

## HAND POKED TATTOOING

This ancient method of tattooing has found a new resurgence in the 21st Century. Marking ones body with tattoos goes back thousands of years. Hand poked tattoos trace back to the 5,200 year old mummy "The Iceman." Discoveries in Egypt has uncovered female mummies dating back to at least 2000 years B.C. that had evidence of tattoos. Tools believed to be used to apply the tattoos were discovered in Egypt that date back to 1450 B.C. The hand poke tools were very similar to ones used through out the 19th and early 20th century. Many other cultures have documented discoveries of tattooed mummified remains. The Pazyryk tribe of the Altai Mountains in Siberia, the Romans had called one northern tribe "Picti" which translate to "the painted people". Ancient Greek and Romans used tattooing, called "stigmata" to mark a religious sect and in some cases to one as a criminal. Native Americans and the Inuits also had evidence of hand poked tattooing. China, Japan (irezumi), New Zealand and many of the Polynesian cultures have been tattooing elaborate hand poked tattoos that have become the foundation of the tattooing we know today.

The tattoo tools used for the many centuries before the electric tattoo machine had one thing in common, "they were sharp." The tattoo needles were made from many different materials, bamboo, bones, sharks teeth and thorns were normally gathered around a wooden handle.

Tattooing by hand is still practiced today in many cultures around the world and is gaining popularity among many in this modern tattoo society. Often called, Stick 'N' Poke tattooing, Hand Poke tattooing, Prison Style and Dot tattooing, there is a major movement into this centuries old method. With its distinctive organic look, many people worldwide are choosing this method over the modern electric machines.

J.D Crowe, known the world over for the extensive collection of full color tattoo flash that decorated the walls of many of the worlds tattoo shops, has come out with an Official Tattoo Brand book featuring over 600 modern Hand Poked tattoos. A worldwide first, this book is a must for many tattoo artist and Hand Poked tattoo enthusiast. Check it out among the collection of other popular Official Tattoo Brand Flash books.