Just Let Me Think.....

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Nail-Aid Cares.... They really do!

FIRST OFF - This is an unsolicited unpaid review.

SECONDLY - Nail-Aid products are here: www.nailaidcares.com

I don't have a lot to be vain about - I am short, squat and overweight; my hair is brown - well, more truthfully, artfully dyed brown (those damned grays!); my skin is oily with large pores; and other things I won't go into here. But I have always always been vain about my fingernails. I've manicured them religiously and most of my life have been rewarded with healthy, decent-length nails.

Recently however my nails have fallen apart – literally. I was on a medication for a while that did a number on my hair, skin and nails. And let me tell you, there is no amount of vitamins or silica or gelatin that can fix what a medication has already started. At the point that some outside force has set its course to your nails, there are only cosmetic immediate fixes until a healthier nail grows out. My nails became pitted, thin, and started peeling. Their length quickly went to the quick, and the healthy look was completely MIA. Thus began my new venture seeking better nail care.

In the past I've used all kinds of products – specialty salon care products, department store products, all kinds of products. And then came Nail-Aid. Just one lucky google search and there was their page: Nail-Aid products. I never even knew they existed. I've tried Essie Millionails, Rejuvacote, Sally Hansen everything (I really loved Teflon Tuff, but I believe they've stopped making it) – and all of these, to some degree, disappointed me. Mostly it was their lack of adherence to the nails, but just as often it was the lack of noticeable results. Being a home-manicure maven, I know that nails need to be oil-free for polishes to stick to the surface. Still... most polishes peeled away from the nail surface within a day.

So... again, Nail-Aid. It's worth visiting their site: the mission alone is worth reading. Their products are listed clearly; the shopping cart is innovative and easy to use; all products are .5 oz and \$6.50 each; and FREE SHIPPING (even here in Hawaii) with the purchase of two products. And thus my cart was filled with five different products: Peeling Nails Intensive Repair Gel, Brush On Wrap, Yellow No More, Cuticle Cure, and Clear Liquid Nail Bandage.

I haven't used all the pruducts I've ordered and there are at least three I still covet. But here's my experience with three of the products I've ordered:

Peeling Nail Intensive Nail Repair Gel – LOVE IT!!!!! The worst outcome of my bad nail health was the peeling. Once it starts it is almost impossible to stop. Glue, wraps – they will crack off of a weak bending nail, and take the top layer of the nail with it. Nail polishes, well, they are just that: nail polishes. I was expecting this product to go on and peel off within 24 hours. Amazingly, it lasted more than three days without a touch up AND my nails made it successfully through a whole weekend of moving with only one little nick that probably couldn't have been avoided had I covered my nails with stainless steel. Still, just the fact that what's left of my nails seemed protected with this product won me over. I am NOT exaggerating, there was not one peeling piece of polish and even my worst peeling thinnest nail remained intact with product still covering the whole thing.

My past experiences with nail products and peeling thin nails is this – the nail tip is just too fragile and even with polish or treatment on top, they are bound to hit something and bend, thus cracking the polish, then comes the separation of the polish from the nail and the peel gets worse – and usually within less than 48 hours. Bummer.

I cannot sing the praises of the product enough. It's worth a try - \$6.50 a bottle and a no-questions-asked return policy.

My second product:

CUTICLE CURE – This is an antimicrobial cuticle treatment that has the feeling of "dry oil." It's not particularly emollient, but it IS moisturizing. The antimicrobial property is a plus for someone like me – I pick at my nails and cuticles constantly – thus the need for 24/7 nail protection. While I cannot say for certain that this product has stopped any infection (I don't believe I've been using it long enough to make a fair assessment), I can say it seems to keep the cuticles soft, and has a soft light almond–like scent. I keep the bottle at my bedside and use it morning and night.

Third product:

BRUSH ON WRAP – I wasn't sure about this one. While the product description says it thickens the nails, thus protecting them, I didn't see a lot of "building" (as in build-up) of the product as it was applied. In fact, it had little gloss at all and certainly did not feel acrylic. Amazingly, it held out for more than three days – no chips of the polish and my thin peeling nail(s) did not get worse or break off. The product did not crack or peel away from the nail at all. It has a soft sheer white pearlescence to it that I don't particularly like, but it does brighten the nails without being garish. Nonetheless, the product stayed on! A product cannot work if it can't stay on the nail!

The products I have not used yet: the Yellow No More and Nail Bandage (although the Nail Bandage is in my purse just begging for its chance, I haven't had a need for it yet!).

I am probably going to return the Brush On Wrap (again, product is great; pearly color, not a fan) and exchange it for another product called Grow Tougher, and another product called Nail Growth Pink. And I can't wait to get them! I am so pleased with these products I've done something I've never done before - BLOGGED A REVIEW OF A PRODUCT! Maybe this is the beginning of something.... beautiful!

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