

TATTOO AFTERCARE (Traditional Bandage)

Thanks for getting a tattoo from me! Here's some suggestions for best aftercare for your new tattoo!

Your aftercare shopping list:

1. Antibacterial liquid soap like Gold Dial
2. Paper towels (get the good ones)
3. Unscented lubricant/lotion like shea butter or lubiderm

Aftercare process and best practices:

1. In about three hours, thoroughly wash your hands and remove the plastic wrap and/or absorbing bandage.
2. After removing the bandage, wash the tattoo with warm water and anti-bacterial soap. I recommend using Gold liquid Dial. Don't use any soaps with fragrances or exfoliating textures or beads. I don't recommend bar soaps, as they can have deodorants or ingredients that can dry your skin.
3. ONLY EVER TOUCH YOUR TATTOO WITH WASHED, CLEAN HANDS. Pat it dry with fresh, clean paper towels. Never use terrycloth on your tattoo before it's healed, as the fibers can carry bacteria and cause infection.
4. Once the tattoo is dry, you can apply shea butter or a silicon-based lubricant like Eucerin or Lubiderm. Avoid petroleum-based salves, as they can clog pores and disrupt the skin's natural secretion of plasma during healing. Apply a thin layer of the lubricant to your skin, and wipe off any excess with a fresh, clean paper towel. Overdoing it on the lotion can actually leach ink from your skin.
5. After removing the initial bandaging, wash your tattoo around twice a day, more if you get it dirty or are worried about its condition. You can apply lotion to your healing tattoo, but too much might cause some acne, so use caution in how much and how often you moisturize. Everyone's skin is different!
6. DON'T GO SWIMMING IN A POOL, and avoid swimming altogether for about a month to avoid infection and allow proper healing. Some of the worst tattoo infection horror stories are about people who went swimming with fresh tattoos. IT CAN GO VERY BAD. Showering is fine, of course, because you're washing the tattoo with gold dial during the shower and drying it with clean paper towels when you're done.
7. KEEP IT OUT OF THE SUN! Sunlight can damage the healing process! When your skin is damaged by the sun, it will slough skin and behave in a way that could compromise the healing process. If you want your tattoo to look great for a long time, keep it covered during the healing process. Never put sunscreen on a healing tattoo. It won't help the healing, and could cause an infection. Just keep it covered with clothing if you need to be outside while it's healing.
8. Wear loose, comfortable clothing over your new tattoo as it heals. During the first couple of days, your tattoo might weep some plasma and ink, too, which can get on your clothes. You don't need to re-bandage the tattoo, but you should be thoughtful about how your clothes rub or touch the tattoo. They can cause irritation and infection. Bra straps, tight waistbands, shoes without socks, or textiles like wool sweaters or rough denim can create friction or embed germs or fibers in the healing skin. Err on the side of comfy, looser clothing while you're healing.
9. THE TATTOO WILL ITCH. DON'T SCRATCH IT! And after a few days, the tattoo might form flaky scabs that can be tempting to touch or fuss with. LEAVE THEM ALONE! NEVER PICK OR SCRATCH AT YOUR HEALING TATTOO! Just use lotion to soothe the skin, and use the tried and true smacking method if you must do something to deal with the itching. GETTING TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ITCHING IS THE ULTIMATE TATTOO TEST OF WILL POWER. I believe in you. YOU CAN DO IT! It normally takes about 2-4 weeks for a tattoo to heal, depending on what was done and how your individual human skin heals.

Please text or call me at 804-402-0338 if you have any questions or concerns!

If you're really worried about your healing tattoo's condition, don't think twice about going to the doctor. I did my best to make sure that the process was absolutely clean as can be, but if you're worried, see a qualified physician to assess how your heal is progressing.

YOUR FRIENDS AND THE INTERNET ARE NOT DOCTORS! EVERYONE'S HEALING IS DIFFERENT! GET HELP IF YOU NEED IT!

TATTOO AFTERCARE (Saniderm)

Thanks for getting a tattoo from me! Here's some suggestions for best aftercare for your new tattoo!

Your aftercare shopping list:

1. Antibacterial liquid soap like Gold Dial
2. Paper towels (get the good ones)
3. Unscented lubricant/lotion like shea butter or lubiderm

Aftercare process and best practices:

1. In about 5 days, thoroughly wash your hands and remove the Saniderm. I recommend doing it in a hot shower, as that will help loosen the adhesive on the saniderm. As soon as it's off, wash it with antibacterial soap and pat it dry with clean, fresh paper towels. Even after the saniderm is off your tattoo is not really done healing, so take care of it, keeping it extra clean and appropriately moisturized.
2. While the saniderm is on, you can shower, but don't go swimming in a pool, river, lake, sea or the ocean. The dirty water can leak under the saniderm and cause an infection.
3. KEEP IT OUT OF THE SUN! The saniderm is perfectly clear, so sunlight can still badly damage the healing process! When your skin is damaged by the sun, it will slough skin and behave in a way that could compromise the healing process. If you want your tattoo to look great for a long time, keep it covered during the healing process. Never put sunscreen on a healing tattoo. It won't help the healing, and could cause an infection. Just keep it covered with clothing if you need to be outside while it's healing.
4. If the Saniderm begins to peel up around the edges, you can trim the peeling parts with scissors, or remove the saniderm altogether if you want. Once the tattoo no longer covered with saniderm, refer to the aftercare instructions on the other side of this sheet. If the patch has a leak and water gets under the saniderm patch, definitely remove it and refer to the aftercare instructions on the other side of this sheet.
5. On larger, shaded or colored tattoos, the saniderm patch may fill up with plasma and ink and look like a sloshy bubble. That's okay. If it gets really distended, or starts to leak, take it off and refer to the aftercare instructions on the other side of this sheet.
6. If your saniderm patch gets redness, bumps, or a rash around its perimeter, you might be having an allergic reaction to the adhesive. Just remove it and refer to the aftercare instructions on the other side of this sheet.
7. ONLY EVER TOUCH YOUR TATTOO WITH WASHED, CLEAN HANDS. Pat it dry with fresh, clean paper towels. Never use terrycloth on your tattoo before it's healed, as the fibers can carry bacteria and cause infection.
8. Once the tattoo is dry, you can apply shea butter or a silicon-based lubricant like Eucerin or Lubiderm. Avoid petroleum-based salves, as they can clog pores and disrupt the skin's natural secretion of plasma during healing. Apply a thin layer of the lubricant to your skin, and wipe off any excess with a fresh, clean paper towel. Overdoing it on the lotion can actually leach ink from your skin.
9. DON'T GO SWIMMING IN A POOL, and avoid swimming altogether for about a month to avoid infection and allow proper healing. Some of the worst tattoo infection horror stories are about people who went swimming with fresh tattoos. IT CAN GO VERY BAD. Showering is fine, of course, because you're washing the tattoo with gold dial during the shower and drying it with clean paper towels when you're done.
10. Wear loose, comfortable clothing over your new tattoo as it heals. You don't need to re-bandage the tattoo, but you should be thoughtful about how your clothes rub or touch the tattoo. They can cause irritation and infection. Bra straps, tight waistbands, shoes without socks, or textiles like wool sweaters or rough denim can create friction or embed germs or fibers in the healing skin. Err on the side of comfy, looser clothing while you're healing.
11. THE TATTOO WILL ITCH. DON'T SCRATCH IT! The saniderm is likely to prevent flaking or scabs, BUT NEVER PICK OR SCRATCH AT YOUR HEALING TATTOO! Just use the tried and true smacking method if you must do something to deal with the itching. GETTING TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ITCHING IS THE ULTIMATE TATTOO TEST OF WILL POWER. I believe in you. YOU CAN DO IT! It normally takes about 2-4 weeks for a tattoo to heal, depending on what was done and how your individual human skin heals.

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