



Tattoo Aftercare

The aftercare of a new tattoo is extremely important! It only takes a few days of good care, and done properly, the tattoo will come out looking great. The bandage provided is the only one needed, and it can be removed in two hours. A healing tattoo needs washed and fresh ointment applied two to three times daily. Wash tattoo with an antibacterial soap, such as Dial or Lever 2000. Only wash area with bare hands. Washcloths and sponges are not recommended because they are too rough and can harm the tattoo. Dry the wet tattoo by patting with a clean dry towel or cloth. Apply ointments such as Tattoo Goo, Vitamin A vitamin D ointment, or Bacitracin, in a thin layer over the tattooed surface. If the tattoo starts to look pitted, it is over moistened, discontinue use of ointment and switch to Lubriderm. Ointments like Petroleum Jelly or Neosporin types are not recommended for tattoo. A tattoo is a controlled skin abrasion and needs to be exposed to air to breathe. The exception is when straps or certain articles of clothing rub against it. If the bandage sticks to the tattoo, soak with clean cool water until loose, and then carefully remove.

A healing tattoo should not be submerged or excessively soaked with water. Scabs should be left to fall off naturally, a bare spot can occur if picked or scratched at. After the scabs fall off, there may be a white scaly layer on top of the new tattoo. This is dead skin and it will come off in a couple days. In that time and thereafter a good moisturizing fragrance free lotion will keep the area smooth and nourished. Healing tattoo have a tendency to itch. Itching can be relieved with a quick slap to the affected area. Exposure to sunlight will degrade a tattoo and make it fade. Sun Block of an SPF 15 or higher will help to slow the effects of the sun. A tattoo is a permanent and lasting work of art, worth the time to take good care of.