

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

Dear Reader,

Since August 2000, we have been proudly offering premium tattoo aftercare products to keep your new ink looking its best.

This guide draws on our expertise and the valuable experiences shared by customers from around the world.

It provides helpful information on how to care for your tattoo effectively, along with tips and suggestions to ensure that your tattoo remains vibrant.

Your artwork deserves the highest level of care and protection.

“Time is a great testament to how well an aftercare works. The early care shown to newly tattooed skin is paramount to how that tattoo will look in years to come”

This guide will provide you with information that will help you decide how to care for your tattoo. It contains useful tips and suggestions to keep your tattooed skin looking great.

The Aftercare Company
Committed to Quality

www.theaftercarecompany.com

CONTENTS

- Taking care of new Tattoos
- Aftercare information
- Frequently asked questions
- Healing process
- Long term care
- Choosing an Aftercare product
- Dermatology tested
- Infections
- Allergic reactions
- Tattoo ink position

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

TAKING CARE OF A NEW TATTOO

Once you leave the Tattoo Studio the care of your tattooed skin becomes your responsibility. New tattoos are wounds, and the skin has had its main protection barrier damaged.

You must look after your skin until it has fully healed. The attention given during the first few hours and days helps avoid potential problems and contributes to your tattoo's final appearance and longevity.

TATTOO STUDIO CARE INSTRUCTIONS

After the tattooing process is complete, a cleanser will be used to clean the tattooed area.

The artist will then apply a dressing. Some artists use melolin dressings or paper towelling with tape. Others may use cling film (plastic wrap).

You will be told how often to wash your tattoo and what aftercare method they recommend. This can vary from studio to studio. The artist will recommend the methods they have found work best for them.

OUR AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

As The Aftercare Company, Britain's only dedicated aftercare company for tattoos, we work with tattoo artists daily. Our products have been used by millions of people worldwide. Our aftercare advice is based on information gathered since 2000 from customers in the worldwide tattoo community and professional experience in caring for damaged skin.

Use this information in conjunction with the advice given by your tattoo studios to have the best aftercare available.

So whether you have a new tattoo or are trying to maintain an old one we have the answer for you.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

DO

- Wait 2-4 hours after you leave the tattoo studio before removing the dressing. The time scale is dependent on external factors i.e. you return to work, your tattoo was done in an evening, you have facilities at hand to clean it.
- Where possible wait until you are home to remove the dressing. Make sure you have antibacterial soap, for handwashing only.
- Wash your hands with antibacterial soap before removing the dressing.
- Use **plain warm water** to clean the skin over your new tattoo.
- DO NOT use a face/wash cloth. Skin on skin is best. Gently use your hand to remove any old blood, mucous or debris.

Using soap including antibacterial soap on a new tattoo can remove precious skin oils and safe bugs from the skin. Plain warm water only should be used to clean your tattoo.

- Pat dry using a paper towel or clean hand towel. Allow to air dry for a few minutes.
- Apply a small amount, a light film, of your aftercare product.
- Gently massage into the skin.
- Do not over apply.

Less is more with most aftercare products. If you think you have underapplied your aftercare you can always add a bit more. Better than over-applying which will suffocate the skin, (and it's a waste of your aftercare). Your skin needs to breathe while healing. If you do over-apply your aftercare, place a paper towel over the area and gently dab onto the skin. The paper towel will absorb the excess amount.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

DO

- Remember your skin has gone through trauma having been punctured with a row of needles, thousands and thousands of times while unloading the ink. So gently does it.
- Do not recover the skin unless your tattoo is oozing fluid. Loose clothing should be sufficient to protect your skin.
- Apply another light film, sparingly, of aftercare 4 hours later. Remember the less is more rule.
- Wash the tattoo again at night *with warm water* and apply another fine layer of aftercare.

Keeping the skin supple and moisturised during the healing process lessens the chances of scabbing.

- As the healing process progresses washing the tattooed skin with water once a day will be sufficient cleansing. Apply a light application of aftercare 2-4 times daily until the skin has fully healed.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

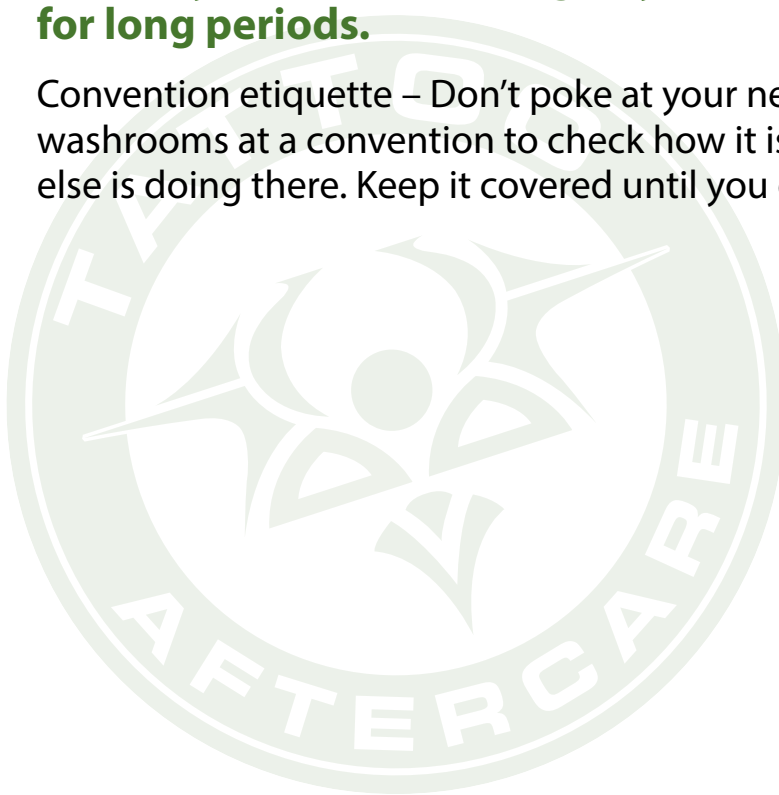
AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

DON'T

- Show your new ink work to all your friends within the first couple of hours. The risk of getting an infection is much higher in the first few hours after tattooing.
- Do not share your aftercare product with anyone – be responsible for your own hygiene.
- During the healing period, stay out of swimming pools, saunas and partaking in water sports until the skin has completely healed. Soaking a new tattoo can cause it to lose its brightness.

It is okay to shower as long as you do not soak the newly tattooed skin for long periods.

Convention etiquette – Don't poke at your new tattoo or its dressing in the toilet/washrooms at a convention to check how it is doing. Just remember what everyone else is doing there. Keep it covered until you get home.



For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. DO I HAVE TO USE A SPECIAL SOAP?

A. We recommend that you *do not use any soap*. Warm, plain water is sufficient. Repeated or prolonged washing with soaps will remove the protective sebum layer and cause the skin to lose its natural barrier protection.

- Soap's also change the skin's natural PH and this upsets the mechanisms that hold the populations of micro-organisms in balance, at a stable level.

The loss of barrier protection and bacterial control can lead to skin problems involving infection and reaction. When you are in the shower just wash your body with your normal soap, your body will have adjusted to its PH and *use water only on your tattoo*.

- If you feel you need to remove debris by using soap, then choose one that has no perfume, no colourants, and no additives and at most wash the area twice for the first day only.
- It is possible to use a small amount of TATTOO AFTERCARE® on your fingers to cleanse the skin and clear any debris. Rinse skin and dry as previously directed. Once the debris has cleared return to using water.

A wound such as this in hospital would be cleaned with sterile plain water only. Your skin has natural oils that will help with the healing process and soaping up the tattooed skin especially on the first day can remove those oils that the body is working hard to generate.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

Q. I HAVE BEEN TOLD TO RE-COVER MY TATTOO WITH CLING FILM (PLASTIC WRAP) AFTER CLEANING IT?

A. Cling film (Plastic wrap) should only be kept on until you get home and go to wash your skin for the first time. Bacteria can grow in blood and fluid. If you lock the blood into the skin with a plastic wrap you are creating an incubator which will warm with your body heat and bacteria could grow.

- We advise that you *do not recover* with plastic wrap.

If you recover with plastic wrap, be mindful that:

- Plastic wrap has not been sterilized during manufacturing as it is not intended for skin use, and especially not prolonged use as a wound dressing.

Q. AFTER YOUR TATTOO SESSION – WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

A. You can expect a little swelling and redness which can last for a few hours. For some people this will go away quickly. For others it might take longer as they find their skin has become very sensitive following that tattooing process. There may be some weeping and some discomfort.

- Each tattoo can bring about a different response. Any symptoms you may have will be temporary.
- You will need to decide how you are going to clean the tattooed skin and what aftercare you will use.
- Tattooed skin will heal on its own without an aftercare, but the process can be uncomfortable and the symptoms associated with the process may bring problems. The skin can go very dry and itchy, scabs might form and the chance of picking these due to the itch will increase the risk of infection and loss of ink. The skin can take up to 21 days to heal fully.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

If you choose an aftercare such as TATTOO AFTERCARE® you will find relief from the redness and discomfort. The itch will be reduced. Scabbing will also be reduced.

HEALING PROCESS

As your skin begins to heal the weeping should have stopped. There might be some areas that start to scab. Some people are prone to scabbing. Overworked areas can cause scabbing and for some people their choice of aftercare can cause scabs.

On other areas the skin might start to lightly flake (like skin that peels after sunburn).

This is normal and more noticeable with heavily coloured and full black tattoos. This light flaking may continue for several days then the skin might go shiny – also a bit wrinkly. This is the top layer of skin healing. During this time the skin may become itchy and will be fragile.

After a few days the skin can look duller. *This is not how your healed tattooed skin will be.* The top and middle layer of skin is undergoing a healing process. As both layers of skin heal your tattoo will start to look brighter.

The top layer of skin can appear to be fully healed after a few days, but the middle layer can still be undergoing change so continue to take care of your skin.

If your skin does scab, do not pick them. This can introduce infection and can pull ink out leaving gaps in your ink work. Keep the area moisturised and allow the scabs to fall off naturally. Keeping the skin moisturised and supple will help prevent scabbing.

The most important thing you can do is invest in a good quality aftercare such as TATTOO AFTERCARE® which will help alleviate and prevent many of the common problems.

Tattoo Aftercare® will enhance and preserve the vivacity and brightness of ink thereby protecting the boldness of black and vibrancy of colours.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR MY TATTOO TO HEAL?

A. The length of time tattooed skin takes to heal is dependent on:

- Your general health. Certain medical conditions i.e. diabetes can affect your healing experience. *Check your medical history with your artist.*
- The position of the tattoo on the body.
- The size of the tattoo.
- The ink colours.
- The skill of the artist.
- How the skin was cared for afterwards.
- The aftercare used.

Most of our customers report a 4-7 day healing period for the top layer of skin, however if your tattoo does take longer to heal, as long as it is clean, showing no signs of infection, then carry on with your aftercare routine and let nature takes it's course.

The layers of skin underneath can take a few weeks and sometimes longer to heal fully. Remember the skin is the largest organ of the human body and is also the most versatile.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

Q. MY TATTOO IS STILL OOZING FLUID. WHAT CAN I DO TO STOP THIS?

A. Treat the area gently. During the tattooing process the lymph and sweat glands have been disturbed and they may exude fluid that needs to leave the skin.

- Lightly clean the area with warm water. Dab dry using a clean towel or tissue, don't rub, and allow to air dry for a few minutes.
- Repeat the process very gently a few hours later. Wait until the secretions stop before applying an aftercare product.
- Light clothing should be enough to protect the skin.
- Over-application of an aftercare trapping the excess fluid can cause problems.
- Once the secretions have stopped, which they will. Apply your aftercare as instructed in previous pages.

Q. WILL INK BE PULLED OUT BY THIS?

A. It is fluid leaving the body from the glands – it should not affect the ink.

Q. I HAVE REDNESS AND STINGING WHEN I APPLY MY AFTERCARE?

A. An aftercare product should soothe the skin. The skin has been traumatized during the tattooing process and can be sensitive. There may be an initial stinging when you apply the aftercare, but you would expect it to stop shortly after application and the skin begin to feel soothed.

If the redness gets worse each time you apply the aftercare product stop using the product. You may have had an allergic or irritant reaction to cleaning products or your aftercare.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

TREATMENT

- Stop using any product you are applying to your skin.
- Avoid using any soap or cleanser.
- An over the counter painkiller and antihistamine tablet can help ease the irritated skin.
- Use ice cubes wrapped in a cotton cover to ease swelling and redness (do not apply ice cubes direct onto the skin).
- As redness subsides start using an aftercare product which contains skin soothing agents.

Q. CAN I HAVE A PROBLEM BECAUSE MY SKIN WAS SHAVED BEFORE GETTING A TATTOO?

A. The razor can be brought against the skin several times when shaving so this can irritate the skin before the tattooing process begins.

When the hairs grow back, sometimes they can turn back on themselves and other times grow squint. This can cause pimples about 2-5 days after tattooing. Many areas need to be shaved before tattooing. If the area of skin to be tattooed is very hairy discuss with your tattooist about preparing this area beforehand.

OTHER COMMON PROBLEMS THAT CAN BE AVOIDED:

- Over cleaning, vigorous cleaning, or using a cleanser that is too strong.
- Over application of aftercare, thick layers of aftercare applied making the skin sweat, and trapping lymph fluid that needs to be exuded – this can cause a “bubbling” effect on the skin. It can also cause pimples.
- Friction caused by tight restrictive clothing.
- Poor general health i.e. having a tattoo when you are ill.
- Work environment not conducive to keeping your tattoo clean.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

LONG TERM CARE

The ink is placed in the dermis layer of the skin. You view your tattoo looking through the epidermis layer of the skin into the dermis layer.

How you care for that top layer of skin will affect how your tattoo looks. Bright healthy skin will give a clearer brighter tattoo. Dull skin can make your tattoo look jaded.

Moisturising and sunblock play an important part in the long-term care of tattooed skin. Treat your tattooed skin as you would your face. Apply a regular moisturiser.

TATTOO AFTERCARE® can also be used as a daily moisturiser once your tattoo has fully healed. Avoid harsh soaps and cleaners.

TATTOO AFTERCARE® contains ingredients that were specially chosen to deal with the skins changing requirements after tattooing, after healing and the long term care of all tattoos. Tattoo Aftercare® will care for your skin for the life of your tattoo.

IN THE SUN

Use a sun block when you are in the sun and avoid using sun beds. The sun is the greatest enemy of tattooed skin and will do more damage than anything else you do.

Sun block creams have a complicated ingredient list to ensure they do what they say.

Branded sunblock companies have huge budgets set aside for the research and development of these products. That is why we recommend that you use a high factor or total sun block product from a well-known brand. That way you will be guaranteed the effectiveness of the product you use.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

CHOOSING AN AFTERCARE PRODUCT

The cells of your skin were damaged during the tattooing process and the recovery of those cells will be aided by your choice of aftercare and the ingredients that aftercare contains.

We believe nature has provided us with everything we need to facilitate the proper conditions to aid the recovery of traumatised skin. Always choose 100% natural products for use on broken skin. The ingredients will be tried and tested over hundreds if not thousands of years, unlike the man-made chemical paraben filled products.

Do not accept or purchase a product that is unlabelled. These products will have been taken from their primary container and could be contaminated during transfer.

TYPES OF PRODUCTS YOU MIGHT WANT TO AVOID INCLUDE:

Petroleum Based Products

- Can be water resistant and stops moisture leaving the body. This can cause irritations.
- Clog up pores causing pimples.
- May affect colour vibrancy.
- Do not contain any skin healing ingredients.

Antibiotic Creams

These should only be used if you have seen a doctor and have a proven skin infection.

Pharmacy Products

Over the counter pharmacy products can be recommended by friends. Many are not designed for tattooed skin. Haemorrhoid cream once was a popular choice. Haemorrhoid cream is designed to treat the swollen tissues of haemorrhoids and

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

works by constricting the nearby blood vessels that feed blood and fluid to the area. Healing skin needs a good blood supply.

Nappy Rash/Diaper Creams

Baby creams are designed to stop moisture getting into the skin and are not usually recommended for use on broken skin (check manufacturers' guidelines). They are a barrier cream. Barrier creams lock in moisture that may come after tattooing. Some also contain the ingredient lanolin which some people are allergic too. (If wool jumpers make you itch then an allergy to lanolin is possible)

Paraben Preservatives in Aftercare products

Ethyl Paraben – Methyl Paraben – Butyl Paraben – Propyl Paraben

The long term effects of using these types of products on our skin are being questioned. Paraben preservatives are receiving much debate in scientific circles these days after being found in cancerous tumours and in breast cancer tissue in women and in the male reproductive areas. People using aftercare products on broken skin should be aware of the potential long term effects these man-made chemicals may cause to their health and wellbeing in later years.

Some aftercare products on the market today, including soaps, contain these chemicals; some also contain Propylene Glycol an industrial antifreeze solution! The same stuff you use in the car to stop the water freezing in winter. The above information will not be highlighted by the companies vying for your custom but a little research, Google etc, will show the reader more ingredients to be aware of.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

Dermatology Testing

If you think your skin may be more sensitive than normal consider doing a mini-patch test before you use a new product. Apply a small amount of product behind your ear or on your inner wrist and wait 24 hours to see if a reaction occurs.

Bear in mind that broken skin may still produce a result different from your patch test so when you apply your chosen product to newly tattooed skin, apply a small amount over the first hour, and if all goes well apply more.

Check products to see if they have had dermatology testing.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT IS A GOOD PRODUCT?

- Select a tattoo aftercare product with healing ingredients.
- Avoid fragrances, lanolin, alcohols, artificial colours, and nut oils, as they can irritate.
- Check customer feedback and contact the company for ingredient clarification.
- Share your experiences on resource sites to help others.



For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

WHAT ELSE CAN HAPPEN DURING THE HEALING PROCESS?

The majority of people whether it is their first tattoo or one of many experience no problems during the healing process. However a small amount of people may develop a skin infection or have an allergic reaction.

Having an infection/allergic reaction will affect the way the tattoo looks when it is healing and can be uncomfortable. For most people, they will be able to treat the problem at home.

Healing can take longer but the skin will settle and most people will find that their tattoo is unharmed. There may be some touch ups needed but this can occur also for people who have had a problem-free healing process.

TATTOO STUDIOS AND INFECTION CONTROL

Tattoo Studios work hard to ensure the cleanliness of their studio with routine hygiene sterilisation and disinfecting techniques to make sure their working environment is clean and sterile where required.

INFECTIONS

Infections affecting tattoos are mainly caused by two types of bacteria. Streptococcal (Strep) and Staphylococcus (Staph pronounced "staff").

Streptococcal (Strep) bacteria can be found living harmlessly in certain people's respiratory, gut and genitourinary systems. Streptococci typically infect the throat and skin, although many other parts of the body can become infected, strep throat is the most common streptococcal infection.

Staphylococci (Staph) normally grows in the nose and on the skin of 20% to 30% of healthy adults (and less commonly in the mouth; mammary glands; and urinary, intestinal, and upper respiratory tracts). These bacteria do not harm until the skin is punctured or broken then the staph bacteria can enter the wound and cause infections. Staphylococci tend to infect the skin but they can travel through the bloodstream and involve almost any organ in the body.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

HOW STAPH INFECTIONS SPREAD

Staph can spread through:

- The air
- On contaminated surfaces and from person to person.
- A person can carry staph bacteria from one area of the body to another on hands and under fingernails.

Hand washing is the most important way to prevent staph infections.

Staph bacteria can cause folliculitis, boils and abscess. It can also lead to other types of infection such as cellulitis and impetigo.

Some infections with staph bacteria are resistant to antibiotics so prevention is better than cure.

TREATING STAPH INFECTIONS

Minor staphylococcal infections of the skin surface can be treated by keeping the area clean.

- Do not over wash the area. An antibacterial soap can be used for a few days.
- Some natural aftercare products like TATTOO AFTERCARE® contain natural antibacterial ingredients.
- To stop the infection from spreading use disposable paper towels to dry the area. If you use a household towel, use it once then wash it.

If the skin around the tattooed area starts to become very red, sore, is weeping pus, or has boils or blisters then a visit to your doctor would be advisable. Apply a dressing to help absorb any discharge until the area is treated by the doctor.

Customers of the studio can help by informing the artist and by delaying their tattoo appointment if they have a cold or feel generally unwell.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

Q. THE REDNESS HAS NOT STOPPED, COULD I BE HAVING AN ALLERGIC REACTION?

A. There are two main types of reaction: Irritant Contact Dermatitis or Allergic Contact Dermatitis.

IRRITANT CONTACT DERMATITIS

Irritant contact dermatitis occurs when the body becomes irritated by the offending agent damaging the skin. Common causes: soaps, detergents, chemical based or added fragrance products. These can be products to clean the skin or some types of aftercare/skin care products.

The skin is often more painful than itchy. It can develop a red scaling rash. The area can be tight and red. Pimples can appear. The time taken for the reaction to occur can vary from within a few minutes to over a few days if the exposure is to a weaker irritant over time i.e. soap.

Other possible causes of Allergic Reactions:

Latex gloves, medical tape, laundry detergent to wash your clothes.

ALLERGIC CONTACT DERMATITIS

Allergic Contact Dermatitis happens when a person is allergic to a specific ingredient or ingredients in a product.

The scale of the reaction can be from mild irritation to a more serious reaction. The affected area can become red, itchy, and sore, blisters may form. There can be small/large pimples or hives around the area.

Allergic reactions can show immediately but can also occur 24-48 hours after contact. The blistered skin can become infected.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

TREATMENT

- Stop using any product you are applying to your skin.
- Avoid using any soap or cleanser.
- An over the counter painkiller and antihistamine tablets can help ease the irritated skin.
- Use ice cubes wrapped in a cotton cover to ease swelling and redness (do not apply ice cubes direct onto the skin).
- A very light application of olive oil for a couple of days can help keep the tattooed skin softened without causing more problems.
- As redness subsides start using an aftercare product which contains skin soothing agents.
- Do not squeeze or pick any blisters. If irritation is prolonged or worsens your doctor will advise best treatment.

Q. IS IT POSSIBLE TO HAVE AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO TATTOO INKS

Allergic Reaction to Tattoo Inks – Not overly common but can happen. If you were allergic to the tattoo ink, then that area would never fully heal. Certain hues of **red**, **blue** and **greens** seem to be the most common colours for allergies and black ink the least.

If after six weeks you are still having problems, you may have to consider that you have had a reaction to the ink pigment. If this is the case your doctor will refer you to a dermatologist and they will advise what treatment you will need.

It is also possible not to have any problems then some years later, part of your tattoo can get itchy, and even start to blister. I have a small area of green ink that was done 10 years ago, that sometimes gets itchy when I go into the sun. TATTOO AFTERCARE® can help ease these symptoms.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

TATTOO INK POSITION

The skin is made up of three layers – the Epidermis, the Dermis and Subcutaneous tissue.

The epidermis

- Outer thinner layer of skin and is made up of four or five cell layers.
- The thickness of the epidermis varies from person to person and each area of the body. It can be 0.05mm on the eyelids and 1.5mm on the soles of your feet.
- It acts as a protective barrier and contains no blood vessels. It is constantly being replenished and we shed a top layer of epidermis about every two weeks.

The dermis

- Inner layer and is made up of two portions. It varies in thickness. It can be 0.3 mm on the eyelid and 3.0 mm on the back.
- Situated in the dermis are hair follicles, sebaceous (oil) glands, apocrine (scent) glands and eccrine (sweat) glands. Blood vessels and nerves run through this layer.

The subcutaneous tissue

- Also known as the hypodermis – is a layer of fat, connective tissue and larger blood vessels and nerves. The size of this layer varies throughout the body and from person to person.

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY

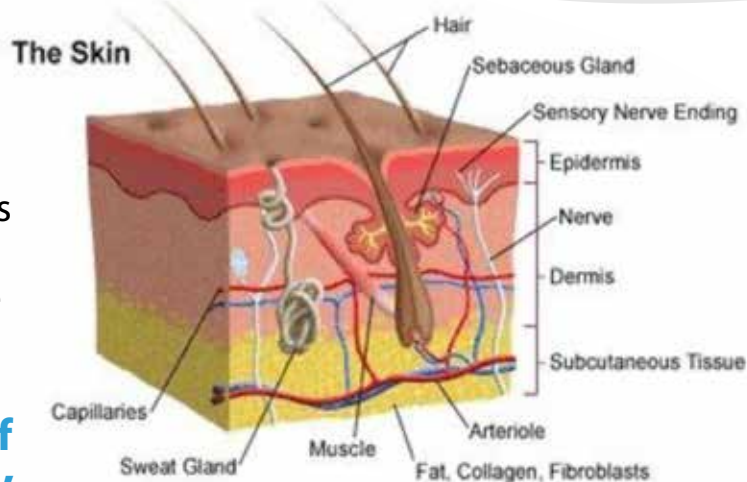


For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

WHERE DOES THE INK GO?

Tattoo needles enter the skin through the epidermis into the dermis. It is in the dermis layer that the ink is placed. The depth in which the needles go in will vary across the body and from person to person.

Taking care of the epidermis layer of your skin will not change the quality of the tattoo BUT your tattoo will look brighter and clearer if you are looking at it through a healthy top layer of skin.



FINAL NOTE

Your artwork is UNIQUE to you. You can have a different healing experience from others.

We aim to provide information based on the collective experience so you can give your tattooed skin the care it deserves.

Most people have a trouble-free process and the only thing they are thinking about is how great their new tattoo is and what to get for their next tattoo.

We always like to hear from tattoo enthusiasts about their aftercare methods. Please email us at info@theaftercarecompany.com with your stories. Thank you.

The Aftercare Company
Committed to Quality

www.theaftercarecompany.com

For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750

A practical Guide on how to care for Tattooed skin

BY THE AFTERCARE COMPANY



For more information, products and to place an order – visit www.theaftercarecompany.com

ABOUT OUR COMPANY

Founded in 2000, The Aftercare Company is a market leader in providing aftercare solutions for tattooing, piercing, microblading, and laser treatments.

Our product range is both authentic and effective. Each formula is unique in the skincare market and combines key ingredients to deliver optimal results.

OUR PRODUCTS

- Unique formula.
- Suitable for all skin types.
- Dermatology tested.
- Verified and comply fully with UK, EU and FDA regulations.
- Millions of jars sold worldwide.



For Expert Advice, further information or to place an order visit www.theaftercarecompany.com or tel: +44(0) 7957474750