Insider Tips

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THREE MANI PROS SHOW US WHAT'S NEW IN NAIL ART BY NYKIA SPRADLEY PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN BORBELY

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BEAUTY : NAILS





















THE NARRATIVE NAIL

Nail artist: Mei Kawajiri @ciaomanhattan2012

When it comes to telling a story through nail art, Kawajiri is an incredible narrator. Here, she created three sets of tips that show the First Family, the 2016 election season and the Black Lives Matter movement. "Artists have always used their art to tell stories, express opinions and participate in the political and social conversations taking place around them," says Kawajiri. "Nail art is no different nails are my canvas of choice." »

BEAUTY : NAILS





















IN THE CLEAR

Nail artist: Fleury Rose @fleuryrosenails

It looks as if negative space is here to stay "because there are so many ways to wear it," says Rose, who produced these three designs. "My favorite new style in negative space is called a cheek nail [shown bottom left]," says Rose. "It's where color is concentrated at the center of the nail and faded outward like blush on a cheek. I also love using clustering tape, stones or glitter dead center on the nail and leaving the rest clear." This minimalist mani isn't just for those who prefer less color either. If you like gels, negative space at the cuticle allows you to get a longer wear out of your polish as it grows out. "The look can also be really edgy with small illustrations or shapes on a clean nail. I prefer it with a very glossy finish," says Rose. »

Lotus Jewelry Studio "Pebble" ring in gold, \$65, lotusjewelrystudio.com.





















SHAPESHIFTERS

Nail artist: Gracie J of The Editorial Nail @theeditorialnail

A geometric mani that plays up shapes, lines and color-blocking patterns works on anyone, but it's a particularly great option for the girl who likes a style that's slightly more subtle than a full-out narrative nail. "Whether you're eccentric or a bit more on the reserved side, nail art is here to cater to you," says Gracie J. If you're wondering how your nail shape will work with the lines and curves on these designs, Gracie J says: "Nail art is about self-expression, so don't limit yourself or overthink the process. Go with a nail shape that flatters your hands, and don't be afraid to step outside your comfort zone. The best part about nail design is it isn't permanent." If you want something new, you can easily change things up.

Miranda Frye "Hadley" ring, \$47, mirandafrye.com. Lotus Jewelry Studio "Boom" double-band ring with bar, \$45. lotusiewelrystudio.com