

TATTOO AFTERCARE

FOR THE NEXT 7 DAYS WASH YOUR HANDS PRIOR TO TOUCHING YOUR FRESH TATTOO.

Day 1:

One hour after your tattoo is completed, remove the bandage and gently hand wash the tattoo with liquid antibacterial soap. Remove any dried blood or ink and pat dry with a paper towel. **Note:** DO NOT USE a bath towel; they contain microfibers and lint that can irritate or infect the fresh tattoo. Wait 15 minutes and allow your pores to close, and then apply a very thin layer of Aquaphor Ointment (by Eucerin), A&D ointment or Bacitracin Ointment. **Do not re-bandage the tattoo;** you want it to breathe through the ointment.

Note: DO NOT USE Neosporin or Bacitracin Plus, it contains zinc and can be too harsh for the sensitive healing process.

Day 2-7:

Keep your tattoo clean. Wash it three to four times a day with liquid antibacterial soap, gently with your fingertips. **Note:** DO NOT USE anything abrasive like wash cloths or loofahs. Check the tattoo every half hour to make sure it's "moist" from the ointment. If it's dry, reapply. If there is a thin layer, you're fine. Wrap you tattoo **ONLY** before bed (we want it to breathe).

Wrapping Instructions: Wrap your tattoo **ONLY** at night right before bed. Wash the tattoo with liquid antibacterial soap, apply a thin layer of ointment, and then cover it with a piece of plastic wrap. Tape around the edges to hold the plastic in place throughout the night to keep your tattoo moisturized. If the tattoo dries out during the night, it will scab and create problems throughout the healing process. In the morning remove the dressing, wash and repeat the routine.

7 days +:

Switch from ointment to a non-fragranced lotion (i.e. Vaseline Intensive Care, Eucerin, Lubriderm).

RESTRICTIONS:

ABSOLUTELY NO swimming or sun tanning for at least three weeks! (This includes tanning beds). If there is any scabbing DO NOT pick or scratch them. The tattoo can still heal properly as long as they aren't removed prematurely. If redness, swelling, excessive and/or prolonged pain or rash should occur, contact your tattoo artist and your family physician. In most cases it is normal for some redness or swelling to occur for the first day or two. If you still have any questions, do not hesitate to contact your artist! No question is a dumb question!

