

IF YOU GO DOWN IN THE WOODS TODAY, YOUR IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE

My intension was to create a cartoon animal party set in the woods using bright colours, I wanted my nails to stand out and be bright and bold. I wanted to achieve a cartoon look but keep it realistic in places as well. I tried to do this by keeping the animal colours basic and the grass and the sky more of a cartoon look. My design was created by selecting ten natural nail tips ranging from sizes 0 – 9, I lightly buffed them using a grit file cleaned with acetone free nail polish and using a 2B pencil drew on my design then I applied a base coat on the nails and arranged them on a board with blu tack to the design shape I wanted.

I focused on the animals first and used two coats of white acrylic to create a 3D effect, I worked and shaped the acrylic using the brush to the pencilled outline I had drawn of the animals. I lightly buffed the nails using an electric nail buffer to remove any rough spots. I also used two coats of white acrylic for trees and the balloons and buff in the same way I did the animals.

Snake – I used clear stones and painted red for the spots and clear stones painted white for the eyes, I used a dotting tool and black paint for the pupils in the eyes and lime green paint for the body. For the tree I cut around the top using scissors and used an electric nail file to smooth the edges, and then used chocolate brown and dark green paint and red paint and a dotting tool for the apples.

Monkey – I used clear stone and painted red for the bow tie and chocolate brown for the tree branch, I mixed some chocolate brown and white together for the face and used black, red and white for the suit. I used a precision brush for the detail on the face and present and a dotting tool for the buttons on the shirt.

Rabbit – Used stones painted yellow for the necklace, black paint for the dress and white paint for the body all the detail was done using a precision brush with black, red, purple and white paint.

Pig – I used dark pink paint for the body and light pink paint for the shadowing and spots, purple for the nose with white dots using a dotting tool for the nostrils, red for the tongue and white for the eyes. I used a precision brush for the present, sun and balloons using purple, yellow, orange, red, blue and black paint.

Chicken – used red and yellow paint for the body and black and white for the eyes, the bottle teapot and cup were done freehand using a precision brush.

Rat – I used a clear stone painted red for the nose and mixed black and white together to make grey for the body.

For the background I wanted to use a green which was bright and had a cartoon look to it, so it would fit in with my theme, a lime green was used, and I painted the daisy on top with white and yellow paint using a dotting tool. The trees were done using a chocolate brown and black for a shadowing effect. For the sky I used a pale blue and white paint dotting on the nails with a sponge for the clouds. A black outline was used around the animals so they stood out more as they were the main piece. A matte top coat was used to avoid shine in my photos.

Time taken 50 hours.

Digital camera and editing software used.