

## Tattoo aftercare

Please review and follow our guidelines for tattoo healing and care for your new tattoo.

### Tattoo bandage:

- Please keep your bandage (Saniderm, Tegaderm, Dermashield, etc.) on from 8-24 hours. You can remove your bandage in the shower and slowly peel from one side.
- If you notice a leak in your bandage or excessive fluid buildup (blood, plasma, ink, etc.) or a skin sensitivity to the bandage, you may need to remove your bandage sooner.
- After removing your bandage, clean your new tattoo with unscented antibacterial soap and warm water. Dry with a clean paper towel and apply a thin layer of unscented healing ointment or lotion (without petroleum in it). You may use a fresh Saniderm bandage to protect your tattoo if needed.

### Tattoo aftercare:

- With clean hands, wash your new tattoo 3 times a day for 3-4 weeks. Use unscented antibacterial soap, dry with a clean paper towel, and apply a small amount of healing ointment or lotion.
- Your tattoo will be healed in about 6 weeks (depending on your skin health, size of the tattoo, etc.). If you have recently gotten another tattoo, it may take longer for your tattoo to heal.
- Do not swim, hot tub, take a bath, or go tanning for at least 2 weeks after getting your tattoo.
- Do not itch, pick at, or scratch your tattoo.

### What to expect after your tattoo:

- Tattoo healing can vary depending on placement, size, hygiene, daily activities, etc.
- A tattoo is an open wound and therefore susceptible to potential infections. Please follow aftercare instructions to lower the risk of problems during your healing process.
- New tattoos are red, irritated, swollen, and possibly bruised. Please treat your new tattoo with tender care during the active healing weeks that follow.
- Consult a healthcare professional at first sight of infection. Signs and symptoms of infection include but are not limited to redness, swelling, tenderness of the procedure site, red streaks going from procedure site toward the heart, elevated body temperature, or purulent drainage from the procedure site.
- Flaking and scabbing are a result of your body's healing process. Do not itch, scratch, and/or pick at your new tattoo. If you do, you risk damaging your skin and your new tattoo.
- After 6 weeks (or when your tattoo is completely healed), please schedule a complimentary touch up within the first 90 days (if a touch up is needed). Touch up appointments typically last 15 minutes or at your tattoo artist's discretion. If more time is needed and/or more than 90 days have passed, a second tattoo session can be scheduled.
- Ask your tattoo artist if you have any additional questions or concerns.