

## A Study on Expression Techniques of Nail Art : Focused on Nail Holic in 2012

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### Abstract

This study examined the history of nail art in 20th century, defined characteristics of many techniques used on nails, and analyzed how those techniques have been utilized in recent nail art works. For the method of the study, books and previous studies on nail art were examined as primary sources, and newspaper articles on nail art were studied as references. Then, the case studies were conducted on photographs of nail art works published in Nail Holic in 2012. As a result of analyzing expression techniques of nail art featured on Nail Holic, there had been a total of 517 works created using a single technique. The reason why hand painting is used very frequently is because artists can draw unique images of their own to create various designs according to their tastes. Rhine stone is also very popular, because stones are easy to apply and various in their shapes and colors. There were a total of 555 works created using two or more techniques. The most important point to examine is that hand painting, rhine stone, and 3D art were most popular among all techniques. These works featured highly various effects and images by combining flat effect of hand painting with three-dimensional effects of rhine stone or 3D art. The tendency can also be found in the fact that there have been many works using techniques of flat effects such as decal or marbling combined with techniques of three-dimensional effects such as rhine stone or 3D art.

**Key words:** decal, hand painting, marbling, rhine stones, 3D art

### I . Introduction

Recently, nail art has been recognized as a means to complete fashion and there have been

many new techniques developed. Women like to have their nails done in french coloring or in patterns such as dots or stripes. Sometimes they color their nails in one solid get color, and

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add on parts in one finger (N. Lee, 2013), or put on nail stickers and decorate with stones (Star nail art trend, 2013).

Meanwhile, studies on nail art techniques have been on air brush techniques (S. Kim & Jeong, 2013), UV gel (Sunyoung Lee & Nam, 2013), UV gel · hand painting · water marbling technique (Pyeon & Jeong, 2013), combination technique of hand painting and gel (Haksoon Kim & An, 2013) and hand painting · rhine stones · air brush · striping tape technique. For the ones that have links with this study among these studies (Yun, 2009), has proved that nail art can express artistic aesthetics by creating nail art works using hand painting · rhine stones · air brush · stripe taping techniques, and Sunyoung Lee and Nam (2013) argued that romantic · modern · elegant impressions can be created through wedding nail arts using UV gel. Haksoon Kim and An (2013) have reported the necessity of hand painting in nail art creations and how it can satisfy consumers's desire toward gel nail by presenting a new nail technique that combines hand painting and gel. Through the results of these studies, nail art is a three dimensional artwork to express inherent aesthetics of human beings and can express various images modern day females pursue through the use of materials, techniques and methods.

Therefore, this study examined the history of nail art in 20th century, defined characteristics of many techniques used on nails and analyzed how those techniques have been utilized in recent nail art works. This study will be meaningful in understanding expression tendencies in nail art and providing data on expression techniques when designing nail arts. For the method of the study, books and previous studies on nail art were examined as primary sources, and magazines specialized in

nail art and newspaper articles on nail art were studied as references. Then, case studies were conducted on photographs of nail art works published in 「Nail Holic」, a magazine specialized in nail art, from January to December 2012.

## II. Review of literature

### 1. The History of Nail Art in 20th Century

In the early 20th century in the West, polishes for manicure purpose were developed in pale pink, clear and etc. However, there had been certain stereotypes against manicures and clear polishes were the most popular. During this time, the first manicure shop opened on Boulevard Haussmann in Paris. In 1917, Dr. Korony had introduced an at-home nail care products in Vogue that allow individuals to care for nails at home without tools and devices (Beatrice, 2004; K. Kim & Jo, 2010).

Around France and Italy, sandals had become widely popular and pedicure have been developed with the trend. Colors ranges of polishes have been expanded with introductions of polishes in primary colors such as red, black, silver and gold. Nail polishes became available to public in 1920s and natural pink was very popular (Haruyama, 2004; Yun, 2009). Figure 1 is the cover of Vogue magazine, November issue in 1926. Nails painted with pale pink polish.

Manicure have been developed in earnest during 1930s Europe. Revlon, an American cosmetics company, launched nail polishes to match lipstick colors in 1932. By the year 1936, red was widely popular among nail polishes. Painting nails with polishes became very

common, and after the World War II, most women had their nails manicured before dressing up for special occasions (Haruyama, 2004; K. Kim & Jo, 2010; Kwak et al., 2011). Figure 2 is the cover of Vogue magazine, August issue in 1939. Women is wearing red lipstick and matching nail polish.

In 1940s, painting nails with red in full coverage became popular because of the actress Rita Hayworth. Men also enjoyed having wet manicures at barber shops. After the WWII, nail polishes were hard to find due to lack of supplies and beauticians recommended to buff nails to achieve shine (Kwak et al., 2011; Valerie & Amy, 2003). Figure 3 is the cover of Vogue magazine, December issue in 1940. Women has her nails painted with red polish in full coverage.

In 1956, Gourley Helen started teaching nail art in a beauty school for the first time, and thus began the nail art education. In 1957, artificial nails became more popular, and the first acrylic nails were created (Kwak et al., 2011). Figure 4 is the cover of Vogue magazine, August issue in 1950. Long oval-shaped nails painted with red polish in full coverage.

In 1960s, the nails stayed long, and artificial nails were widely popular. Square shapes were in trend together with pearly white colored polishes. In London, the model Twiggy (september, 19th, 1949~) said red nails are out of fashion, and pale frosty lipsticks and polishes were popular (K. Lee, 2010). Figure 5 is the advertisement for Cutex polishes in 1967. Twiggy is wearing pearly white polishes on her nails (Cutex 67, 2009).

In 1973, an American nail product company IBD (International Beauty Department) first introduced nail glues and self adhesive artificial nails. In 1975, Orly International produced polishes, ridge fillers, primers and base coats. In 1976, polishes, acrylic and fiber wraps were

introduced and nail art have settled down in the US (K. Kim & Jo, 2010). Figure 6 is the nail polish advertisement for Dior in 1973. Model is wearing pink, green, purple and yellow polishes on her hands and gradation technique is applied on free edges in white.

The most significant event in the 1980s is the trend of French Coloring, which has started from the US and spread to Europe and the rest of the world. In 1981, nail product manufacturers such as Essie, OPI and Star launched nail accessories. The American manicurist Tommy Taylor developed acrylic nail products consist of powder, primer, liquid and etc (Kwak et al., 2011). Figure 7 is the cover of Nails magazine, February issue in 1987. Circles and lines are expressed using air brush technique.

In 1992, NIA was established and manicure industry was further improved. In 1994, light-cured get system was introduced and the state of New York started license system for nail technicians. In 1994, light-cured gel system was introduced in Germany (K. Kim & Jo, 2010; Yun, 2009). Figure 8 is the cover of Nails magazine, May issue in 1991. Hand painting technique was used. Paintings are done in white acrylic paint over red nails.

## 2. Expression Techniques of Nail Art

In order to examine expression techniques in nail art, previous researches were considered in the first place and the results are as the following. Sukyeon Lee, Ju, Kim, Ko, and Cheon (2002) classified techniques in dangles, rhine stones, marbling, striping tapes, water decal, air brush, hand painting, 3D art. Kong (2003) classified techniques in dangles, rhine stones, marbling, striping tapes, water decal, water marbling, air brush, charms, protrans, french



Figure 1.  
Coloring



Figure 2.  
Coloring



Figure 3.  
Coloring



Figure 4.  
Coloring

- Vogue (1926, November) - Vogue (1939, August) - Vogue (1940, December) - Vogue (1950, August)

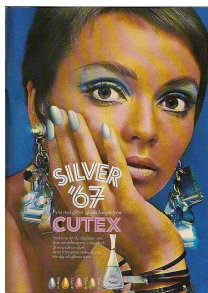


Figure 5.  
Twiggy



Figure 6.  
Coloring



Figure 7.  
Air Brush



Figure 8.  
Hand Painting

- Cutex, 1967 - Dior Advertisement, 1973 - Nails(1987, February) - Nails(1991, May)

color, hand painting and 3D art. M. Kim (2006) classified techniques in design sculpture, marbling, stone art, water marbling, air brush, embossing art, folk art, protrans, hand painting, 3D art. Yang, Jeun, Jo, and Ha (2009) classified techniques in marbling, striping tapes, stained glass, water decal, air brush, folk art, french color, UV gel. K. Kim and Jo (2010) classified techniques in dangles, rhine stones, marbling, striping tapes, water decal, air brush, hand painting, 3D art. Kwak et al. (2011) classified techniques in dangles, rhine stones, striping tapes, decal, stained glass, water decal, water marbling, air brush, embossing art, protrans, french color, hand painting. Jang, Lee, Lee,

Kim, and Kim (2011) classified techniques in folk art, hand painting, UV gel, embossing art. M. Lee (2011) classified techniques in design sculpture, marbling, stone art, striping tapes, water marbling, air brush, folk art, french color, hand painting, UV gel, 3D art. Hyangja Kim (2012) classified techniques in Design sculpture, marbling, stone art, water decal, air brush, folk art, protrans, hand painting, UV Gel, 3D art.

To summarize the classification, expression techniques in nail art can be categorized into dangle, decal, design sculpture, rhine stone, marbling, striping tape, airbrush, 3D art, hand painting and descriptions on each technique are as the following.

Dangle (Figure 9) is to put a hole through the free edge of a nail to add a ring-shaped accessory. It is relatively safer to perform this treatment on artificial nails than natural nails (K. Kim & Jo, 2010). Decal (Figure 10) is a short for decalcomanie. They come in as completed images on stickers, and are used on colored nails (Jo, Kim, Kim, & Lee, 2013). Design sculpture (Figure 11) is to add patterns after extending nails using acrylic power or UV gels. The nails are then covered with clear acrylic powders or clear UV gels (M. Kim, 2006). Rhine stone (Figure 12) refers to artificial diamonds. Rhine stones come in geographic or flower shapes or in charms. This technique is sometimes mixed with flat techniques such as hand painting or air brushing, or with three dimensional techniques such as embossing art. Its characteristic is to express flat designs more splendidly with semi-three-dimensional looks (M. Kim, 2006; Kong, 2003). Marbling (Figure 13) is to express marbling · flower · leaf · butterfly patterns using marbling tools or fine brushes after drawing lines/circles with two or more polishes or color UV gels. Its characteristic is that the results do not appear as intended or realistically but rather in abstract forms away from natural shapes (Moon & Baek, 2011).

Striping tape (Figure 14) is a technique to place thin self-adhesive tapes on nails (M. Lee, 2011).

Airbrush (Figure 15) is a technique to design nail art works using pressed air and paints. It is mostly used in illustrations or detailed depictions. Airbrush is to spray paints on nails in mist forms using compressors and airbrush guns that spray out air (Park, 2007). 3D art (Figure 16) is to create three-dimensional sculptures using acrylic powders and liquids. It can create precisional shapes (K. Kim & Jo, 2010). Hand painting (Figure 17) is to directly draw animal · plant · portrait · realistic · abstract · geographic patterns on colored and dried nails. It can show artistic results by using fine lines, unique patterns and various colors (Hyangja Kim, 2012; Sukyeon Lee et al., 2002).

### III. Analysis of Expression Techniques in Recent Nail Art Works

In this research, 1,072 photographs of nail art works 「Nail Holic」, the magazine specialized in nail art, from January to December 2012, were collected in order to analyze techniques used in recent nail art works. Among the collected nail art works, those created using a single technique were categorized into 'single technique' Table 1, and those created using more than two techniques were categorized into 'combined techniques' Table 3.



**Figure 9.**  
**Dangle**

– *Nail art*,  
p.191



**Figure 10.**  
**Decal**

– *Nail art &  
technology*, p.249



**Figure 11.**  
**Design sculpture**

– *The world of nail  
technology*, p.196



**Figure 12.**  
**Rhine stone**

– *Nail art &  
technology*, p.235



**Figure 13.**  
**Marbling**

– *Nail art*,  
p.193



**Figure 14.**  
**Striping tape**

– *Nail art & technology*,  
p.248



**Figure 15.**  
**Airbrush**

– *Nail art & technology*,  
p.260



**Figure 16.**  
**3D Art**

– *The world of nail*  
*technology*, p.297



**Figure 17.**  
**Hand painting**

– *Nail care and design*,  
p.181

## 1. Single Techniques

### 1) Hand painting

There were total 315 nail art works created using hand painting technique – 38 in January issue by Jung Dawn and others; 26 in February issue by Jung Yeojin and others; 28 in March issue by Park Gyunghee and others; 23 in April issue by Lee Jeongmi and others; 32 in May issue by Jung Sangmi and others; 29 in June issue by Oriko Tanaka and others; 26 in July issue by Kim Hyomi and others; 30 in August issue by Park Yoonseo and others; 14 in September issue by Kang Heesook and others; 28 in October issue by Bae Songhee and others; 24 in November issue by Lee Heejung and others; and 17 in December issue by Jang Yoojin and others.

Figure 18 is a nail art work by Lee Jeongmi from September issue. The theme is pansy flowers. She created the work using hand painting technique with black, dark green and deep sky blue acrylic paints. What is unique about this work is that it presents pansy flowers and leaves together on black bases, and the flower in particular is expressing lights and shades very well to emphasize the effect of hand painting.

### 2) Rhine stone

There were total 89 nail art works created using rhine stone technique – 5 in January issue by Jeon Bogyong and others; 9 in February issue by Seo Midae and others; 9 in March issue by Nailart salon BanDi and others; 6 in April issue by Park Gyeongnam and others; 6 in May issue by Jung Yeojin and others; 5 in June issue by Jung Eungyeong and others; 5 in July issue by Kim Jiyeong and others; 11 in August issue by Jang Hwaseon and others; 10 in September issue by Lee Jiseon and others; 7 in October issue by Park Nayeong and others; 3 in November issue by Choi Reumsoe and others; and 10 in December issue by Jang Yunhui and others.

Figure 19 is a nail art work by Park Gyeongnam from May issue. All five tips are decorated with rhine stones. She first put on a pink polish as a base, and decorated with round charms in gold color and hemispherical · oval rhine stones in gold and silver. On tips 1, 2, 4 and 5, hemispherical rhine stones in gold and silver are decorated on deep french line. On tip 3, round charms and hemispherical rhine stones are decorated around oval rhine stone to bring variety and emphasize cute and lovely impression.

### 3) 3D art

There were total 38 nail art works created using 3D art technique – 5 in January issue by Choi Hyeoni and others; 1 in February issue by Jung Geonghae and others; 3 in March issue by Hong Hyeonjin and others; 4 in April issue by Seo Misun and others; 9 in May issue by Seol Mijeong and others; 4 in June issue by Yu Eunsu and others; 3 in July issue by Kim Hyomi and others; 3 in August issue by Choi Reumsoe and others; 2 in September issue by Gang Huisuk and others; 3 in October issue by Jang Yujin and others; 1 in November issue by Lee Heejung and others; and 6 in December issue by Jang Yujin and others.

Figure 20 is a nail art work by Jang Junghee from December issue. It was created based on the 3D art technique. On tips 1 and 5, green, yellow and pink powders were applied using brushes. On tips 2, 3 and 4, roses and leaves were created in three dimensional forms using red, pink, yellow, orange and green acrylic powders and acrylic liquids to decorate the entire tips. Roses are shaped like bouquets to express more glamorous impression.

### 4) Decals

There were total 41 nail art works created using decals technique – 3 in January issue by Kim Gyeongha and others; 2 in February issue by Yang Jaehui and others; 4 in March issue by Jeon Bogyeong and others; 8 in April issue by Jang Jiyeong and others; 2 in May issue by Code Beauty Academy and others; 2 in June issue by Jang Yujin and others; 3 in July issue by Kim Jiyeong and others; 5 in August issue by Lee Jungmi and others; 3 in September issue by Haru and others; 4 in October issue by Kim

Hyejin and others; and 7 in December issue by Jung Yunhui and others.

Figure 21 is a nail art work by Jang Yoonhee from December issue. It was created using decal technique. On tips 1, 2 and 4, sticker decals of silver circles in different sizes are used over black base. On tips 3 and 5, shiny silver sticker decal is used to express futuristic expression.

### 5) Marbling

There were total 25 nail art works created using marbling technique – 3 in January issue by Kim Seonyeong and others; 4 in March issue by Seo Misun and others; 3 in May issue by Lee Jeongmi and others; 5 in June issue by Seo Midae and others; 3 in September issue by Sasarusi and others; 3 in October issue by Park Nayeong and others; 1 in November issue by So Yul; and 3 in December issue by Kang Heesook and others.

Figure 22 is a nail art work by Miso Nail from December issue. Marbling technique is very noticeable in this work. The work is created by placing drops of pink, white and black UV gels and stirring with marble sticks before the gels are hardened to create abstract patterns. It is very interesting to involve accidental effects in bold colors.

### 6) Airbrush

Airbrush technique is shown only in the nail art work by Kang Heesook from December issue refer to Figure 23 She first sprayed black and white paints on each tip using airbrush technique to create gradation effect, then sprayed white paint using airbrush after placing stencils in patterns on each tip. As a result, all

Table 1. Classification of Single Technique Nails

month technique	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Hand painting	38	26	28	23	32	29	26	30	14	28	24	17	315
Rhine stone	5	9	9	6	9	5	5	11	10	7	3	10	89
3D art	5	1	3	4	9	4	3	3	2	3	1	6	44
Decal	3	2	4	8	2	0	3	5	3	4	1	8	43
Marbling	3	0	4	0	3	5	0	0	3	3	1	3	25
Airbrush	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	54	38	48	41	55	43	37	49	32	45	30	45	517



Figure 18. Hand Painting  
– September (2012), p.108



Figure 19. Rhine Stone  
– March (2012), p.99



Figure 20. 3D Art  
– December (2012), p.124



Figure 21. Decal  
– April (2012), p.106



Figure 22. Marbling  
– December (2012), p.123



Figure 23. Airbrush  
– December (2012), p.122

five tips are completed with graphical patterns to express abstract impression.

Table 2 is a result of analysis on formative features of nail art works created using hand painting · rhinestone · 3D art · decal · marbling techniques, those which took up the majority of single technique works.

## 2. Combined Techniques

### 1) Hand painting and rhine stone




There were total 275 nail art works created using hand painting and rhine stone techniques  
– 23 in January issue by Choi Mimi and others;

20 in February issue by Jung Yeojin and others;  
22 in March issue by Kim Useong and others;  
19 in April issue by Choi Reumsoe and others;  
23 in May issue by Jang Yoojin and others;  
32 in June issue by America Nail College and others;  
21 in July issue by Moon Ayeong and others;  
40 in August issue by Yang Jaehui and others;  
18 in September issue by Choi Seongmi and others;  
25 in October issue by Han Migyeong and others;  
17 in November issue by Lee Jiseon and others;  
15 in December issue by Yoo Sohyun and others.

Figure 24 is a nail art work by Jung Yeojin from February issue. Plaid patterns and stone decorations are very noticeable in this work. She



Table 2. The Formative Characteristics of Single Technique Nails

	Hand painting	Rhine stone	3D art	Decal	Marbling
Feature	· delicate · description	· fancy	· solid · three-dimensional structure	· convenient · fast	· unusual
Shape	· grid · check · straight line	· heart · curve	· curve	· curve · straight line	· wave
Color	· orange · black · brown · white · pink · hot-pink · gold · blue	· purple · red · silver · gold · green · pink · black · mint	· black · yellow · orange · blue · silver · gold · indigo	· white · green · purple · hot-pink · orange · navy · gold · purple	· purple · yellow · black · white · orange · gold · blue · silver
Material	· UV gel · acrylic · glitter · polish	· polish · rhine stone	· acrylic · UV gel	· UV gel · decal · glitter	· UV gel · polish
Nail artist	· Park, G. · Jung, S. · Kang, H. · Jung, D.	· Bandi · Choi, R. · Lee, J.	· Choi, H. · Hong, H. · Lee, H.	· Lee, J. · Lee, J. · Kim, H.	· Seo, M. · Kang, H. · So, Y.
Nails					

painted on the plaid pattern using red and purple acrylic paints, and decorated with purple, red, white and silver hemispherical rhine stones in different sizes to emphasize the glamorous impression.

## 2) Hand painting and 3D art

There were total 44 nail art works created using hand painting and 3D Art techniques– 2 in January issue by Lee Jieun and others; 1 in February issue by Choi Reumsoe and others; 8

in March issue by Lee Jeongmi and others; 4 in April issue by No Hyeonjo and others; 6 in May issue by Jung Mina and others; 6 in June issue by Yu Eunsu and others; 2 in July issue by Park Yoonseo and others; 4 in August issue by Jang Yujin and others; 2 in September issue by Choi Sungmi and others; 2 in October issue by Choi Reumsoe and others; 3 in November issue by Ko Sungon and others; and 2 in December issue by Cho Hyojung and others.

Figure 25 is a nail art work by Seo Misoon from April issue. The theme is flowers. She used

hand painting and 3D art techniques by first applying green acrylic paint all over the tips and drawing on flowers with white and red acrylic paints. On tips 2, 3 and 4, white and green acrylic powder and acrylic liquids were used in order to give three-dimensional effects on flowers and leaves to emphasize elegance.

### 3) 3D art and rhine stone

There were total 44 nail art works created using 3D Art and rhine Stone techniques – 2 in January issue by Lee Jieun and others; 1 in February issue by Choi Reumsoe ; 8 in March issue by Lee Jungmi and others; 4 in April issue by No Hyeonjo and others; 3 in May issue by Yang Jaehui and others; 5 in June issue by Noriko Tanaka and others; 4 in July issue by Sin Misuk and others; 1 in August issue by Choi Seongmi; 1 in September issue by Kim Jina ; 2 in October issue by O Seeun and other; 3 in November issue by Lee Jiseon; and 10 in December issue by Jo Hyojeong and others.

Figure 26 is a nail art work by Lee Jisun from July issue. It features flowers and rhinestones. She applied orange polish on tips 1, 3 and 5, and applied white polish on tips 2 and 4. Then, she created three-dimensional flowers using white and orange acrylic powders and acrylic liquids. Purple and blue stones in small sizes were applied to emphasize romantic mood.

### 4) Decal and rhine stone

There were total 40 nail art works created using decal and rhine stone techniques – 2 in January issue by Lee Dayeon and other; 5 in February issue by Jeon Bogyong and others; 10 in March issue by Yang Jaehui and others; 5 in April issue by Jung Yeojin and others; 6 in

May issue by Kim Jiyeong and others; 2 in June issue by Jang Yujin and other; 2 in July issue by Lee Jungmi and other; 2 in August issue by Ha Yun and other; 2 in September issue by So Yul and other; 2 in October issue by Haru and other; and 2 in December issue by Jang Yoonhee and other.

Figure 27 is a nail art work by Jeon Bogyung from February issue. The theme is rose. Decal and Rhine Stone techniques are very visible in this work. She applied red and white polishes in french shapes as a base, and applied rose printed sticker decals. Red, pink and silver hemispherical rhine stones were added to emphasize glamorous feelings.

### 5) Marbling and rhine stone

There were total 31 nail art works created using marbling and rhine Stone techniques – 5 in January issue by Lee Jieun and others; 1 in February issue by Lee Jungmi; 1 in March issue by Sontopnara; 2 in April issue by Code Beauty Academy and other; 1 in May issue by Seol Mijeong; 1 in June issue by Jung Yeojin; 3 in July issue by Kim Hyomi and others; 7 in August issue by Jung Yeji and others; 2 in September issue by Choi Seongmi and other; 3 in October issue by Jang Yujin and others; and 2 in November issue by Lee Jiseon and other.

Figure 28 is a nail art work by Choi Sungmi from October issue. It was created using marbling and rhinestone techniques. First, she applied black UV gel as a base, placed drops of beige colored UV gel and created abstract shapes with accidental effects by stirring with a marble stick before the gel is hardened. Silver hemispherical rhinestones were added on to create sophisticated impression.

6) Hand painting, 3D art and rhine stone

There were total 20 nail art works created using hand painting, 3D Art and rhine stone techniques – 1 in January issue by Kim Bogyeong; 3 in February issue by Jung Uwon and others; 5 in March issue by Kim Jiyeong and others; 3 in April issue by Lee Jeongmi and others; 1 in May issue by Code Beauty Academy; 2 in June issue by Kim Hyomi and other; 1 in July issue by Lee Hyeonyeong; 1 in August issue by Seo Midae; 1 in September issue by O Seeun; 1 in October issue by Lee Jiseon; and 1 in December issue by Jo Hyejeong .

Figure 29 is a nail art work by Code Beauty Academy from May issue. The theme is plaid patterns. Hand painting, 3D art and rhinestone techniques are very visible in this work. Diagonal plaid patterns were drawn on using yellow, red and purple acrylic paints, and three dimensional flowers are created using white acrylic powder and acrylic liquids. Gold colored rhinestones were added at the end to express romantic mood.

7) Decal and hand painting

There were total 19 nail art works created using decal and hand painting techniques – 1 in January issue by Jaon Bogyeong ; 2 in February issue by Kim Eunjeong and other; 1 in March issue by Choi Hyeonmi ; 2 in April issue by Jang Jiyeong and other; 3 in May issue by Lee Mijung and others; 1 in June issue by Jung Yoejin; 2 in July issue by Jung Yoejin ; 1 in August issue by Sontopnara; 4 in September issue by Choi Reumsoe and others; and 2 in December issue by Park Yunseo and others.

Figure 30 is a nail art work by Kim Jina from

September issue. It was created using decal and hand painting techniques. She applied gold colored polish as a base, and added black lace patterned sticker decal. Then, bows are drawn on using black and white acrylic paints to emphasize romantic and elegant feelings.

8) Decal, hand painting and rhine stone

There were total 14 nail art works created using decal, hand painting and rhine stone techniques – 2 in February issue by Jung Hyeonseok and other; 1 in March issue by Lee Jiseon; 2 in April issue by Park Jeongha and other; 1 in May issue by Kim Jiyeong ; 2 in June issue by Park Yunseo and other; 1 in August issue by Ko Eunyeong ; 3 in October issue by Bae Songhui and others; 1 in November issue by Sontopnara; and 1 in December issue by Seo Midae.

Figure 31 is a nail art work by Park Yoonseo from December issue. It emphasizes plaid patterns, and hand painting, decal and rhinestone techniques are very noticeable. Plaid patterns were drawn on using grey and silver polishes, and black and gold colored star shaped sticker decals were added on. Then, tips 1, 3 and 4 were decorated with silver colored hemispherical rhinestones to create futuristic mood.

Table 4 is a result of analysis on formative characteristics of nail art works created using hand painting · rhine stone, decal · rhine stone, rhine stone · embossing art, hand painting · embossing art, marbling · rhine stone techniques those which appeared more than 20 times in combined techniques works.

Table 3. Classification of Combined Techniques Nails

Technique \ Month	Month												Total
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
Hand painting · Rhine stone	23	20	22	19	23	32	21	40	18	25	17	15	275
Hand painting · 3D art	9	6	5	4	6	2	2	4	2	2	3	2	48
3D art · Rhine stone	2	1	8	4	3	5	4	1	1	2	3	10	44
Decal · Rhine Stone	2	6	10	5	6	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	41
Marbling · Rhine stone	5	4	1	2	1	1	3	7	2	3	2	0	31
Hand painting · 3D art · Rhine stone	1	3	5	4	1	5	1	2	0	1	1	1	25
Decal · Hand painting	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	1	4	0	0	2	19
Hand painting · Decal · Rhine stone	0	2	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	3	1	1	14
Hand painting · Striping tape	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	11
Striping tape · Rhine stone	1	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	10
Hand painting · Striping tape · Rhine stone	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	7
Decal · 3D art	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
Hand painting · Marbling · Rhine stone	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	4
Marbling · Decal · Rhine stone	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4
Decal · Rhine stone · 3D art	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Hand painting · Marbling	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Hand painting · Striping tape · 3D art	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Hand painting · Decal · 3D art	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Marbling · Decal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Marbling · 3D art	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Striping tape · 3D art	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Hand painting · Marbling · Decal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Marbling · Rhine stone · 3D art	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hand painting · Striping tape · Decal · 3D art	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	49	54	58	45	47	54	43	61	32	45	30	36	555



Figure 24.  
Hand Painting and Rhine Stone  
– February (2012), p.91



Figure 25.  
Hand Painting and 3D Art  
– April (2012), p.107



Figure 26.  
3D Art and Rhine Stone  
– July (2012), p.105



Figure 27.  
Decal and Rhine Stone  
– February (2012), p.105



Figure 28.  
Marbling and  
Rhine Stone

– October (2012), p.105



Figure 29.  
Hand painting, 3D Art  
and Rhine Stone

– May (2012), p.93



Figure 30.  
Decal and  
hand painting

– September (2012), p.106



Figure 31.  
Decal, Hand Painting and  
Rhine Stone

– December (2012), p.113

Table 4. The Formative Characteristics of Combined Techniques Nails

	Hand painting and rhine stone	Hand painting and 3D art	3D art and rhine stone	Decal and rhine stone	Marbling and rhine stone
Feature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· delicate</li> <li>· description</li> <li>· fancy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· delicate</li> <li>· description</li> <li>· solid</li> <li>· three-dimen sional structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· fancy</li> <li>· solid</li> <li>· three-dimen sional structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· fancy</li> <li>· convenient</li> <li>· fast</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· fancy</li> <li>· creative</li> <li>· unusual</li> </ul>
Shape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· grid</li> <li>· check</li> <li>· straight line</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· sprite</li> <li>· heart</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· curve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· curve</li> <li>· straight line</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· wave</li> </ul>
Color	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· brown</li> <li>· white</li> <li>· red</li> <li>· indigo</li> <li>· black</li> <li>· gold</li> <li>· yellow</li> <li>· orange</li> <li>· blue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· white</li> <li>· blue</li> <li>· violet</li> <li>· black</li> <li>· red</li> <li>· olive</li> <li>· yellow</li> <li>· gold</li> <li>· gray</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· white</li> <li>· green</li> <li>· orange</li> <li>· sliver</li> <li>· pink</li> <li>· green</li> <li>· red</li> <li>· black</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· gold</li> <li>· yellow</li> <li>· red</li> <li>· sliver</li> <li>· green</li> <li>· pink</li> <li>· brown</li> <li>· gray</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· white</li> <li>· red</li> <li>· silver</li> <li>· gold</li> <li>· green</li> <li>· yellow</li> <li>· black</li> <li>· orange</li> </ul>
Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· acrylic painting</li> <li>· rhine stone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· polish</li> <li>· acrylic painting</li> <li>· acrylic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· polish</li> <li>· acrylic</li> <li>· rhine stone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· polish</li> <li>· decal</li> <li>· rhine stone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· polish</li> <li>· rhine stone</li> </ul>
Nail artist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Kim, U.</li> <li>· Choi, R.</li> <li>· Han, M.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Lee, J.</li> <li>· Lee, J.</li> <li>· No, H.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Yang, J.</li> <li>· Noriko, T.</li> <li>· Choi, S.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Lee, D.</li> <li>· Jeon, B.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Seol, M.</li> <li>· Jung, Y.</li> </ul>
Nails					

## IV. Conclusion

This research has examined the history of nail art in 20th century and its many expression techniques and analyzed techniques used in recent nail art works by categorizing them into single technique and combined techniques. The results are as the following:

First, expression techniques of nail art were classified as dangle, decal, design sculpture, rhine stone, marbling, striping tape, airbrush, 3D art, hand painting technique based on previous researches.

Second, as a result of analyzing expression techniques of nail art featured on Nail Holic in 2012, there had been total 517 works created using a single technique. The reason why hand painting technique is used very frequently is because artists can draw on unique images of their own to create various designs according to their tastes. Rhine stone technique is also very popular because, stones are easy to apply and various in their shapes and sizes. They also have great impacts because they come in semi-three-dimensional shapes, and have shines.

Third, there were total 555 works created using two or more techniques. The most important point to examine is that hand painting, rhinestone and 3D art techniques were most popular among all techniques. These works featured more various effects and images by combining flat effect of hand painting technique with three-dimensional effects of rhinestone or 3D art techniques. The tendency can also be found in the fact that there have been many works using techniques of flat effects such as decal or marbling together with techniques of three-dimensional effects such as rhine stone or 3D art.

Thus, full coloring techniques were popular during the 1960s, gradation techniques were widely used during the 1970s and airbrush techniques were trendy during the 1980s. In 1990s, hand painting techniques were widely used, and in recent days, various techniques such as dangle have appeared. These techniques are sometimes used as a single technique or as combined techniques. These new developments of various and complex nail art techniques are due to the advancements in materials and technologies in nail arts, the creative spirits of the artists and the pursuit of unique and personal styles of modern consumers. Therefore, it is expected that the expression techniques of nail art will continue to improve while these factors remain in existence.

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