

TATTOO AFTERCARE

The instructions should be followed as stated.

Failure to do so may lead to infection, damage, and/or discoloring of the tattoo.

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW TATTOO:

The tattoo will take approximately two to three weeks to heal. It may be tender for the first few days, and then it may develop light scabs and appear crusty. These will flake off. **DO NOT** pick at or peel them off! During this period, the tattoo may look ugly, and it may seem that its color is falling out with the scabs.

DON'T WORRY; this is a normal part of the process! During the next stage, the tattoo looks basically healed, but is still waxy or shiny on the surface. The directions below should be followed until the last stage has passed and the tattoo is fully healed.

DIRECTIONS:

If your artist used a waterproof medical grade breathable clear bandage:

1- Leave the bandage on for 2 full days.

During the 48 hour period the tattoo will expel fluid and ink. The bandage will begin to fill and the tattoo will become more difficult to see under the bandage. This is normal and commonly referred to as an ink sack.

2- After 48 hours, gently remove the bandage.

Do not rip it off like a band-aid. Slowly and carefully remove the bandage. Now the cleaning and after care routine begins.

3- Twice a day, for 1 week to 10 days clean your new tattoo.

The cleaning and aftercare routine should be followed accordingly:

Once in the morning and once at night the tattoo should be cleaned. When showering, please schedule your cleaning for the end of your shower. This will remove an excess soap, chemicals, dyes and/or fragrances that may have come in contact with the tattoo. Avoid using any of your normal shower products directly on your tattoo. This will help keep your tattoo from becoming irritated and/or from having an adverse reaction to the soaps, shampoos etc used. Using antibacterial soap (preferably Dial Gold), wash your hands, rinse them clean and create a 2nd soapy lather, not just soap. Gently wash your tattoo using your fingertips and palm. Do not use any sponges, washcloths, paper towels, bath towels or luffas. Only use your hands. Gently rinse your tattoo clean and let it air dry. Do not towel dry.

4- Apply aftercare twice a day.

Once your tattoo has air dried after washing it, gently apply a very small amount of aftercare. Expressive Ink suggests using After Inked. If you notice a glare or knowingly applied too much, gently spread and rub it onto the surrounding areas to get the excess aftercare off your tattoo. Too much aftercare can result in longer heal times, irritation and the tattoo fading. Less is more.

5- During the healing process (2-3 weeks) avoid the following:

Direct sun and/or tanning

Soaking in water ie. Pools, Jacuzzis, Hot Tubs, Oceans, Baths, Ponds, Lakes, etc.

Extreme heat ie. Saunas, Hot Yoga, etc

DO NOT touch, scratch or pick at your tattoo

Trauma to the area (Banging it on things, grappling, etc.)

PIERCING AFTERCARE

The instructions should be followed as stated.

Failure to do so may lead to infection, damage, and/or rejection of the piercing.

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW PIERCING:

The piercing can take anywhere from 4 weeks to 6+months to heal. It may be tender for the first few days, and then it may develop light scabs and appear crusty. **DO NOT** pick at or peel them off! You may wet your piercing while cleaning in to soften any crust until it becomes similar to a mucus like substance. At that point, using a clean fingertip (not finger nail) you may gently rub it off to remove it.

DIRECTIONS:

Using only clean hands. Fingertips and palms only.

DO NOT USE the following: q-tips, fingernails, bath towels, wash cloths, paper towels, sponges, luffas, etc.

1- Wash the piercing twice a day.

Gently (once in the morning and once at night) wash your piercing. Wash your hands, rinse them clean and then with a 2nd soapy lather, wash the piercing using an antibacterial soap. Expressive Ink recommends Dial Antibacterial liquid pump soap aka Dial Gold.

2- Rotate (hoops) or push and pull (posts and studs) the jewelry 5-6 times.

With the soapy lather present, gently rotate and/or gently push and pull the jewelry through the piercing 5-6 times. Rinse with luke warm water. If crust is present, wet your piercing while cleaning in to soften any crust until it becomes similar to a mucus like substance. At that point, using a clean fingertip (not finger nail) you may gently rub it off to remove it. Next, you will gently rotate and/or push and pull the jewelry carefully. Do Not press too hard or scrape with nails.

3- Rinse twice.

Similar to step 2, after rinsing the soapy lather away from the piercing, gently repeat the rotating and/or pushing and pulling of the jewelry 5-6 times. Complete this process twice to ensure rinsing away any remaining soap.

4- Air dry.

Do not towel off or dry your piercing after the cleaning process. Allow the piercing to air dry.

5- Apply H2Ocean or After Ink Salt water spray 4-6 times daily.

Spray the piercing 5-6 times daily between the morning and evening cleaning.

6- During the initial healing process (3-4 weeks) avoid the following:

Direct sun and/or tanning

Soaking in water ie. Pools, Jacuzzis, Hot Tubs, Oceans, Baths, Ponds, Lakes, etc.

Extreme heat ie. Saunas, Hot Yoga, etc

DO NOT touch, scratch or pick at your piercing

Trauma to the area (Banging it on things, grappling, etc.)

Make sure your hands are clean every time you touch the piercing and don't let anyone else touch it! – This includes pets!