

Being fashionable isn't simply being well-dressed. The appearance of your hands and feet add to your total look.

Neat feet, pretty hands

Ambiance is... being able to resist the temptation to sit on your hands when fingernails are mentioned -- or wanting to tuck your feet under something to hide them rather than display them in today's baring fashion look in shoes.

Ambiance is having nail extensions applied at Valentine Nails or having pretty feet emerge from their cocoon of winter boots under the hands of expert pedicurists in this Birmingham shop.

"The shape of nails to come for spring is tapered and oval," said owner Jennifer DeCorsa, who recommends nail extensions if you can't grow your own.

Devoted entirely to nail care, they have lost many of their original nail extension customers, said Jennifer, explaining that the application of nail extensions has cured nail biters and permitted them to ultimately grow their own nails.

Others, she said, have learned to use their hands

differently and more carefully, relishing the beauty of their extended nails, and now succeed in growing their own.

Well-cared for hands and nails have always been a mark of beauty in a woman and are particularly important when feminine fashions flourish as they are this season ... when dark colors give way to lighter colors to compliment the fairer fabric shades.

The pretty feet emerging from the special pedicure room are boasting well-groomed feet to match the hands. Calluses are removed along with unattractive nail growth and nails shaped to a more foot-flattering contour and then polished to match the finger nails.

The callous removal follows a warm medicated foot bath and a foot and leg cream massage removes all traces of sore feet and tired legs.

As a final touch of sheer elegance for spring, this is the shop that implants a diamond in your fingernail.

