



TATTOO AFTERCARE

Your tattoo is finished. Now it's yours to heal.

Pinky's Art · 1604 Drexel Ave, Miami Beach, FL 33139 · www.pinky.miami

Congratulations on your new tattoo. A fresh tattoo is an open wound as well as a piece of art — how you care for it over the next two weeks decides how it looks for the rest of your life. Follow these instructions exactly and it will heal beautifully.

First: Which Bandage Do You Have?

I use one of two methods, and I will tell you which one you have before you leave. They are cared for differently — follow only your section.

Method	What it looks like	Stays on
Standard (foil / wrap)	Cling film or foil wrap	Minimum 2 hours — then Method A below
Second Skin	Clear, waterproof adhesive film (Saniderm, Tegaderm)	7–14 days — then Method B below

Method A — Standard Bandage (Foil or Wrap)

1. **Wait:** Leave the bandage on for a minimum of 2 hours.
2. **Remove:** Remove the bandage gently under warm running water — the water loosens it and protects the fresh tattoo from damage.
3. **Wash:** With clean hands and unscented soap, wash the tattoo thoroughly with warm soapy water. Use your hand only — no washcloths, sponges, or loofahs.
4. **Dry:** Pat gently dry with a clean towel or paper towel, then let it air dry for 5–10 minutes before anything touches it.
5. **Moisturize:** Apply a thin layer of fragrance-free lotion 4–6 times a day. Continue daily for about 10–14 days, or until the tattoo has finished peeling.

Recommended lotions: After Inked, H2Ocean, Nat-A-Tat2, Sorry Mom, Cure, or Lubriderm — any fragrance-free lotion works. Thin layers only; a tattoo needs to breathe.

Do not re-bandage. Once the first bandage comes off, the tattoo stays uncovered.

Method B — Second Skin (Saniderm / Tegaderm)

Second skin is a transparent, waterproof adhesive dressing — available at CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart if you need a replacement piece.

1. Leave it on for 7–14 days as instructed. You can shower normally with it on.
2. Fluid collecting under the film (plasma and ink) is completely normal — it looks alarming and it is not.
3. Remove it in a warm shower: find an edge and peel it back slowly against itself, low and flat, never straight up.
4. Once removed, wash gently with unscented soap, pat dry, and moisturize with a thin layer of fragrance-free lotion until fully healed.
5. Do not re-bandage after the second skin comes off.

Remove it early if: the seal breaks and water gets underneath, or the skin around the edges becomes red, itchy, or irritated (an adhesive reaction). Then switch to Method A.

Do NOT — The Rules That Protect Your Tattoo

- × Do not pick, scratch, or peel the tattoo while it is peeling. This pulls ink out and leaves permanent patchy spots — the number one cause of a tattoo healing badly.
- × Do not soak the tattoo for 2 weeks: no swimming, no ocean, no baths, no hot tubs, no saunas. Showers are fine.
- × No direct sunlight on the tattoo for the first 2–3 weeks.
- × Do not apply sunscreen to a fresh, healing tattoo. Once it is fully healed, sunscreen every single time — sun is what fades color faster than anything else.
- × Do not apply alcohol, Vaseline, petroleum jelly, or any scented product to a fresh tattoo.
- × No shaving or waxing the area until the tattoo is completely healed.
- × Do not re-bandage after the original bandage is removed.
- × Do not let pets sleep against a healing tattoo, and keep bedding freshly washed.
- × Do not take advice from friends or so-called tattoo experts. If you have a question, call or message me — the artist who made it.

What Normal Healing Looks Like

When	What you'll see	What to do
Day 1	Redness, tenderness, some plasma or ink weeping	Bandage per your method; wash and moisturize
Days 2–5	Soreness fades; skin tightens and feels dry	Wash gently, thin lotion 4–6× daily
Days 5–14	Flaking and peeling like a sunburn; itching	Keep moisturizing — never scratch or pick
Days 14–30	Surface looks healed; may appear slightly cloudy or shiny	Daily lotion; deeper layers still repairing
After 30 days	True color settles and brightens	Sunscreen forever; message me about your touch-up

When to Call a Doctor

Infections are rare with proper care, but they need a healthcare professional immediately — not a wait-and-see approach. Consult a doctor at the first sign of infection.

Warning signs: fever · spreading redness · swelling that increases after day 2 · heat around the area · pus or drainage · red streaks running from the tattoo.

There is always a small possibility of an allergic reaction to tattoo pigments. If you develop a persistent rash, severe itching, or bumps in the tattooed area, contact a doctor and let me know.

Your Touch-Up & Questions

- **Touch-up:** One complimentary touch-up is included within 90 days, once the tattoo is fully healed. Message me to arrange it. Hands, fingers, and feet are high-wear areas and are not covered.
- **Your responsibility, my support:** Once you leave the studio, proper care of your tattoo is your responsibility — but you are never on your own. Send me a photo any time something looks or feels unusual. I would always rather answer a question than see a tattoo heal badly.
- **Save this:** Screenshot this or keep it in your photos so it's with you when you need it.

Thank you for trusting me with your skin. — Pinky

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