

TRADITIONAL 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 PROTECTIVE BANDAGE ON YOUR TATTOO. LEAVE IT ON FOR 2 HOURS AFTER YOUR APPOINTMENT. WHEN THE TIME IS UP, WASH YOUR HANDS, AND CAREFULLY REMOVE THE BANDAGE. WASH YOUR TATTOO GENTLY UNDER WARM (NOT HOT) RUNNING WATER WITH A NON-SCENTED, LIQUID, ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP. ONCE YOU ARE DONE, GENTLY RINSE AND ENSURE ALL THE SOAP HAS BEEN RINSED OFF. THE WATER MAY BE TINTED FROM BLOOD AND EXCESS INK, THIS IS NORMAL. PAT DRY WITH A CLEAN PAPER TOWEL. DO NOT REWRAP YOUR TATTOO AT ANY POINT.

AFTERCARE FOR DURATION OF HEALING

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 and complexity 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.

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. IF YOUR TATTOO IS ON YOUR HAND/WRISTS, BE CAUTIOUS WHEN WASHING DISHES, COOKING OR HANDLING RAW MEAT, OR ARE DOING ANYTHING THAT RISKS INTRODUCING BACTERIA. AVOID WORKING OUT OR INTENSIVE ACTIVITIES FOR THE FIRST 3-4 DAYS OF HEALING. DO NOT EXPOSE YOUR TATTOO TO DIRECT SUNLIGHT WHILE HEALING. DO NOT WEAR CLOTHING THAT IS TIGHT OR ABRASIVE. OPT FOR LOOSE, SOFT, PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. 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, CERAVE, 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 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.) MOISTURIZING WILL KEEP YOUR SKIN HEALTHY, THEREFORE KEEPING YOUR TATTOO LOOKING CRISP AND VIBRANT FOR YEARS TO COME.