

## PLEASE READ ME: IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR COURSE

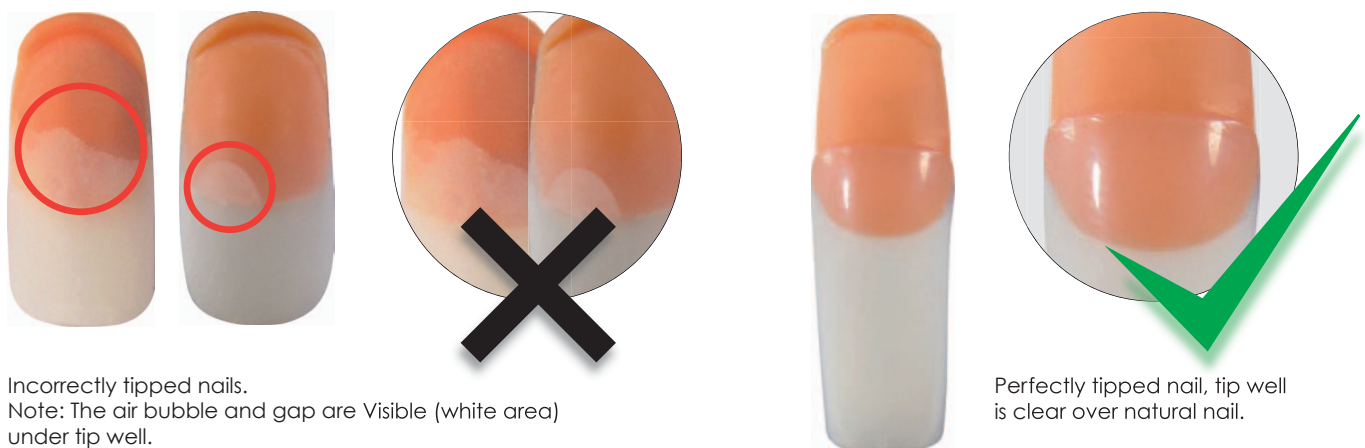
### Step 3 Tipping & Blending Help Sheet

#### Tipping

Applying tips properly, without air pockets, takes practice. Please don't get discouraged if the tip doesn't stick perfectly the first time you try, simply try again.

**You can use either all No.13 or No.6 Nail Trainer nails on the Essential Techniques assessment card.**

1. Prepare the natural nail so that the shape of the free edge fits perfectly into the curve of the well on the tip. This can mean filing back quite a lot of the free edge. The nail may have to be made quite blunt and unattractive. Once the nail has been prepared do not touch the surface, as the oil from your fingers will stop the tip from sticking.
2. Select an extension tip that is slightly bigger than the width of the nail and size back the sides of the tip so that it fits perfectly. Brush off all debris. (No.4 tip fits No.13 nail & No 2 tip fits No. 6 nail)
3. Apply adhesive to the well of the tip. As a guide apply 'a grain of rice' size bead of adhesive. You may have to experiment here, the quantity of adhesive used is very important and of course it varies depending on the nail size you are working on. Applying too much adhesive will extend the curing time of the adhesive and the tip may lift slightly when you let go.
4. Rest the underside of the tip onto the nail and slide it down until it clicks into the free edge of the nail. This is the main joint between tip and nail once tipping process completed.
5. Gently lower the tip so the well comes into contact with the nail. Make sure that you do not 'see-saw' (lift up the front of the tip as you rock the back of the tip down) by keeping firm pressure on the tip well & free edge joint. You will see the air being pushed out from under the tip as the adhesive spreads between the tip and the nail. Hold the tip still for up to 20 seconds, keep the pressure on the front joint and let the adhesive do the work at the back. If you see an air bubble appearing at the smile line pull the tip down slightly to remove.



Incorrectly tipped nails.  
 Note: The air bubble and gap are Visible (white area) under tip well.

Perfectly tipped nail, tip well is clear over natural nail.

If you are still getting a tiny air bubble at the smile line after going through these techniques, place a small bead of adhesive on the natural nail in the area you get an air bubble. Do not spread the adhesive. When the tip goes on to the nail, the adhesive will fill the area.

**Once you tip a nail successfully, tip another 15-20 nails straight off (using all five sizes) to perfect your technique. Practice really does make perfect!**

**Student Support help line 01440 820 999 or email [support@essentialnails.com](mailto:support@essentialnails.com)**

## Step 3 Tipping & Blending Help Sheet

### Blending

A perfectly blended tip, has all the tip material over the natural nail completely removed. Once blending is complete, the tip should look just like a long free edge of a natural nail. Its very fragile at this stage, but don't worry because the overlay you apply later will give the nail all the strength it needs.

### How to achieve perfect blending results

Familiarise yourself with the file grips and finger positions at the start of Chapter 9 and Step 3 of your training manual. Watch Gina on your training DVD and then work with her, as she streamlines and blends the tip. Use the medium side of you 100/180 grit file to remove most of the tip material. When you have removed all the material you can see, use a buffer block (medium black or white) to remove any residue material.

Inspect the nail closely. Remember, if there is tip material still visible or the extension free edge looks wide now, it will look even cloudier & wider after the overlay is applied.



Remember, once blending is complete, the tip should look just like a natural nail with a long free edge.

*Now its time to start practicing!*

**Enjoy learning the techniques and if you get stuck or need more help call our student support on: 01440 820 999 or email [support@essentialnails.com](mailto:support@essentialnails.com) and we will be able to give you more advise and support.**