

# **TATOO AFTERCARE**

## Removing the Bandage

Remove the plastic cover forty-five minutes after the time it was applied. If the cover has dried to your tattoo or your skin, loosen it with warm water and gently remove. Very gently rinse the tattoo with luke warm water to remove excess ointment, spotting, and gauze residue. Let the tattoo get air and apply a thin coat of ointment before bed.

## **Ointments**

The recommended ointment is Tattoo Goo. This ointment was specifically developed by tattoo artists for use on tattoos. A thin layer of Tattoo Goo should be applied 3 to 4 times daily. Be sure your tattoo is clean and dry before application. This ointment is available in our stores.

## Things To Avoid For 2 to 3 Weeks

- Do not expose your tattoo to chlorinated water (pools, hot tubs, etc.).
- Avoid saunas, soaking in bathtubs, and salt water.
- Avoid tanning, and tanning salons.
- Do not get perfumes, cologne, hand creams, etc. on new tattoos.
- Avoid wearing tight denim or any clothing that may catch easily on your tattoo (nylons, sweaters, etc.).

### **Showers and Soaps**

Your tattoo will feel like a sunburn the first time you shower, this is normal. When showering, do not allow the stream of water to continually hit a new tattoo. Water running over the tattoo is fine. Use a mild antibacterial soap to wash your tattoo. Non-perfumed and hypoallergenic soaps are best. Lever 2000 and Dial (antibacterial types only) are recommended. When drying off after a shower, gently pat tattoo dry with a clean towel or let it air dry.

### The Tattoo

A fresh tattoo feels like a sunburn the first day. A fresh tattoo will be a bit red and puffy. Larger tattoos may take a day or two before the puffiness is gone. You may notice a thin crust develop on the tattoo. This crust will peel and flake off. Your tattoo may look dry and flaky for a few days after this. Some tattoos never seem to flake, peel, or get a crust over them, this is also normal. Healing can take from 3 days to 3 weeks. Everyone heals at different rates due to different skin types, and different tattoo styles. \*Do not pick, peel, or scratch your tattoo.\*

### **Touch Ups**

Sometimes a tattoo may heal out light or faded and need additional attention. If you are not sure if you need a touch up please feel free to drop by 4 weeks after your tattoo was applied and <u>your</u> artist will instruct you as to what is best. Touch ups are free of charge for 6 months if you have used Tattoo Goo to heal it. After this time a minimum charge will apply. You must present this sheet to get your free touch ups.