

Cell Popping – Azurell

Activity Specific Negotiations

Like every kinky thing you do, you'll want to visit the standards of negotiation. Cell popping specific negotiations are as follows:

- **Fears:** Burns; have they had experience with large fires or burns? Sometimes the smell of the burning skin can trigger people.
- **Medications/Health:** Anything that makes the skin thinner should be a concern, through medication or disease (including diabetes). This does not rule out play/body modification but lets you test a little lighter to verify the pressure needed so as to not burn too deep.

Safety

While you are not exposing blood like some other modifications, you still want to make sure that your area is clean, as well as your bottom. Each dot is a cauterized injury which causes little scabs. If there's something on their skin then you don't want that to get trapped in the tiny little scabs, just in case I always do an alcohol wipe-down for any extra anything.

1. Choose your area, it can be nearly anywhere but look for a few things:
 - Out of the flow of traffic
 - It's good to have the option to lie your bottom down (even if you plan to mark them sitting up) in case they feel faint.
 - Look for a safe place (a tray or a table) that you can set your supplies on nearby which is NOT the table your bottom is on.
 - Not near drapes, curtains, other things that might catch on fire.
2. Clean your area, while most dungeons have a spray bottle of alcohol about, I prefer bringing my own PDI wipes to clean with before AND after. In reality the best way to sterilize things is with fire, and you'll be using fire, but I don't like chancing things.

Skin Anatomy

Skin is awesome! Our largest organ, its functions is to provide protection, regulate body temperature and allow us to There are three primary layers to our skin: Epidermis, Dermis and Hypodermis. Now that you know of that, know that if you're actually burying your needle, you're going too deep and need to watch the *injury* for infection. With cell popping you're simply creating a design on the top layer of skin by applying your tool and gently pressing into the skin. You should not be attempting to puncture the skin, you just want to see it dimple.

Equipment and Supplies

- Wooden Handled dissection teasing needle (the ones with a bent neck can be easier to wield)
- Torch – I prefer a small butane torch or pen torch to the larger propane torches, the heat is comparable. I also prefer not to use the chaffing dish warmers
- Welder's Blanket – or other piece of carbon felt to keep under your torch in case something happens
- Tattoo transfer paper or marker for design
- Transfer liquid or odorless deodorant if you're using the transfer paper
- Burn ointment (just in case)
- A steady hand and willing victim

Design and Placement

Tattoos have gotten better and better with more advanced machines and needles and can make intricate designs on a person's skin...this is not a tattoo.

Remember that your body is the one deciding how you're going to scar or heal more than anything else. Brands will bleed out, which means a line that starts off 1MM thick could end up 3MM thick, or more. So you want to lean towards designs which don't have much detail, look for outlines of things that don't need shading, they can often work best. If you try to do something too small, you're going to just get a blob.

Your forearm is not your bicep is not your thigh is not your butt. All of the skin across your body is different, it's going to react differently, heal differently, and scar differently. Even if it's light and you can't really tell it's there anymore, this WILL scar you. You may have Wolverine healing skills and look normal again within a couple of weeks, but I have yet to meet someone who had no trace of their brand left behind when you look closely. From my experience, thinner skin scars more and the line bleeds more. Forearms will end up with wider lines that will likely hold a scar permanently.

I DO NOT RECOMMEND BRANDING GENITALIA OR FACES

Popping!

Now it's time to brand!

This is not a quick process, which makes it an even better experience for the bottom IMHO, so get comfy...you don't want to start cramping or hurt yourself to get this done. I personally have a small medical stool that I like to roll up next to the table they're lying on. If you cramp, you can twitch, something can go wrong.

Place your welding blanket over the skin of the person you're about to brand, as I'm primarily right handed I tend to pop with my right and hold the torch with my left, so the blanket goes under where my left hand will rest. Heat the tip of your teasing needle in the end of the flame until it close hot orange, quickly but steadily move above the line you're starting and press into the skin making it dimple slightly. You will hear little sizzles and pops as moisture escapes and you've left your mark. You can get 3-4 dots per heating, if you try to stretch more it won't be hot enough and won't come out even. I like to leave about 1MM of space between each dot, you can go further apart for a lighter line or closer together for a slightly thicker. Because you're cooking the skin, leaving them closer tends to keep the heat going a little longer which causes the thicker line.

Most (80%) of people will have little brown dots appear from their cauterization, but some won't have any discoloration at all. Pay close attention, going over the area multiple times can be painful and traumatic for their skin.

Do not **DRAG** your needle for a straight line. The skin, once heated, will tear when you pull it leaving triangles of exposed/damaged flesh that you weren't intending on.

Care

If you're doing a large piece you may want to place a cool pack on the area after you're done to help relieve the skin a bit. It will be raised and red (unless again...Wolverine). The beautiful thing is that all of the damage is in its scabbed, healing state and there are no open wounds, so you do not need to cover it up unless it's sore to the touch.

There are conflicting opinions on to pick or not to pick. Picking at a scab is a great way to make sure it scars...and introduce it to possible infection...and cause it to expand in alternate ways and grow leaving a line lumpy. Please, don't

pick at your brand, your body knows what it's doing. Keep it clean with normal, oil and sent free soap, pat it dry instead of dragging (dragging could pull off scabs). There ya have it!