



Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

Tegaderm/Saniderm/Recovery

After your artist applies your tegaderm/saniderm, leave on for a maximum of 5 days. If edges start to peel up prior to the 5 days, breaking the seal closer than an inch to the tattoo, remove the bandage. If you experience redness, itching or swelling around the tegaderm/saniderm bandage remove the bandage. If possible, leaving the bandage on for the full 5 days will result in a better heal.

Removal: The best way to remove Saniderm is to find an edge of the bandage and then to pull it back over itself in the direction of hair growth. Pulling upward on the Saniderm can be painful, so we don't recommend it. We suggest removing the Saniderm in a warm shower. The warm water will loosen the adhesive and make it easier to remove.

Do the following after the tegaderm/saniderm comes off and until the tattoo is completely healed and there is no more peeling.

There will be a 4-step process to perform at least 3 times per day

1. Wash your hands vigorously. (See detailed instructions below)
2. Pat dry with white paper towel.
3. Allow to air dry.
4. Apply moisturizer (we suggest plain Lubriderm, Aveno Baby Care, or Aquaphor).
Moisturizer should be applied throughout the day in small amounts.

Washing Your New Tattoo

- Wash your hands thoroughly and vigorously. (You will kill more bacteria using friction than anything else)
- Rinse your hands thoroughly.
- Re-lather your hands.
- Apply soap and water to the tattoo and spread gently on and around your tattoo.
- Pat dry with a plain white paper towel.

Showering

Be quick in the shower. **Ignore your tattoo**, (do not attempt to wash or soak your tattoo under the water) Have your hand soap, white paper towels, moisturizer ready for when you're finished and follow your 4 steps listed above.

What to Expect During the Healing Process

You will find clear fluid build up on the skin over the first few hours that should be washed away. Over the course of a few days your tattoo will start peeling, although minor scabbing can sometimes occur depending on location. Itching is normal and can be relieved with lotion, an ice bag, or soft patting. The healing skin over the tattoo will go through many changes and the color will appear dull and cloudy until fully healed which can take up to three weeks.

If symptoms develop beyond what was explained as a normal healing response to your tattoo such as redness, drainage, or a rash - seek medical attention and contact your tattoo artist.

What NOT to do During the Healing Process

- Do not let others touch your fresh tattoo or expose it to unclean conditions.
- Do not apply scented soaps or lotions; do not use bar soap or shower towels.
- Do not expose your tattoo to sunlight or use tanning beds.
- Do not swim or take baths.
- Do not apply ointments or plastic wrap; do not re-bandage.
- Do not pick, peel, or scratch your tattoo.
- Do not expose your tattoo to pets and pet hair.
- Do not ask friends or search the Internet for advice - ask your tattoo artist for more detailed instructions.

Long Term Care

A good sun block frequently applied is always recommended after the tattoo has healed; however, the best way to preserve the integrity of your tattoo is to keep it out of the sun as much as possible. To keep your tattoo looking its best, apply moisturizer daily.

It is required that your artist reports to the Illinois Department of Health all tattoo infections that result in medical treatment. **Please contact your Physician or Dentist as appropriate at the first sign of infection then notify your Tattoo Artist.**

I have been provided written and verbal aftercare instructions by my tattoo artist, I have had the opportunity to ask questions and have had them satisfactorily answered and agree to follow these instructions completely.

Client Name (please print): _____ Date: _____

Client Signature: _____ Date: _____

Artist Signature: _____ Date: _____