

The nail NAVIGATOR



Education & Exploration with **LAURA MADDOCK**

MY TOOL AND KIT BAG

As a professional it's essential to have a kit bag at the ready. I'm going to highlight some of the many items in my kit that I cannot live without.

At college I carried a huge amount of product; I enrolled on eight different hair and beauty courses. It's hard work carrying a lot from one place to another, therefore it's essential to get the right case or trolley to avoid carrying unnecessary items with you. Cases right now are fabulous! Today there's a great selection, and my personal favourite is the collection from Roo Beauty (www.roobeauty.com), as not only are the cases hugely practical in their design, they are also beautiful. I love to take them to magazine shoots and training courses with key accounts, such as Urban Retreat and The Ritz due to their quirky designs; they're a great conversation starter and just so practical.

Carry only what you need. I spent years lugging around every Orly polish and EzFlow colour powder on offer, and I'd only ever use the top 10 colours. Streamline your kit, but remember there's a lot of products that are multi-use. Take fine glitters; I can sprinkle them over polish or add to a gel for different looks.

Files that have no grit left on them are no use, I see so many nail techs using old files. Throw them away and invest. I use EzFlow files as they last for ages and the grit is such good quality. I need only two files with me, my go-to file is the EzFlow Grey Fox, soft enough for the natural nail and also great for artificial too.

I take Orly Cuticle Oil+ with me everywhere I go as it smells great and covers up any slight

imperfections to the finished nail, great if you're new to nails. Oil is also another flexible product, I've even rubbed it on models' legs, to give their skin a nice glow before a picture!

I do carry a lot of brushes and tools as you never know what you might be expected to create. Some of my mobile nail customers regularly look on *Pinterest* for ideas and ask me to do crazy patterns or designs at the drop of a hat. When I'm in a client's house, there aren't any tools lying around as there are in my house, so I have to make sure I have the right tools with me. My must-have tools are the Orly Dotter Duo, Orly Detailer brush and IBD sponges. I manage most designs with these tools. I also have a few cocktail sticks and cotton buds, as both come in very handy for design work.

And there you have it, a small snapshot of what's in my tool kit. Everyone differs with what they feel are the necessities, so find your own kit and experiment with streamlining, enjoy! **S**

WHO IS... LAURA MADDOCK?

National education manager, Grafton International

Laura is an industry insider with over a decade of experience within the nail industry, working with beauty and fashion press and high profile events with celebrities. Now, Laura is an educator and trains nail professionals using a range of brands and is dedicated to education and the future growth of the nail industry.

www.graftons.co.uk



"Streamline your kit, but remember there's a lot of products that are multi-use. Take fine glitters; I can sprinkle them over polish or add to a gel for different looks."