

Tattoo Aftercare Guide

Taking care of a tattoo until it heals is one of the most important steps if you want the tattoo to turn out great and not become infected.

Following the aftercare guide is important for you to read and remember.

- Your tattoo will be wrapped in saniderm or a bandage immediately after completion of your tattoo.
- Your fresh ink should stay covered overnight or at least for several hours (2 to 4 hours on minimum).
- After removing the covering, your skin will be red and feel irritated.
- Always wash your hands with antibacterial soap before touching your tattoo.
- After cleaning your hands, you should wash the tattoo with antibacterial, fragrance-free soap, and lukewarm water.
- Don't place the tattoo directly under a stream.
- Wash your tattoo at least 2 times a day with mild soap and apply a thin layer of ointment.
 - **Recommended ointments: - Ink Defense - Lubriderm - Aquaphor**
- Don't scrub it with any pressure at all, just let water and soap wash over it.
- Do not let your tattoo stick to sheets or clothing. This can discolor the fabric and pull out the color from your fresh ink.
- Your tattoo and the direct area around your tattoo may be slightly swollen and red or bruise for the next week.
- Scabs will start to form, please refrain from picking at them. If the scab is disturbed, the skin can end up scarred. It can warp the tattoo design.
- Do not soak in any water (ocean, hot tub, lake, pool) for at least a month while your tattoo heals.
- Your color will seem dull or uneven while your tattoo heals. Shading will seem dark but will fade up to 40% throughout the healing process.
- Avoid heavy sweating in the area of your tattoo for at least 2 weeks.
- Keep your skin out of direct sun and tanning beds for no less than 1 month after getting your tattoo.
- Tattoos generally take a full month to heal completely.
- Once healed, always use a high SPF sunscreen to keep your tattoo protected from the sun.

Once you leave your appointment it is up to you to take care of your healing skin. The first 72 hours are crucial to the healing process of your new ink.

