



Piercing F.A.Q.'s

Q: Most Commonly asked Question: DOES IT HURT????

A: Well I guess that depends if you like the feeling of a needle puncturing your skin...And, yes I know there are those of you out there. It doesn't hurt nearly as much as you think. In my experience, I think the worst part is passing through the mental anxiety and fear that you have. Pain is completely relative to the individual and the pain experienced during a piercing is nothing that the average person can't handle. The piercing process is quick, and over before you know it.

Q: Why do I have to start with stainless steel, colorless titanium, or gold jewelry?

A: These are the best metals to prevent negative reactions to the new object in your body. Would you rather have a stainless steel hoop in your piercing for a few weeks or an acrylic one that would push out in a few weeks. There will be plenty of time for the fun involved with changing your jewelry to express yourself or reflect your personal style. But it will suck if you lose your piercing because you have no patience.

Q: For how long can I keep out my jewelry?

A: This really depends not only on the piercing but the person as well. Each piercing has a different life span without jewelry. For example, I can remove my labret for weeks at a time and it won't close up, where as my wife can only leave hers out for a few hours. Bottom line, if you have to remove your jewelry, get a retainer. This will prevent any chance of losing the piercing. And retainers are made with clear lucite, flesh colored or clear acrylic ends, and other styles of "hideable" accessories. Also it depends on how long you have had that piercing in for, the longer you have had it pierced the longer you will be able to keep it out.

Q: Is piercing just a trend?

A: NO!!!! Piercing has been around since back in the day. It has been practiced in nearly every culture all over the world for thousands of year. Now that body art has spread beyond a select few subcultures in the US, our peoples have come to appreciate the beauty and joy that body art offers. (I will soon be adding the complete history of body modification to my website)

Q: Can I use Alcohol or Peroxide to clean my piercing?

A: Hell No!! I can't stress that enough, no matter how much I stress on this to people, I always have some one call and say ;"uhhh, my piercing pushed out- I was using Alcohol to clean it." Alcohol is not intended for internal use, it will only irritate and complicate the piercing. Check out my aftercare page for more info on aftercare.

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Piercing F.A.Q.'s Continued

Q: My piercing seems to be red and irritated, I think its infected, what can I do?

A: First, make sure that you are NOT using Bactine, alcohol, or Neosporin. Although I myself have had success with bactine, and so have many other people, but there have been many people that have complained that it was not working for them. Second, make sure that you are only using antibacterial or antimicrobial soap and sea salt to clean your piercing. Remember, piercings such as the navel and nipple tend to get irritated easily because they are in active areas of the body. So be careful not to pull on your jewelry while the piercing is still healing. If the irritation persists, see your piercer, your piercing friendly Doctor.

Q: Will I be able to breast feed if I get my nipples pierced?

A: In the late 19th century English doctors advised women with small or inverted nipples to have them pierced, in order to make breast feeding easier. It has no discernable effect on nipple piercing. There are approximately 20-30 milk ducts in the average female nipple, piercing cuts 3-4 at most so there are plenty left to enable you to breast feed. If your nipples are pierced and you want to breast feed there are several things you can do. You can remove the jewelry altogether and replace it after you finish breast feeding, you can wear circular barbells which are easily inserted and removed at will (however this may cause tenderness), or you can wear barbells which allow the baby to breast feed without any difficulty.

Q: My tongue is really white and there seems to be a whitish ring around my piercing ... what should I do?

A: This often happens by using too much mouth wash. If you are using mouth wash too often and/or it contains alcohol E.G. listerine, it can destroy the layer of healthy bacteria on the top of your tongue. If this is the case I would suggest that you use the mouth wash less frequently or dilute your mouth wash with 50 percent water. You can also switch to a salt water mixture. 1/4 teaspoon of non iodized sea salt to 8 oz. of water.

Q: How do I know if I have an infection?

A: If you see puss (a thick, white, liquid, sometimes tinted pink, yellow and even green) If it is warm to the touch, if it is red or swollen. Bacteria or another irritant has caused an infection or a response from you body that resembles an infection. See your doctor if your piercer's instructions don't help within 3-5 days.

Q: Is there a hard knot under the piercing? (like a marble under the skin) Is it warm to the touch? Does it hurt? Is it red and inflamed? Does puss sometimes ooze out?

A: "Yes" to these could indicate an abscess. An infection is trapped and could burst. Don't squeeze it and don't remove the jewelry until your doctor tells you to. See a doctor immediately, this could become very serious!