

Moss Ink Tattoo Aftercare

Saran Wrap Method

Once you leave the studio leave your saran wrap on for up to 1 hour. With clean washed hands, remove saran wrap. Then proceed to wash the entire area of your tattoo with an unscented antibacterial soap gently, using only your hands and finger pads. No towels, rags, or loofahs as these items can harbor bacteria. Rinse the area thoroughly with lukewarm water. Dab the area dry gently using a fresh paper towel. Then apply a very thin layer of aftercare lotion or cream to the area. You want to keep your tattoo moist and hydrated, but not suffocated by product. Repeat the washing and lotioning steps 3-4 times daily for 2-3 weeks.

Saniderm Method

Leave the bandage on for 24 hours. To remove Saniderm, find an edge of the bandage and stretch parallel to your skin in the direction of your natural hair growth. The shower is the ideal place to remove Saniderm. Running water will help loosen the adhesive and relax the skin, making the removal much more comfortable. Dry removal of Saniderm may cause discomfort and added trauma to the skin. Once removed, follow the aftercare steps above from the saran wrap method.

-If a 2nd Saniderm bandage is recommended by your artist for your tattoo, follow these next steps.-

Keep this 2nd bandage on for 3-6 days – the full 6 days being ideal. If the skin appears irritated, there is fluid buildup, or the bandage is coming off, it's okay to remove the bandage sooner rather than later.

What to Expect

Tattoos are like open wounds to the body. Healing can be affected by placement, size, hygiene and daily activities. Healing is different for everyone. It is important to know a tattoo is an open wound, thus they are susceptible to infection. It is best to follow after care instructions that are provided to reduce your risk of complications during the healing process. You can expect your new tattoo to be red, irritated, swollen, and occasionally bruised. These are normal reactions. Typically you can expect 1-3 days for red or irritated skin to subside. The swelling or bruising could last up to a week, especially if the tattoo is in a sensitive area. For some, your tattoo may have scabbing. If you experience this, it is imperative that you DO NOT pick at it. Let the scab fall off naturally. You will also want to make sure to keep the area clean and lightly moisturized. During the final stages of the healing process you can expect the skin to start to flake and peel. DO NOT pick or scratch at the area, this could remove ink from the tattoo and damage it. A light tapping motion can help provide relief. During the process if you notice bubbling forming on the surface it is not as common, but can occur. Stop applying ointment, the moisture can get trapped in cause infection or scabbing - you want your tattoo to dry out. Make sure you wash your tattoo, dry it and allow scabbing to fall off naturally. If no trauma occurred such a scratch, the ink should remain.

IMPORTANT

DO NOT swim in any body of water or soak in any type of tub until your tattoo is entirely healed.

This means past the flaking/itching stages. DO NOT sunbathe or use any tanning equipment or lotions - including sunscreen - until after the tattoo is fully healed. Avoid direct sunlight with your new tattoo. DO NOT itch or scratch the tattoo.