

Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

- Supplies: Saniderm film, antibacterial soap, unscented lotion, bacitracin ointment
- **Your first piece of Saniderm should be used for 8-24 hours.** When you change your first piece of film will depend on the intensity of weeping you are experiencing. If your tattoo weeps severely, you may find yourself having to change it earlier than someone who experiences minimal weeping. Regardless of how much fluid you see in your Saniderm, you should always change the initial film at the 24-hour mark.
- **Steps to apply additional Saniderm film** (leave a gap of no more than 30 minutes between removal and reapplication):
 - Wash your tattoo: Use your fingertips or hand only. Use a mild antibacterial soap and warm water. Take care to remove all traces of blood to prevent scabbing. Finish by running the tattoo under cold water to reseal the pores. Do not scrub the tattoo with a washcloth during the two week healing time. Pat the tattoo dry with a clean, soft cloth; or just let it air dry.
 - Apply a thin layer of bacitracin ointment to the tattooed skin only.
 - Remove paper backing of Saniderm film.
 - Apply gently, going slowly to minimize air bubbles.
 - Peel off plastic backing.
 - Additional pieces of Saniderm may be left on for up to 6 days.
 - Tattoo should be healed within 2-3 applications. If you feel like you may need a 3rd piece of film, please contact the studio. Otherwise continue with traditional tattoo aftercare.
- **Traditional aftercare** (no Saniderm or post 2nd/3rd film): Wash your tattoo. Pat dry with a clean cloth. If within first 3-5 days, apply bacitracin ointment 3 times a day after washing. Afterwards switch to an unscented lotion like Lubriderm or Curel after washing until your tattoo is completely healed - Usually within 2 weeks, sometimes longer for slower healers.
- **Keep your tattoo clean and only touch with clean hands.**
- **Avoid long showers or baths for 2 weeks or until scab has healed.** Keep showers to under 10 minutes and run the tattoo under cold water when finished to reseal the pores. Also, avoid prolonged soaking. NO swimming, hot tubs, or saunas. This includes natural bodies of water like oceans, lakes, and rivers.
- **Do not scratch or pick at your tattoo.** Scabs are the root of your color, picking scabs will take the color with it. You may gently pat your tattoo or apply a thin layer of lotion.
- **Keep your tattoo out of the sun.** Sunburn on tattoos can cause many problems, including drying out your tattoo and forming a horrendous scab and causing the tattoo to fade before it is completely healed. The sun can also delay healing time of a tattoo and promotes scarring. Please wait for your tattoo to heal completely before going into the sun or a tanning bed. Make sure to use a high quality sun block (not sunscreen) but do not apply sunblock while a tattoo is in the healing process. Over time, the sun will cause any tattoo to fade.
- Following all of these simple steps will ensure that you end up with the best result with minimal complications and your tattoo will stay looking bright and beautiful for many years to come.

*Questions or concerns? Email me at:
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