

TROPICAL PARROTS

These nails were inspired by a recent trip to the lovely island of Mallorca. These beautiful birds are surely some of nature's most colourful creations.

STEP 1.

After buffing of the shine from the tips, fluorescent green U.V gel was applied to the entire surface and cured.

STEP 2.

Referring to my photographs I sketched on the details of the design with white acrylic paint.

STEP 3.

I sponged on dark brown acrylic paint to create depth and shadow. The background design of tropical leaves was built up with a small brush and acrylic paints in many shades of green. The leaves were overlapped to create density and a lush background for the colourful birds.

STEP 4.

The parrots were painted by layering colour to create realism. I began at the tail end of the birds and worked upwards so that the feathers overlapped. In the blue and green areas more fluorescent green gel was added to bring a beautiful lustre to the feathers. Towards the foreground more detail was added to the feathers with a very fine brush for added reality.

STEP 5.

In the background I used liquid and powder acrylic to add some 3D details. The leaves were kept soft and blurry to integrate better with the shadows. Orchids were the obvious choice for a tropical feel. They were made with 2 different shades of pink liquid and powder acrylic. Finally clear u.v gloss was added to all the nails and cured.