

# **\*\*AFTERCARE\*\***

**It is crucial that you follow these guidelines to take proper care of your new tattoo. The healing process can effect the final outcome of the tattoo- Guidelines should be followed to aid in the best possible healed tattoo.**

**Your artist is not responsible for any issues resulting from poor aftercare.**

Please contact Guay Kennedy at [www.guaytattoos.com](http://www.guaytattoos.com) if you have any other questions

## **CLOTHING**

Wear loose fitting clothing that fully covers the tattoo/healing area to prevent sun damage.

## **SANIDERM / SECOND SKIN BANDAGE**

Your tattoo is bandaged with Saniderm (Second Skin)! If possible please keep the bandage on for 3-5 days. The medical grade, breathable, adhesive barrier protects your tattoo and promotes healing.

In the first 24 hours, there may be a build up of plasma under the bandage - this is completely normal. During healing you may see some fluid build up beneath the bandage that distorts how your tattoo looks, but it will be fine!

If your bandage begins to leak fluid, you **MUST** remove the bandage and follow the standard aftercare instructions listed below in the bandage removal.

If you experience redness around the tattooed area where the bandage has been placed, know that this is a normal reaction to medical adhesive but that it should be removed immediately. Wash your tattoo and treat as normal - the redness should subside within a few days and if it does not please contact a physician to discuss.

## **BANDAGE REMOVAL**

Wash your hands well with soap and warm water before touching your new tattoo.

After 3-5 days (or when necessary), remove the Saniderm bandage by rolling it down gently under warm running water. To take the bandage off you may need to stretch it from each side; when you stretch the bandage it allows the adhesive to come off the skin without disrupting the tattoo and taking any ink with it.

After removing your bandage please wash your tattoo with a mild, fragrance-free soap and warm water. It is critical to keep your tattoo clean to avoid infection. Remove all existing

vaseline, plasma/excess ink with your fingertips gently. Do not use anything abrasive to clean your new tattoo.

Rinse and pat your tattoo dry with a disposable paper towel or let it air dry completely before applying any aftercare. Please use a fragrance-free, non-greasy lotion 1-2 times a day but sparingly. Rub a small amount of moisturizer onto your tattoo until it is fully absorbed into your skin. Tattoos should be moisturized but not moist.

You may use an unscented, non-greasy lotion (like Hustle Butter, TattooGoo, Lubriderm or Aveeno Unscented moisturizer) to keep the tattoo moisturized. DO NOT moisturize your tattoo with Vaseline – this does not let the skin and the new tattoo breathe.

### KEEPING IT CLEAN

Once the Saniderm has been removed wash your tattoo at least once a day until your tattoo is completely healed (at least 2 weeks). Do not over-wash your tattoo, Regular showering is fine as long as you do not submerge the tattoo for an extended amount of time until it has fully healed - this includes baths and swimming. ***Submerging your tattoo can cause damage or infection. Swimming, hot tubs and baths should be avoided for at least 2 weeks.***

Remember to keep your tattoo out of the sun for the first few weeks of healing.

(Your colour tattoo may appear dull right after the healing process - this is completely normal and can take 4-6 weeks until the skin has healed through to the true colour)

# DO NOT!

- Do not let anyone touch your new tattoo
  - Do not over-moisturize
- Do not pick, peel, or scratch your new tattoo
- Do not use anything on the tattoo other than what is previously recommended
- Do not under any circumstance use rubbing alcohol, peroxide, or cortisone on your new tattoo.
- Do not use sponges, washcloths, or anything abrasive while cleaning your tattoo. (They harbor bacteria and may irritate or harm your tattoo)
  - Do not go in a lake, tub, pool, etc. These all contain bacteria.

- Do not expose your new tattoo to direct sunlight. (This includes tanning beds)

### **LONGEVITY**

***\*\*After the tattoo has completely healed \*\****

The habitual use of a good quality moisturizer will help maintain your tattoo over your lifetime

A high SPF sunscreen will protect the crispness/longevity of your tattoo in the future.

Getting more tattoos also, definitely, for sure, helps the other ones look better too!!

**Enjoy your new tattoo!!**