



## Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

• Remove the bandage after 2-4 hours OR leave it on overnight if instructed to do so. If it sticks, use warm water to remove it.

**STEP 1:** Wash your hands, then wash your tattoo with a gentle non-scented antibacterial soap and warm water.

**STEP 2:** Gently pat dry using a paper towel (Do not use a regular bath towel, as they can sometimes hold germs). Let it remain dry for about 20 to 30 minutes.

**STEP 3 (A or B):** Apply ointment using either of the two methods described below:

### **STEP 3-A: AQUAPHOR**

Aquaphor can be used for the entire tattoo aftercare process and until the tattoo is completely healed, which usually takes about 2-3 weeks depending on how quickly your body heals.

### **STEP 3-B: A&D or BACITRACIN for 4 DAYS, followed by NON-SCENTED HAND LOTION**

If this method is chosen, use a VERY SMALL AMOUNT of either A&D Ointment or Bacitracin, and apply it ONLY over the tattoo. Each of these products contains petrolatum, which is used as a skin protectant and EXCELLENT for moisturizing and protecting your tattoo, but can cause a rash if they are improperly applied by overuse. When your tattoo begins to peel (usually around day 4), stop using your ointment of choice and switch to a Non-Scented Hand Lotion.

Continue this routine daily until the tattoo is fully healed, which usually takes about 2-3 weeks. Cleanliness and light moisturizing is key to a well-healed tattoo that will last you a lifetime!

- DO NOT RE-BANDAGE your tattoo. Once you take off the initial bandage, it stays off
- DO NOT PICK OR SCRATCH your tattoo while it is healing or touch it with dirty hands
- DO NOT SUBMERGE your tattoo under any standing water of any kind (pool, bath, lake, pond, etc...)
- Wear clothing that is clean and loose-fitting. Avoid wearing anything that may be abrasive or tight
- Keep your tattoo out of the sun for excessive periods while it's healing. NO TANNING!
- Keep from excessive sweating for at least a week after your tattoo procedure

**Please call us at the number listed below if you experience any of the following:**

(a) excessive redness, tenderness or swelling at the site of the tattoo (b) any rash; (c) excessive drainage at or from the site of the tattoo after 24 hours have passed; or (d) a fever within 24 hours of the tattoo procedure

If you have any further questions, please call us at: **978-485-0106**