

PICK THE BEST HEALING PROCESS FOR YOUR BODY

There are a couple of different healing processes, and everyone's body heals differently. Read your options and choose the one that fits best for you.

Derm bandages

Derm bandages are an adhesive, waterproof, and breathable bandage that protects your tattoo by sealing it in a bandage for 3-5 days. They are very low maintenance and can be great for a lot of people and speed the healing, especially if you work in a dirty environment. However, for some people they can cause irritation or sensitivity.

Non-adherent bandages

These bandages absorb your body's fluids and protect your tattoo, but must be changed often and your tattoo must be cleaned and new ointment applied during re-bandaging. This is a good option for people with sensitive skin or allergies.

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Derm Bandaging

If you leave the shop with a derm style bandage, you will leave it on for 3-24 hours. It will collect fluid, but please do not press or rupture the bandage.

Replace the bandage within 24 hours.

- Always wash your hands before touching your new tattoo.
- To remove Derm find an edge of the bandage and pull it back over itself in the direction of hair growth. The shower is the ideal place to remove Derm. Running water will help loosen the adhesive and relax the skin, making the removal much more comfortable. Dry removal of Derm may cause discomfort and added trauma to the skin.
- Discard the used bandage and wash the tattoo with an unscented soap.
- Allow the tattoo to air dry or pat dry with a clean paper towel.
- Apply a second bandage. Cut and trim Derm to fit around the tattoo - include an extra inch around all sides.
- Peel the white paper wrapping from the sticky side first and place gently over the tattoo.
- Once the adhesive side of the bandage is in place, remove the second layer from the top side and smooth bandage over the tattoo.

- Keep this second bandage on for 3-6 days - If the skin appears irritated, or the bandage is coming off, it's okay to remove the bandage sooner.
- If you remove your bandage early, do not reapply any more bandages after 3 days.
- Once the final Derm bandage is removed from your tattoo, continue to care for it by gently washing it with unscented soap.
- Use a layer of unscented white lotion 2-3 times a day for 2 weeks or until the tattoo is not peeling, dry, or cracked.

Non-Adherent bandages

- Always wash your hands before touching your new tattoo.
- Remove bandage within a few hours
- Wash tattoo with an unscented soap and your hands. Do not use a washcloth.
- Gently pat your tattoo dry with a clean paper towel.
- Apply ointment in a thin layer.
- Aquafor, Ink Balm, Tattoo Lube, Redemption, or Coconut oil are all common ointments.
- Pat off excess ointment with a clean paper towel.
- Bandage your tattoo with a Non-Adherent bandage and medical tape.
- You will repeat those steps, wash, and rebandage your tattoo when you wake up, in the middle of the day, and again before bed.

- Do this process for 3-4 days including the day you were tattooed.
- Once the tattoo stops leaking plasma, you may stop using the bandages
- Once you stop using the bandages, you will stop using ointment and begin using a white unscented lotion 3-4 times a day as needed for 2 weeks.
- On the 3rd or 4th day your tattoo will begin to peel. Do not pick or scratch.

- **Do not listen to your friend's advice. They know nothing.**
- NO swimming or soaking in hot tub for 2 weeks. Short showers are fine.
- Absolutely NO sun, tanning or sunblock for 3 weeks. Cover your tattoo outside. After 3 weeks, always use sunblock daily, often.
- Do not wear abrasive materials, jewelry, or shoes that rub against your tattoo for 2-3 weeks.
- Do not let anyone touch your tattoo unless they wash their hands.
- Light exercise only for 2 weeks.

If you do not take care of your tattoo, it may become infected. Infections are very red around the outside of the tattoo, feel hot, and may have red lines extending outwards. It may ooze, pus, or bleed abnormally. If you think your tattoo has become infected, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.

**If you have questions please contact us at 603-433-2616
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THANK YOU!**

