

James River Tattoo LLC

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Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

Traditional Bandage

1. Remove bandage wrap within 1-2 hours.
2. Wash tattoo with lukewarm water and an unscented antibacterial soap. Lightly pat tattoo dry with a paper towel.
3. Allow to air dry. As it air dries, watch for any plasma (white blood cells) or bleeding that oozes to the skin's surface. We DO NOT want any plasma to clot and dry on the tattoo.
4. Use a paper towel moistened with water to dab any plasma that you do see. Follow with a dry paper towel to fully pat dry.
*Repeat this process until you see no more plasma accumulating at the surface.
5. For the 1st 24-48 hours, the skin pores are open wide due to the tattoo procedure and your skin feels burned. It is NOT recommended to use any lotion or aftercare product during the first 48 hours.
6. Follow steps 2 & 3 to wash your tattoo 3-5 times a day. When you wake up, have lunch, get home from work, and before bed are all great times to wash your tattoo.
7. At 48 hours, wash, pat dry, air dry, and apply a light layer of unscented/fragrance-free lotion, such as Lubriderm, Curel, Aveeno, Eucerin, or other high-quality brands. Apply only 1-2 times a day and only after washing and drying properly. Never put a new layer of lotion over an existing layer of lotion. Always wash first!

Nevers, Don'ts, and Avoids

Never touch a healing tattoo with unwashed hands.

Don't scratch, pick at, or shave over your tattoo while it's healing.

Avoid excessive movement that stretches the tattoo, sweating, and tight clothing.

Avoid sunlight while your tattoo is healing. DO NOT apply sunscreen to a healing tattoo.

Don't swim, soak, or enter any water except showers for 3 weeks.

Don't let pets or children touch your healing tattoo. If they do, wash immediately.

Avoid getting smoke on your healing tattoo. Fire pits, BBQs, and cigarettes included.

Don't sleep on dirty bedding or wear dirty clothes while your tattoo heals.

Once it's healed, use moisturizing lotion and sunscreen regularly to preserve your tattoo.

LISTEN TO YOUR TATTOO ARTIST, NOT YOUR FRIENDS!

Failure to follow these instructions may result in infections and scarring, which will disqualify you from getting free touch-ups.