

What to Look Out for in a Nail Salon INTA/NMC Consumer Guidelines

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Watch for any of the following in a salon. If you see any of the following violations of these INTA/NMC cleanliness criteria, we recommend that you leave the salon and find another place for service or insist they follow these procedures.

- Salon that does not look clean in general, with any hair or nail clippings, dust or debris on the floor, drawers, tables, or other furniture.
- Salon is using dusty or dirty nail files, buffers and other tools.
- Salon is using products from unlabeled or unmarked containers.
- Salon stores nail files and other tools in a dirty drawer or container.
- Salon is using nail files or other tools are stored in dirty or contaminated- looking solution. Note: Some solutions are not transparent but are not necessarily “dirty”. If uncertain, ask.
- Salon does not cover or place lid on disinfection containers.
- Restrooms are dirty or unkempt, lack liquid soap and clean towels.
- Nail technicians are using razors on clients feet to remove a callous or thick skin.
- Salon is providing services to clients with infected fingers, nails, toenails or feet.

Be wary of nail technicians or salon service providers who:

- Do not ask you to wash your hands or wash your feet before performing any nail or pedicure service.
- Do not wash their own hands before performing a nail or pedicure service.
- Provide services that are painful or damages your skin or nails.
- Cannot explain how they clean and disinfect their nail files, clippers, bits, and tools when asked.
- Cannot explain how they clean and disinfect foot spas when asked.
- Do not have a logbook indicating when pedicure foot spas were cleaned and disinfected.
- Use an implement or other object to forcibly remove or “pry off” artificial nails.
- Do not provide each client with a clean and disinfected nailbrush for scrubbing underneath nails.
- Do not use a clean, freshly laundered or disposable towel.
- Will not show you a current license when you ask to see it.
- Say they are too busy to properly clean and disinfect their tools.
- Stick their fingers directly into jars or containers.
- Do not discuss concerns, ask questions and/or complete consultation before performing services.