



## TATTOO AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Wear your bandage provided for minimum of **3-4** hours. (If Saniderm film bandage is used, keep on tattoo for 12-24 hours.)
2. Wash your hands and carefully remove bandage and safely dispose of it in the garbage.
3. Gently wash your tattoo under warm running water to remove any fluid and plasma – use mild unscented soap (such as Spectro Gel or the Simple Cleanse product we supply at Ruby) then rinse tattoo in cold water (helps reduce swelling and close pores)
4. Pat dry with CLEAN towel or single use paper towel. (**Do not rub**)
5. After 2-3 days when your tattoo begins to look and feel dry, apply a thin layer of mild, unscented lotion (Aveeno, Lubriderm or Simple Shield lotion we supply at Ruby.) with your fingertips. \*Be mindful not to over moisturize your tattoo and **ALWAYS** wash your hands before applying lotion. (Do not use Polysporin, A+D ointment or Vaseline)
6. **DO NOT PICK AT YOUR TATTOO** – Scabbing is absolutely normal with a tattoo, picking at it will cause damage to the tattooed area, will cause bleeding and ultimately loss of pigment which can alter the healed outcome.
7. Repeat for 2-4 times a day for 2 weeks. Avoid using lotions, body washes, shampoos and cleansers that contain fragrances.
8. Avoid direct exposure to the sun and use of tanning bed during healing period. (once healed, be sure to wear minimum SPF 20 sunscreen at all times – especially on tattooed area. Sun damage causes tattoos to fade over time.)
9. Do not swim or submerge tattooed area for prolonged time in water (hot tubs, baths, lakes, etc.) for at least 2 weeks.
10. Make sure all bedding / clothing that is in contact with your tattoo is clean. If your pets have been in your bed, make sure to wash your bedding as pet dander harbors bacteria. Also ensure your clothing is loose and not directly rubbing against tattooed area until it is healed.
11. **MOST IMPORTANT** – If you have any questions please call studio or contact your artist. Do not rely on information provided by anyone but a professional tattoo artist. If any excessive redness, swelling or signs of infection or allergic reaction arise; **SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.**

**REMEMBER: Your tattoo is an open wound. Failure to follow these instructions will extend healing time and prevent your tattoo from looking its best. Touch-ups needed due to negligence will be at clients expense. The aftercare of your tattoo will greatly determine the way your tattoo will look after it is fully healed.**