

Tattoo Aftercare

1. After getting Tattooed leave the bandage on for 2 to 4 hours before removing...this is very important
2. After leaving the Tattoo shop go buy Aquaphor, anti-bacterial liquid soap, paper towels, saran wrap, scotch or medical tape, and non-scented lotion (we recommend Aveeno, Lubriderm, or Curel... we advise only high grade and non-scented lotions for the after Aquaphor portion of healing... (Different lotions work differently on different people so if rash occurs please discontinue use and contact us)...you need all these products before removing the bandage for the first time...Aquaphor can be found in the lotion section of most drug stores...it's made by Eucerin
3. **WASH YOUR HANDS! (Do this every time before touching your tattoo)** Then remove the bandage for the first time. There will be blood, ink, and lymph (an almost colorless liquid, part of the body's defense against infection) on your skin...wash the tattooed area with HOT water (as HOT as you can stand...this will cause discomfort but will not damage the tattoo), rinse this area for a few minutes with your hand and anti-bacterial soap...This process pulls out all the elements that create thick scabs and will further the proper healing of your new tattoo.
4. Let the tattoo air dry for 10 minutes. Blotting dry only the wet areas around the tattoo
5. Now apply a small dab of Aquaphor just enough to cover the tattoo. Rub this dab in with your finger tips...it is key to only apply a thin layer of Aquaphor...although it is an ointment, use it as if a lotion.
6. The first 2 nights wrap the tattoo with new saran wrap and tape it on.
7. You are going to sleep with the wrap on...this allows for your tattoo to fully bleed out and the lymph to stay moist and not bleed into your sheets...if you sleep without the wrap any hair, loose particles, sheet lint, etc. will become a part of the scab...wrapping prevents the sheets and clothing from sticking to your new tattoo and potentially ruining part of your new Tattoo...this process may make your sleep a little more uncomfortable than usual, but is a SUPER IMPORTANT KEY to SWEET healing
8. When you wake up remove the wrap...again you will have a gooey layer of blood, ink and lymph...again wash tattoo with hot water, your hand and anti-bacterial soap...again let the tattoo air dry
9. Now it is time to apply another dab of Aquaphor to the tattoo...Again do not leave a thick film of goo...you just need enough for a thin layer to be massaged into the tattoo...if you leave a thick layer you will potentially create a trap and nest for particles to get stuck to your Tattoo. Do not re-wrap during the day.
10. Each time you wash your Tattoo for the next 48 hours reapply this small dab of Aquaphor. Do this every 2 to 4 hours
11. After the first 48 hours you should switch from the Aquaphor to the recommended non-scented lotion...Always wash the tattoo before applying any lotion or Aquaphor
12. Your tattoo will flake and peel kind of like a sunburn in 5 to 8 days.... There will be little bits of color come off with the flakes. Its ok, it is just ink that was on the surface of your skin. Continue washing and using lotion every 2 to 4 hours till this process is through. DO NOT pick the flakes off.... Let them come off on there own.
13. Some people do have reactions to pigments, lotions, and products used during the tattoo procedure. If little pimple like bumps appear, this is caused from a reaction to the Aquaphor or lotion. If this occurs, cease use of the product and call us for alternatives. It should clear up in about 72 hours
14. Keep Tattoo Out of Sunlight...DO NOT touch the tattoo, and try and keep as little clothing friction such as a sock, bra straps, belts, etc away from the tattoo...No Pools, Jacuzzis, Oceans, or Soaking in water till healed. DO NOT let Drunken Girls or Guys lick your tattoo
15. Any touch up work needed due to your own negligence will be done at your own expense. Your artist will offer one free touch up if he/she decides it's needed for any other reason. The free touch up is only valid for 90 days after the initial tattoo date and excludes hands, feet and above the shoulders.

DISCLAIMER

These guidelines are based on a combination of vast professional experience, common sense, research and extensive clinical practice. This is not to be considered a substitute for medical advice from a doctor. If you suspect an infection seek medical attention. Be aware that many doctors have not received specific training regarding tattoos. Your local tattoo artist may be able to refer you to a tattoo-friendly medical professional.

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