

Nail art

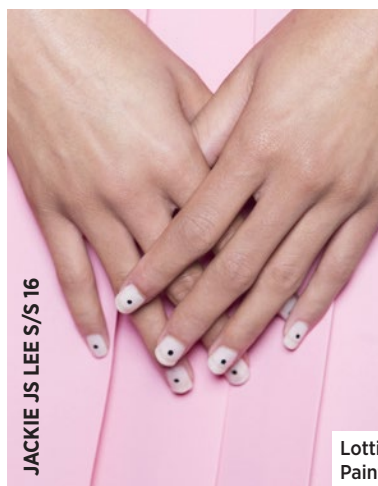
that won't get you fired (we promise)

Subtle, elegant and 100% office appropriate? Here are the rules...

1 FULL STOP

DIFFICULTY
RATING: 1/3

That's right, people, punctuation just got cool. The blink-and-miss-it detail on Jackie J S Lee's S/S 16 nail can be achieved in (literally) seconds. Apply a sheer pink polish first (the type you would use for a natural French manicure), followed by a dot of jet black in the centre. Invest in a fool-proof dotting tool for this bit, or if you're strapped for cash, try a cotton bud.



precision brush that'll give you ruler-straight lines with the flick of the wrist, hurrah!). Or just cheat it with an easy-to-apply stencil – so easy in fact, you can pop them on during your morning comm ute!

2 SMART STRIPES

DIFFICULTY
RATING: 2/3

This nail design is inspired by layered jewellery worn by Africa's Maasai tribe, but it's a look that'll work even if your most far-flung location is the photocopier. OK, so it requires a fairly steady hand, but something called a 'striper' will help counteract the coffee shakes (it's a skinny

3 TWISTED MANI

DIFFICULTY
RATING: 3/3

Twisted, as in an upside-down French manicure that accentuates the cuticle rather than the tip. Pastel shades fun it up further, without drawing too



Lottie London Paint By Numbers Nail Art Stencils, £8.99



Essie Nail Polish in Mint Candy Apple, £7.99

Rimmel London Super Gel Kate Nail Polish in New Romantic, £5.99

many disapproving looks from your boss. Apply your pale pink base first, then layer a half-moon shape at the base of the nail. Rimmel London nail expert Adam Slee suggests applying your top coat when the colours are still wet to soften their join. Need a hack? Raid your stationery cupboard for hole-punch reinforcements to use as a stencil for the half-moon shape, painting your moon colour inside the half-circle of the sticker. Alternatively, leave bare and paint the remaining nail above for an on-trend negative-space look.

