

CARING FOR YOUR NEW TATTOO

Do not touch or allow anyone else to touch your new tattoo with UNWASHED hands.

You may remove your bandage after **one** hour of initial bandaging, no more or less. It is there for a reason. Wash your new tattoo with lukewarm water and an **unscented antibacterial handsoap** (Dial or Softsoap). Use only your hand when washing your new tattoo. Do not use wash cloths, sponges, loofahs, towels, or anything abrasive. **DO NOT REBANDAGE YOUR TATTOO UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED!!**

Plasma (and ink) may leak from your new tattoo over the next 72 hours. This is normal, be sure to expect possibly getting it on clothing or sheets. Always wipe away any plasma before it dries on the surface. Minimize water exposure as much as possible, as the more moisture/humidity the tattoo is exposed to, the more it will push plasma and fluids as an attempt to form a thick scab. **NEVER COVER A TATTOO BEFORE SHOWERING.**

Always keep any clothing/bedding from sticking/rubbing against the healing area. If your tattoo happens to stick or dry to something, **DO NOT RIP IT OFF!!** If you rip it away, you will damage your new tattoo and cause excess trauma and scar tissue. Apply a damp warm wash cloth to the area until it gently comes away from it.

During the healing period you are required to apply lotion to the healing area in order to help your tattoo heal properly. I suggest "**Aquaphor**" or "**Palmer's Cocoa Butter**" for minimal scabbing and fast healing. Apply only a VERY thin layer daily, or when it feels dry. During the healing process you may notice an opaque or cloudy glaze over the surface. This is normal, and can occur before and after flaking. Always remember there are multiple healing layers of skin and it is a wound. The image may look distorted until completely healed.

Do NOT pick at or scrape your flakes!! Do not allow yourself, your friend, your dog, your significant other, your children, or the guy you met in a bar fight to remove them prematurely. **DO NOT** wash the healing area in excess to try to get them to "come off faster". Scabs/flaking lost prematurely will leave your tattoo looking "spotty" and they **WILL NOT** be covered under the free touch-up policy. There are **NO** exceptions for neglect. You may experience light flaking to heavy scabbing. Every tattoo will heal differently. To minimize scabbing, avoid excessive water exposure, never over-apply aftercare, and keep the skin free of plasma build-up.

Once the tattoo has finished flaking, switch to an unscented hand-lotion until the tattoo and skin appears healed. Left on its own, the tattoo may have a sheen/silver layer over the top as it slowly heals itself fully.

While your new tattoo is healing, **DO NOT** let it soak in ANY water for ANY amount of time. Exposing it to: **baths when submerged, steam, hot tubs, pools, jacuzzis, saunas, rivers, lakes, is NOT ALLOWED.**

As beautiful as your new work of art is, remember that it is an open wound and should be treated as such. Lack of attention and cleanliness can lead to infection. If your tattoo develops an extended redness (lasting more than a few days) or greenish pus, it may indicate an infection. If you think your tattoo is healing incorrectly, please contact me immediately. However, never hesitate to go to a physician if you feel the need to do so.

If you have any questions, feel free to call **RABBIT at:**

SACRED SKIN (515) 953 6902