and inexpensive materials, and simple manufacturing procedure are required, the invention has a high commercial value.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

FIG. 1 is a plan view of effects produced in accordance with the invention;

FIG. 2 is a detailed elevational view of a transparent band, showing the shape and structure of its reverse side;

FIG. 3 is an elevational view of a baseboard with six individual colored rectangles, the surface of which is covered with an extremely fine membrane of colorless vinyl plastic, the membrane being not illustratable in consequence of its invisibility, the colors being indicated by different linings;

FIG. 4 is an elevational view similar to FIG. 3 with twelve transparent bands mounted properly on the baseboard and showing that the ornamental designs are applied through the transparent bands and the colored rectangles, through the transparent bands and membrane;

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary plan view showing the band taken off the base-board;

FIG. 6 is a plan view showing how the band is applied for setting;

FIG. 7 is a perspective view of a band in wrapping position around a finger;

FIG. 8 is a side elevational view of a rub-presser, showing the shape and structure of the rub-presser;

FIG. 9 is a bottom plan view of the rub-presser, showing the arrangement of its teeth; and

FIG. 10 is a modification of the invention with the strips in roll form.

Referring specifically to FIG. 1 of the drawing, 1 indicates a colored pattern set and fixed in position on a natural or colorless nail lacquer or polish coated nail, and 2 indicates a pattern in white color set and fixed on a colored nail lacquer or polish coated nail. A variety of patterns in single or plural color will be designed for this purpose.

The transparent band shown in FIG. 2 is cut out of a fine very thin sheet of colorless cellophane or other suitable transparent material. Its one side, which is regarded as reverse as shown in FIG. 2, comprises five portions: a central portion 3 carrying a decalcomania which refers to the ornamental design or pattern either prepared for transfer or already transferred by dry decalcomania in the following description; each of the two flank portions 4 on either side of portion 3 holding a fine coating of crystalline adhesive and the two terminal portions 5 having only vacant spaces either or both of which may be omitted in modified forms of the invention. Its other side, which is regarded as obverse, has merely a plain blank surface. When the band is taken off the base-board to proceed to setting, the reverse side is always facing down so as to allow the decalcomania to contact directly with a nail, and the band is used as a handle to guide the decalcomania, which is one of the functions of the band. Since in the course of setting the two objects the decalcomania on the reverse of and the target nail beneath, the transparent band is perfectly visible from the obverse side, said decalcomania can be easily handled free from obstruction and misplacement, and therefore can be readily guided in an upright or any favorable position and set on the desirable spot of said nail. To illustrate more in detail the functions and application of the band, a thumb and an index finger of the user's right hand take a band off a base-board as shown in FIG. 5; guide said band on the nail of a middle finger of the left hand as shown in FIG. 6; as the decalcomania is favorably set on said nail, the thumb of the left hand presses gently and then said thumb and index finger of the right hand pull said band downwardly a bit lightly to cause parts of the two flank portions to adhere both sides of said middle finger to set said band thereon, the motions being shown by arrows in FIG. 6; and said thumb and index finger of the right band press downwardly side by side along the remaining parts of said flank portions to cause the same to stick together wrapping around said middle finger as shown in FIG. 7. It is quite clear that this can be done to other fingers or toes, or by the left hand to the fingers of the right hand, in the same manner as above described, and that it may be done by other manners as well or more conveniently through another person's service.

As the band binds and sticks around the finger as shown in FIG. 7, it becomes so secure that the force of rubbing or pressing to cause the decalcomania to transfer will not shake the band to spoil the delicate decalcomania.
When necessary or if desired to make the band binding more tight and steadfast, the part 9 of FIG. 7 or parts of the flanks are squeezed upwardly between the nails. A rub-presser may be used to quicken the transfer, the detail description of which is given hereinafter. After the decalcomania has been set and fixed on the nail and the band removed, the band is united by holding down the terminal portions and pushing aside with the fingers. This done, there is applied on both the nail and the decalcomania a coat of the commonly known base polish or colorless nail polish of usual or known composition to provide thereon a protective coating to make the pattern more durable as well as brighter. Two or more coatings may be applied, if a thicker layer is desired. A small cotton ball moistened with nail polish remover or acetone is used to wipe out the coating and the decalcomania easily from the nail.

The base-board B which is made of heavy cardboard or other suitable material serves as a base to support the transparent bands or strips S, to protect them from possible deformation, convolution, smear during shipment, storage or accidental mishandling, and to maintain the pliant and partly adhesive bands in plane, clean, perfect functioning condition. In addition, the delicate decalcomania pattern will be retained safe and sound between the strong board and the tough sheet of the band. The bands are arranged in a strip by a row, and as the reverse of every band is facing down the two flank portions sticking firmly on the surface of the base-board will make each band fix thereon in level and straight position as shown in FIG. 4. Six individual rectangles 7 are printed on the white surface of the base-board at even intervals and in six different colors such as violet, black, blue, green, pink, and silver, and the size and position of each of the rectangles are similar to that of the central portions 3 as shown in FIG. 3, the six colors being indicated in different linings. When the transparent bands are mounted properly, six center portions may be overlaid on colored rectangles and six other center portions, on white background as illustrated in FIG. 4. In this manner, the colored rectangles will present the white or light shades, while the white background will present the black or dark shades, of the tiny ornamental pattern 6 to the slight distinctly, and will suggest to the mind a good choice to match the color of dress, make-up or nail lacquer or both. Because the surface of the base-board is covered with fine vinyl plastic or other suitable glossy substance, or sprayed with such solution, the bands become removable secured thereon and the bands can be pulled off therefrom by holding and lifting one of the terminal portions 5 and of the nail perfectly. For a smaller design, two strokes will be sufficient; for a larger design, three or four strokes.

In order to obtain harmonical movement on the convex curve of nails but to avert being hindered by the finger, said teeth are arranged in three narrow rows and in a slight concave area longitudinally as shown in FIG. 8. The tongue 12 of FIGS. 8 and 9 projecting at one end is designed to prevent the teeth from running off the nail during backward burningish that occurs occasionally. In fact, with the devotion of the tongue which serves as safety-rein the rub-presser can be more reliably used at a horizontal or vertical position or at any angular degree, and the tongue and the teeth form a right angle where the finger may relay on the tongue as a support and the nail may rub against the teeth instead of being burnedish.

In the modified form of the invention shown in FIG. 10, a roll R of strips S is provided each of which is sevable at the transverse perforations 13 and each decalcomania design 6 is covered and protected by a piece of vinyl plastic or glossy paper (not shown) until the strip is used. What is claimed is:

1. Means for the ornamentation of fingernails and toenails comprising a roll of a plurality of bands arranged such that the shorter side of one band abuts the shorter side of the adjacent band with transverse perforations between bands, each of said bands having on one side thereof a plurality of portions spaced longitudinally by said band, at least one of said portions being a decalcomania bearing an ornamental design, each of said decalcomania portions having a flank portion on each side thereof, and at least one handle portion at one end of said band, said decalcomania being of the type that is transferred from the band to the nail by means of pressure, said flank portions each carrying an adhesive, said handle portion being left blank, and said band being made of a transparent or translucent material, the decalcomania of each band being provided with a protective overlay of vinyl plastic or glossy paper.

2. Means for the ornamentation of fingernails or toenails comprising a plurality of bands, each of the bands having a fully transparent body by means of which precise setting and fixing of a tiny ornamental pattern at any desired spot on a fingernail or toenail can be achieved, each of said bands having a plurality of portions spaced longitudinally along its reverse surface, the central portion of which carries a design on a decalcomania, the decalcomania being of the type that is transferred from each of the bands to the nail by means of the portions on either side of the central portion of each of said bands, each holding a coat of adhesive, and at least one terminal portion left blank on each of said bands and used as a handle for holding, lifting and pulling sand flank portions enabling each of said bands to be removable held and applied for ornamentation, said plurality of bands being supported upon and protected by a base of heavy vinyl plastic coated board when said bands are mounted on said board, said bands, each being mounted on said board in a row, strip by strip, with the decalcomania between said board and each of said bands, the size and shape of each of said bands being identical to the other on a single board and the extremity of each of the two shorter sides of each of said bands being positioned parallel to that of the two longer sides of said board, whereby each of said bands with said board forms a protective shield to safeguard the decalcomania.

3. Means according to claim 1 wherein said board has an overall white background together with individual colored backgrounds in smaller sizes, said individual colored backgrounds being arranged at positions similar to the center portion of every other band when said bands are mounted on said board.

4. Means according to claim 1 wherein said bands mounted on one single board comprise one or more related or unrelated designs or patterns.

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HAROLD ANSHER, Primary Examiner

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132—73, 88.7; 156—230; 161—406, 413
UNIVERS STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,598,685 Dated August 10, 1971

Inventor(s) Thomas Lee and Teresa Lee

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent
and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Claims 3 and 4, line 1 of each claim, change "1"
to -- 2 --

Signed and sealed this 14th day of December 1971.

(SEAL)
Attest:

EDWARD M. FLETCHER, JR. ROBERT GOTTSCHALK
Attesting Officer Acting Commissioner of Patents