

Aftercare Instructions

Failure to follow aftercare may result in prolonged healing, scarring, infection, and/or pre-mature fading.

1) Your bandage will be applied by your artist, and must stay on overnight. This is so the bandage can wick up as much blood and lymphatic fluid as possible within that time. You will notice your tattoo will scab less if you keep the bandage on for this duration of time.

2) The morning after your tattoo appointment, take the bandage off right before you shower. Wash your tattoo in the shower with an unscented bar soap like Dove or Olay. Please keep showers quick, as you do not want to over soak your tattoo. Make sure to wash your tattoo really well for the first time, removing any excess blood and lymphatic fluid. Use an unscented, mild bar soap like Dove or Olay.

3) Once out of the shower, gently pat dry with a clean lint free towel or paper towel, make sure there is nothing is on it, and let air dry (don't put cream on) for 24 hours. The next day, you can repeat the wash/ dry process (It is best to wash your tattoo when you shower). Wait at least an hour before applying a small amount of lotion.

4) Always wash your hands thoroughly before applying lotion or touching your tattoo at all. Apply fragrance free, unscented Aveeno lotion to the tattoo 1-2 times daily, morning and/or night. **Apply a very small amount** and rub lotion in so that you cannot see any lotion left over (applying too much lotion will cause excess scabbing). Do this for a minimum of 2-4 weeks, once all peeling and scabbing is gone, you're good to go! **Do not apply lotion over top of any scabs that form.** If your tattoo heavily scabs, stop applying lotion, as it will prolong healing if there is continuous moisture!

-No swimming, saunas, hot tubs, or baths for the first 2-4 weeks or until all scabs have completely fallen off.

-Keep your fresh tattoo out of the sun for a minimum of the first 2 weeks. Once your tattoo is completely healed, don't forget to apply sunscreen when you are in the sun- this will prevent premature fading.

-Please be extra careful during the healing process. Try to avoid stretching the area, exercising, and sweating if possible. Your fresh tattoo will have a pulling/ tight feel on your skin, and if you overstretch your skin too quickly, you may wind up with a crack in your tattoo, which can bleed & pull ink out. Excess sweating/ exposure to moisture will cause your tattoo to scab, which will prolong your healing and will compromise the colour. Be careful.

-If you have pets, please be cautious- cats especially. Cats are in and out of their litter boxes all day, and carry fecal matter and urine on their fur. Cat fur is a tattoo's worst enemy. Even a couple strands can cause a major infection. Change your bed linens, and be cautious with your fresh tattoo around your pets during the healing process.

-DO NOT use petroleum based ointments such as Polysporin, Vaseline, Vitamin E, etc., as this will not allow for any scabs to properly form, and will prolong healing, and can cause pigment to leach out.

-DO NOT re-bandage. If you work in a dirty environment, please be cautious, and cover tattoo with tighter fitting, lint free clothing, such as long john underwear or Under Armour. Do not wear anything containing clothing lint, as this can stick to a healing tattoo. Your tattoo is an open wound- take precautions to keep it clean and infection free!

DO NOT pick or scratch at the tattoo. As much as it would feel amazing to scratch your fresh and itchy tattoo, please refrain from doing this. You may lightly slap the tattoo to alleviate any itchiness. **DO NOT** shave the area of the tattoo until it is completely healed.

-DO NOT let your friends and/or family members touch your tattoo while healing. Who knows where their hands have been!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (807) 728-2828. Thanks!