

Nail Sanitation Procedures

Licenses must be aware of and always follow proper procedures in order to prevent infections and injuries.

All tools and equipment that come in contact with a client must be cleaned and disinfected before every use – even on the same client.

Manicures and Artificial Nails

Clean all tools and equipment of all visible residue after every use.

After cleaning, completely immerse (enough liquid to completely cover all surfaces of the item) tools and implements in an EPA-registered disinfectant for 10 minutes. (Follow manufacturer's directions for correct dilution.)

Remove implements from disinfectant using tongs or gloves. Rinse, and then dry.

Store clean tools in a closed, clean container.

All client work areas, including nail tables and footrests shall be kept clean at all times. There should be no accumulation of debris such as nail pieces or nail dust.

Use a clean towel for each client.

Liquid disinfecting solution should be properly diluted at the station at all times. After using a multi-use tool, clean it and immerse it in the disinfecting solution. If a tool is dropped it cannot be used again until it is disinfected.

Before providing a service, wash your hands with soap or use a waterless hand sanitizer.

Remember, cutting calluses and ingrown toenails is not allowed. Blades and callus shavers cannot be used.



Clients' hands and feet shall be cleaned with soap and water or a waterless sanitizer before beginning a nail or pedicure service.

Post-service

1. Throw away all disposable supplies in a closed wastebasket. Empty basket as necessary or at least once a day.
2. Clean and disinfect any multi-use implements. Wash used towels.
3. Electric equipment that cannot be immersed in liquid (such as electric files) must be wiped clean of any dust

and debris, then SPRAYED with a disinfectant, dried and stored in a clean, closed container.

4. Dirty, soiled equipment, implements and supplies must be stored in a closed container that is properly labeled and not used until properly cleaned and disinfected.

EPA-registered disinfectant must stop bactericidal, virucidal and fungicidal activity. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for mixing, use, and disposal.

Electric files

1. Must be wiped off, then sprayed with disinfectant and stored in a closed, clean container.
2. Single-use bits such as sanders or arbor bands must be discarded immediately after a single use.
3. Multi-use bits must be cleaned by removing all visible debris then disinfected by complete immersion for 10 minutes in an approved disinfectant, dried with a clean towel and then stored in a clean, closed container.
4. The electric file and the bits must be stored separately.
5. Before using an electric file, the licensee must have eight hours of education approved by the Commission.

Pedicure Equipment

All basins, bowls and foot spas must be clean and disinfected before each use.

At the end of each client service:

1. **Drain** all water and remove all debris from the spa basin.
2. **Clean** the spa basin with soap or detergent and water.
3. **Disinfect** the spa basin with an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal and virucidal activity. Use for 10 minutes or according to the manufacturer's instructions.
4. **Wipe** the spa basin with a clean towel until dry.

At the end of each day:

Clean and disinfect each whirlpool foot spa basin in the following manner:

1. **Remove the screen**, and clean all debris trapped behind the screen.
2. **Wash the screen** with soap or detergent and water.
3. **Immerse** the screen completely in an EPA-registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal and virucidal activity. Use according to the manufacturer's instructions.
4. **Flush** the spa system with low sudsing soap and warm water for 10 minutes or more.
5. **Rinse and drain** the spa.

At least once a week:

after being cleaned and disinfected, each whirlpool foot spa shall be cleaned and disinfected in the following manner:

1. **Fill** the spa basin completely with water and add one teaspoon of 5.25 percent bleach (or recommended whirlpool disinfectant) for each gallon of water. Use according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. **Flush** the spa or bath system with bleach (or recommended whirlpool disinfectant) and water solution for five to 10 minutes
3. **Soak** for six to 10 hours.
4. **Drain and flush** the spa with water before use for a client.

Advise your clients NOT to shave their legs 24 hours before the pedicure.

If you have questions about a nail salon or state sanitation regulations, please contact:

South Dakota Cosmetology Commission

500 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Tel: 605.773.6193

Email: cosmetology@state.sd.us

Website: cosmetology.sd.gov

Waxing: Nail technicians cannot do waxing services in South Dakota. Only cosmetologists and estheticians can do waxing services.

South Dakota Cosmetology Commission

A Licensee Guide to Nail and Pedicure Safety and Sanitation Procedures

This pamphlet is designed to aid licensees in making informed decisions when seeking cosmetology related services.



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