

# Tattoo Aftercare

It is important to follow these instructions very carefully.

- Wash your hands thoroughly before touching your new tattoo.
- Take the dressing off after 2 hours.
- Wash your tattoo **VERY** carefully using lukewarm water, a mild, unscented soap and your hand. Don't use a washcloth or anything abrasive.
- Carefully **PAT** the tattoo dry using a **CLEAN** towel, or preferably paper towel.
- Allow the tattoo to air dry for 5-10 minutes.
- Apply a small amount of a mild, **UNSCENTED** moisturiser, gently rubbing it into the entire tattoo.
- Repeat 3-5 times daily until the tattoo is fully healed.

## REMEMBER

- You can (and should) shower with a new tattoo, but try to avoid the water directly hitting the tattoo.
- It's important not to soak the new tattoo, so don't take a bath while it's healing.
- Don't swim with a new tattoo. Stay out of the pool for 2-3 weeks to make sure.
- No sunbathing! Don't expose a new tattoo to direct sunlight for a month or two. That includes tanning beds.
- Don't scratch or pick at your new tattoo. It will become flaky after a few days, and there may even be a little scabbing. Resist the urge to scratch the itch, or to pick at the flakes - you'll take the pigment out!

## LONG TERM AFTERCARE

- Like most pigments, your tattoo will be faded by too much exposure to UV rays. If you're going out in the sun, or going on a tanning bed, make sure that you apply a high SPF sunblock to your tattoo. I use SPF50 to be sure.

- From time to time, exfoliate the skin where your tattoo is.
- Regular application of a good moisturizer will keep your tattoo looking bright and fresh.

Taking care of your tattoo is your responsibility. Don't waste a good tattoo by treating it badly! Follow these steps, and your tattoo will look great for a very long time.