



RECOVERY-DERM AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

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CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW TATTOO! YOUR ARTIST HAS CAREFULLY CRAFTED THIS ARTWORK TO LAST, NOW IT'S TIME TO HEAL IT AND PREVENT INFECTION. TATTOOS GENERALLY TAKE 4-6 WEEKS TO FULLY HEAL, AND MUST BE CARED FOR THIS ENTIRE TIME TO PREVENT INFECTION. IF YOU EVER HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE STUDIO OR YOUR ARTIST, WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

LEAVING THE STUDIO

YOUR ARTIST HAS PLACED A SECOND-SKIN MEDICAL BANDAGE ON YOUR TATTOO, ENCOURAGING A "WET" HEALING PROCESS USING YOUR BODY'S NATURAL HEALING PROPERTIES. SECOND-SKIN PRODUCTS ARE DESIGNED TO KEEP OUT BACTERIA. LEAVE THE BANDAGE YOUR ARTIST HAS PLACED FOR 24 HOURS. BANDAGE WILL FILL WITH FLUID, CONTAINING PLASMA, WHITE BLOOD CELLS, AND EXCESS INK. WE LIKE TO SAY IT LOOKS LIKE A SOY-SAUCE PACKET. AS TEMPTING AS IT IS, DO NOT PLAY WITH LIQUID, AS THIS CAN DISRUPT THE SEAL.

REMOVING THE RECOVERY-DERM

REMOVE YOUR FIRST RECOVERY-DERM BANDAGE EITHER AT 24 HOURS, OR IF IT LEAKS AT ANY POINT (IF STUFF CAN GET OUT, STUFF CAN GET IN, AND BACTERIA CAN BECOME TRAPPED UNDER THE BANDAGE IF THE BANDAGE IS DAMAGED OR UNSEALED). TO REMOVE: WITH CLEAN HANDS, PLACE TATTOO UNDER WARM, RUNNING WATER. LIGHTLY ROLL EDGE UNTIL YOU'RE ABLE TO GRAB IT. SLOWLY PULL BANDAGE PARALLEL TO YOUR SKIN WHILE LETTING THE WATER RUN UNDER IT. ONCE YOU HAVE REMOVED THE BANDAGE, WASH YOUR TATTOO THOROUGHLY UNDER WARM WATER WITH NON-SCENTED ANTI-BACTERIAL SOAP, ENSURING ALL PLASMA, EXCESS INK, AND ADHESIVE HAS BEEN REMOVED. RINSE OFF ALL SOAP, AND PAT DRY WITH A CLEAN PAPER TOWEL. NOTE: THERE MAY BE AN "IMPRINT" OF YOUR TATTOO ON THE RECOVERY-DERM. DO NOT WORRY, THIS IS STAINING AND IT IS NOT HARMING YOUR TATTOO.

REPLACING THE RECOVERY-DERM

REPLACE YOUR RECOVERY-DERM AFTER REMOVING THE FIRST BANDAGE, WASHING AND DRYING THE TATTOO. CUT THE RECOVERY DERM TO COVER YOUR TATTOO AND ENSURE THERE IS A MARGIN OF 1" AROUND YOUR TATTOO TO CONTAIN FLUID. WITH CLEAN HANDS, REMOVE THE PROTECTIVE BACKING. CENTER OVER TATTOO AND PLACE, SMOOTHING FROM THE CENTER OUTWARDS TO DISCOURAGE AIR BUBBLES (AIR BUBBLES ARE NOT HARMFUL BUT CAN BE ANNOYING). AFTER PLACING, REMOVE PATTERNED BACKING, SMOOTHING DOWN EDGES TO ENSURE A GOOD SEAL. IF YOU HAVE NOT COVERED ALL OF YOUR TATTOO, YOU MAY PLACE AN ADDITIONAL PIECE, OVERLAPPING IT OVER THE FIRST. YOU MAY WEAR THIS BANDAGE FOR UP TO 4 DAYS. REMOVE IMMEDIATELY IF BANDAGE BECOMES DAMAGED OR COMPROMISED, OR IF THERE ARE SIGNS OF AN ALLERGIC REACTION (SMALL BUMPS AROUND EDGES OR IT BECOMES ITCHY). SOME PROLONGED REDNESS WHERE RECOVERY-DERM WAS PLACED IS NORMAL FOR A FEW DAYS AFTER REMOVAL. IF YOU REMOVE THIS BANDAGE BEFORE THE 4 DAYS, SEE "AFTERCARE FOR DURATION OF HEALING".

WHAT TO AVOID

FOR THE DURATION OF HEALING, DO NOT SWIM, TAKE A BATH, OR IN ANYWAY SUBMERGE YOUR TATTOO IN WATER. YOU MAY SHOWER AS NORMAL, TAKING CARE TO ENSURE THE WATER IS NOT TOO HOT. AVOID WORKING OUT OR INTENSIVE ACTIVITIES FOR THE FIRST 3-4 DAYS OF HEALING. DO NOT EXPOSE YOUR TATTOO TO DIRECT SUNLIGHT WHILE HEALING. TATTOOS MAY SCAB, PEEL OR FLAKE. DO NOT PICK AT YOUR TATTOO AT ANY POINT IN TIME, AS THIS WILL DAMAGE THE HEALING SKIN. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE GIVEN AFTERCARE MAY RESULT IN INK-LOSS, INFECTION, AND/OR THE FORFEITURE OF YOUR FREE TOUCH UP.

SUGGESTED AFTERCARE PRODUCTS

THERE ARE A VARIETY OF PRODUCTS THAT YOU CAN USE TO AID YOU IN THE HEALING PROCESS. FOR SOAP, WE RECOMMEND DIAL GOLD LIQUID ANTI-BACTERIAL SOAP, OR SOFTSOAP ANTI-BACTERIAL NON-SCENTED. FOR MOISTURIZER, ANY NON-SCENTED LOTION IS FINE, BUT WE RECOMMEND AVEENO ECZEMA THERAPY, LUBRIDERM, CERA VE, CETAPHIL, OR HUSTLE BUTTER. ALWAYS CHECK INGREDIENTS LIST FOR ALLERGENS AND DO A PATCH TEST BEFORE USING NEW PRODUCTS ON YOUR TATTOO.

SIGNS OF INFECTION

INFECTION IS ALWAYS A RISK AT ANY POINT OF HEALING A TATTOO, AS TATTOOS ARE AN OPEN WOUND, AND BACTERIA IS NATURALLY PRESENT ON OUR SKIN. SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION AT FIRST SIGN OF INFECTION. INFECTION SIGNS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: FEVER, EXCESSIVE PROLONGED REDNESS AROUND TATTOO, RED STREAKING EMANATING FROM TATTOO SITE, FOUL ODOR, PUS, EXCESSIVE PROLONGED SWELLING, EXCESSIVE WARMTH RADIATING FROM TATTOO, RASH AROUND TATTOO.

AFTERCARE FOR DURATION OF HEALING IF RECOVERY-DERM IS REMOVED EARLY

WASH YOUR TATTOO 2-3X DAILY WITH YOUR NON-SCENTED, LIQUID, ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP, WASHING UNDER WARM WATER AND PAT DRY WITH A CLEAN PAPER TOWEL. Do NOT WASH TATTOOS WITH ABRASIVE CLOTHS, LOOFAHS, OR BAR SOAP, AS THESE CAN DAMAGE THE HEALING SKIN AND INTRODUCE BACTERIA TO YOUR TATTOO. GIVE YOUR TATTOO AN ADDITIONAL WASH IF THERE IS A BUILD-UP OF PLASMA (PLASMA DRYING ON THE SKIN CREATES SCABBING), OR IF YOUR TATTOO IS INTRODUCED TO LARGE AMOUNTS OF SWEAT, DIRT, OR OTHER IRRITANTS/THINGS THAT MAY INTRODUCE BACTERIA. MOISTURIZE YOUR TATTOO AS NEEDED (GENERALLY ABOUT 2-5X DAILY DEPENDING ON SIZE OF YOUR TATTOO), USING THIN LAYERS OF A NON-SCENTED, LIGHTWEIGHT LOTION. TAKE CARE TO NOT OVER-MOISTURIZE AS THIS CREATES A STICKY SURFACE FOR BACTERIA TO STICK TO. IF YOUR TATTOO IS STILL TACKY 10-15 MINUTES ARE LOTION APPLICATION, REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF LOTION YOU ARE USING.

AFTERCARE AFTER HEALING TO ENSURE LONGEVITY

TO ENSURE YOUR INK WILL LAST A LIFETIME, LIMIT YOUR TATTOOS' EXPOSURE TO SUNLIGHT, AS THE UV RAYS FROM THE SUN WILL BREAK DOWN PIGMENT OVER TIME. USE A 50SPF OR HIGHER SUNSCREEN ON YOUR TATTOOS WHEN THEY WILL BE EXPOSED TO SUNLIGHT TO PREVENT THIS. MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE (EXERCISE, DIET, ETC.) AND REGULAR MOISTURIZING WILL KEEP YOUR SKIN HEALTHY, THEREFORE KEEPING YOUR TATTOO LOOKING CRISP AND VIBRANT FOR YEARS TO COME.