

# Aftercare

## **Did we wrap your tattoo with a derm shield? (i.e. Saniderm, second skin, clear adhesive bandage)**

### **IF YES:**

1.) Leave the derm on for 1-4 days, preferably the full 4 days.

*Remove only if:*

-your skin starts to get irritated under the derm, appearing at first as redness under the corners of the wrap producing a mild-severe burning sensation. This may be a slight-severe allergic reaction to adhesive.

-it is peeling off/sticking to clothing and rolling down since bacteria will start to get under the wrap then anyways.

-the tattoo "ink sack" is leaking out of the bandage since bacteria will now be able to get under the wrap where the leak came out.

2.) The derm will create a barrier to bacteria for you and improve the speed/level of healing. However, during the derm you will experience:

-an "ink sack" forming under the wrap. This is completely normal and will/is NOT hurting the tattoo. It is a build up mixture of plasma from your body trying to rapidly heal your tattoo with the ink. Let it be!

-your tattoo looking "messy" or "muddy" under the wrap, again it's entirely normal. It is not hurting the tattoo, it's just plasma from your own body.

-your tattoo looking like it peeled off on the bandage during removal. It is alright! I promise your tattoo is still in your skin just fine. The scabbed over layer of ink and plasma just came off with the adhesive, not the actual tattoo.

-it is best to remove in shower since it may create a mess as the ink sack is released. It also helps with getting the adhesive to remove from your skin. It is VERY sticky!

3.) Once the derm is removed:

-Using clean hands, wash the tattoo gently with unscented antibacterial soap. Do NOT use a hanging towel/toufa/wash cloth as these all have bacteria on them. Only use a paper towel/single use cloth. Wipe gently and pat dry, do not rub/scrub.

-Repeat washing 2-3x a day.

-After 24 hours of washing/airing out the tattoo, you should begin the lotion process. It is totally normal for your tattoo to start becoming itchy and to peel like after a sunburn. Using a very small amount of unscented white lotion (Lubriderm, Aveeno) or Aquaphor on clean hands, pat onto tattoo gently 2-3x a day or when feeling/looking very dry. Less is more!!! If your tattoo is getting irritated/raw after a few days of lotion then "when in doubt-dry it out!!" Sometimes smothering it/suffocating it with lotion delays the healing process/creates irritation. Remember, tattoo touch ups are free for up to 1 year after your appointment so I'd rather you scab a bit and have me touch that up than you heal poorly by smothering it.

4.) DO NOT:

-pick or scratch at the tattoo. (I recommend small baby pats/light smacks with clean hands for the itching part of the healing process)

-get sunburned on the fresh tattoo.

-go into oceans, lakes, hot tubs, pools, baths etc. for 2 WEEKS Standing water is full of bacteria.

-let others touch the tattoo. (germy hands!)

-get fragranced items in/near it such as lotions, perfumes, soaps, hair products, etc. as they may irritate the tattoo. Sometimes even fragranted detergents or uncomfortable fabrics can bother the tattoo causing redness/irritation.

-let pets lick the tattoo.

### **IF NO: (just cling wrapped the tattoo/left it uncovered)**

1.) Go to step 3 (above) after removing the cling wrap in 1-2 hours, or air drying for 1-2 hours after the tattoo.

-I use cling wrap for people with adhesive allergies who cannot wear the derm shield, and sometimes I air dry tattoos if they are in a spot I cannot get a wrap on/around. (Example: behind ear, in ear, inside lip, etc.)

Thank you so much for trusting me with your tattoo(s)! If you have any further aftercare questions or feel your tattoo is healing strange/uncomfortably/is making you nervous or unsure in any way you can direct message me on either of my social media pages at:

Facebook: Tattoo Noire Private Studio -OR- Instagram: @tattoonoirprivatestudio

Otherwise, you can email me at [tattoonoirprivatestudio@gmail.com](mailto:tattoonoirprivatestudio@gmail.com)

I generally respond within 24 hours. Happy healing!



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