

hands-on tools & treatments



[1] Slow the hands of time by taking care of your own. Victoria's Secret Spa Protective Hand & Nail Cream SPF 15, \$12, is formulated with a triple-butter complex, vitamins, botanicals, and sun protection to keep your hands looking young and smooth.

[2] At last, an at-home paraffin treatment without the mess of sticky hot wax. The Healing Garden Paraffin Hand Smoother, \$5.50, contains a creamy blend of skin-softening paraffin beads and exfoliating pumice. As you rub, the beads dissolve and dry skin just peels away.

[3] Go ahead and saw away at your nails—sans the fear of splitting or cracking them. Seki Edge Tri-Directional Nail File, \$7, has multiangled edges that eliminate the hazards of typical nail files.

[4] The strongest nail is one that's resilient. If it's flexible, it won't easily snap off, explains celebrity manicurist Jessica

Vartoughian. Try her Jessica Bend Don't Break, \$9.50, a formaldehyde-free base coat full of conditioning oils and proteins to keep tips elastic.

[5] There is such a thing as over-buffing nails. "Stop when you hear a squeak—it means you've successfully smoothed your ridges," says Arnold. Keep going and you'll only weaken your nails. Another foolproof idea: Try Creative Nail Design Glossing Buffer Block, \$5.50. The "smart" four-sided buffer has superfine particles that can't do damage, but sure can shine.

[6] "A moisturized cuticle means a healthier nail," says Serquinia. Which is why we love AHAVA Cuticle Cream, \$12.50, with Dead Sea minerals and vitamins. "Push moisturized cuticles back using a washcloth; we tend to be too aggressive with metal instruments," says Serquinia.



top products for fancy footwork



[7] Best toe 2-in-1: ProFoot Nail Saver Superior Moisturizing Softener & Whitener, \$7. The easy-to-apply wand conditions hard, brittle nails with jojoba-seed oil, and lifts ugly yellow stains (the result of dark polish).

[8] We prefer a pampering solution for not-so-pretty foot problems like scaling, fungus, and cracking. DERMAdoctor Feet Accompli Ultimate Antifungal Pedicure Cream, \$34, packs yeast-fighting ingredients—plus soothing white tea, chamomile, and shea butter—into one creamy balm.

[9] Freshen up smelly feet with Elizabeth Arden Red Door Nail Care Tamanu Healing Foot Balm, \$15. It looks and works like a deodorant, thanks to peppermint and eucalyptus oils. Plus tamanu oil—a known Tahitian skin-saver—softens rough soles.

[10] Snipping a hangnail on a tiny toe calls for precision. Squeeze into the space with Earth Therapeutics Cuticle Trimmer, \$20 (sold in their Precision Pedicure Grooming Set), a cross between a nail clipper and a fine-tip tweezer.

[11] For teeny rough spots on the tips and sides of your toes: Revlon's foot smoother, part of the Expert Effect Pedicure-to-Go Kit, \$8, fits around your hand like a nailbrush for better control.

[12] Filing itty-bitty pinky toes just got easier. Revlon Expert Effect Curved Nail File, \$6, is shaped to go the distance, and lets you position the movable grip for maximum comfort.

[13] Tired of clipping toenails over a garbage pail? Japonesque New Wave Clipper, \$12, has a plastic casing to catch clippings. And the funky wave-design handle makes it easy to wield.