

# AFTER CARE

***Important: For the first three days (or even longer) your new tattoo is the same as an open wound & it needs to be treated as such to prevent infection.***

***Please follow our guide for after-care for your own safety (we do not take any responsibility after you got inked, but we are here to help you in case it is needed):***

## **Day 1:**

After your tattoo session, gently remove the wrapping after 1-3 hours. Your new tattoo needs to breathe now. After that, wash the area with warm water & gentle soap (best is a soft soap, like for a baby, with not too many chemicals inside). Dry it only with paper towels.

## **Day 2:**

To wash your new tattoo, please use only clean hands. Wash it with gentle soap very lightly when you shower (please no more than twice a day and **NO SWIMMING** in any pool, in the sea, or in any other place where your tattoo would be under water). Please use only cold or luke warm water to clean it. Always keep the tattoo clean and dry until it is healed, which is not the same time for everyone.

Please avoid direct sunlight on your tattoo and avoid touching the area as much as possible.

## **Day 3:**

Now the moisturising starts. Please clean your hands before you wash your tattoo and apply balm every time. After you have cleaned it, apply a thin layer of your artists recommended balm. If you have multiple tattoos healing at the same time, please use different balms to avoid contamination. It is recommended to apply the balm 2-3 times a day and 1 more time before you go to sleep. Some will heal faster than others, that's normal. If you have dry skin, you can apply the balm more often.

## **Days 4-14:**

Repeat the same steps as on day 3 by gently washing and applying the balm. Keep in mind that larger tattoos maybe need aftercare for a longer time. Until your tattoo has fully scabbed, peeled and healed, it is like an open wound. Keep in mind, that until then, germs and bacteria can get into it, and it can get infected. Always do your best to follow this guide and keep the tattoo clean & away from dirt.

## **Various information:**

Your tattoo may cause swelling, itching, peeling, and some oozing. These are your body's common natural responses to trauma. Do not scratch or pick at the tattoo, as it can damage the design and lead to possible infection. If oozing occurs (blood, clear plasma, lymphatic fluid, or ink) it's a sign your body is repairing the wound. Gently pat away oozing with a clean paper towel.

Finally, you may get the 'tattoo flu' (another common reaction) and feel unwell for a few days. You can ease the pain with over-the-counter pain relief and rest. If it does not getting better, it is best is to see a doctor.

***And remember, a couple of weeks of careful aftercare is well worth it for a lifelong work of art.***

## **‘SecondSkin’:**

SecondSkin is a breathable, thin self-adhesive film that provides a moist healing environment for your new tattoo. The initial stage, when your tattoo is fresh, is the most critical in the healing process. SecondSkin protects your skin from friction and provides a waterproof (still **NO SWIMMING**) protective barrier that prevents contamination. This barrier also allows you to do anything you need while your tattoo is healing, from work to sleeping without a mess on your bed sheets.

Your artist may recommend you wear this for 1-7 days and then change it to a new one (you can buy it from us).

Remove the second skin: Peel up an edge or corner of SecondSkin. If it is too difficult, you can attach some medical tape to the corner of the film to help lift it. Slowly pull the film off. Do not pull it straight upwards away from the skin. Instead, pull the film back and across the skin while holding your skin taut.

In the first 24 hours, there may be a build-up of plasma under the SecondSkin. This is completely normal. If so, remove the bandage and reapply a new clean one. Once you remove the SecondSkin, keep your tattoo clean and start using an aftercare cream as needed. You may experience some redness on the un-tattooed skin around the tattoo where SecondSkin was applied. This is also completely normal and may occur with any type of medical adhesive. If you do develop an adverse reaction on the tattoo, discontinue use immediately. Also, if you experience heat or pain from your tattoo, please remove the SecondSkin and check in with your artist or a doctor.