

"TATTOOS AND PIERCINGS NEAR ME"

Aftercare Information

FOR ALL PIERCINGS:

During the first week, be on high alert. Wash piercing with approved aftercare soaps when in the shower. Be sure to wash surrounding area thoroughly. Lots of cleansers/soaps have fragrances, dyes, and other ingredients can irritate new piercing sites, and here is why: as the piercing heals, new epithelial cells attempt to form a new skin tunnel in order to separate the exposed flesh from the invading jewelry. Washing the outside of the piercing site is recommended; however, washing the tunnel with stringent chemicals will damage the newly forming skin tunnels by drying out the epithelial cell walls! It is important to flush the bacteria, dead skin cells, oils, dirt, and other exudate from the openings of the piercing; however, if you are using antagonistic sterilizers on the new skin cells, you will prolong or prevent healing altogether. So, only use medicated lotion soaps are recommended by certified and licensed and experienced professionals. [Saline does not KILL bacteria! Stop using it! It just makes it a little less hospitable for bacteria to grow. It's better than nothing though. If you don't have these perscribed aftercare items, please stop by the shop asap to pick them up! Oh, and one more thing: STAY AWAY from alcohol and hydrogen peroxide as these two cytotoxic (cell-popping) sterilizers are well known for internally wiping out healthy skin cells that are trying to form a new skin-tunnel around the implanted jewelry. Aftercare Kits are free to you and anyone else interested in stopping by whether or not they had their piercing done here—it is FREE! Tell your friends who leave other shops without one or those just given saline. If you had a genitalia piercing, please refrain from sexual interaction until the piercing is healed completely. If you are a smoker and have an oral piercing please rinse your mouth with the non-alcoholic mouthwash after every cigarette if you insist on smoking. Smoking is not advisable for wound exposure to toxins given off by the smoke. If your jewelry looks as if it is not long enough and the jewelry is starting to show signs of sinkage, please call me immediately and set up a time for you to come in to have the bar elongated. Migration of the jewelry ends into the flesh can be an emergency and cause seirous problems and irreversible scarring. Here's my number again: 405-992-TATT or 405-992-TATS No excuses!

Rotating jewelry is NOT recommended. Some of the most reknowned master piercing artists don't do it, and I am not a fan either.

Remember that when moving the jewelry, the newly forming skin cells that are trying to create a new tunnel are being dismembered when the metal is moved around. Every time you move it, you set the bar higher and higher towards healing time. If you feel the jewelry needs to be replaced by something longer due to inflammation and visable distress at the piercing sites underneath the balls or gem ends, come in immediately to have it looked at and remedied. If the bar isn't long enough, you could deal with the ends migrating into the flesh and even imbedding. This is considered a piercing emergency and you can call 24/7/365.

Some piercers suggest to use Castile soap, a mild anti-bacterial soap, or natural glycerin soap. It is advisable to use a more professional grade of cleansers such as germicidal hospital-grade soaps, Techni-Care Antiseptic Surgical Scrub, Satin Therapeutic Skin Cleanser, Provon Medicated Lotion Soap, Green Soap, but these cleansers are not easily found even at a pharmacy. That's why I provide them. You will be given an aftercare kit containing a combination of a medicated lotion soap, non-alcoholic mouthwash, sterile Q-tips, gauze, cotton swabs, saniderm, A & D ointment, or other sterile items so you can effectively care for your piercing or tattoo. Avoid the use of Triclosan, found in Dial Soap, as it wipes out beneficial bacteria which you never need to be without. Again, **DO NOT USE ALCOHOL OR HYDROGEN PEROXIDE TO CLEAN YOUR PIERINGS!** These are cytolytic. It is too strong and dessicating in nature, and they destroy healthy skin cells trying to build you a new healthy skin-tunnel by osmotic reactions. Do not use Bactine or any product containing benzalkonium chloride (BZK) and benzethonium chloride (BZT). These antiseptics are designed to destroy and inhibit the proliferation of bacteria, but they don't do much to keep the area clean. That is why hospitals discontinued their use since the 1970s. Another problem with BZK and BZT is that they have short shelf life and lose their efficacy, neither are they designed for long term wound care. Do not let your clothes rub the piercing area as this will surely cause irritation, migration, or even infection.

Betadine and other povidine-iodine products are not suited to wound care, because they can actually damage cell walls. Also, when an open plastic bottle sits, it is susceptible to contamination, so please refrain from making your own solutions.

A+D, Neosporin, bacitracin, and any other ointments actually suffocate the wound. Oftentimes, when you attempt to wash the wound, the greasy surface the ointment causes can actually prohibit the soap from reaching the skin that you are trying to clean. That being said, there is an effective and recommended way to use ointment-based aftercare regimens. We, however, only suggest their use as outlined in the tattoo section of this aftercare handout.

Remember that the piercing heals best with proper care and awareness. Be gentle on the wound and provide a sterile environment. If it becomes irritated, and you suspect scabbing, keloids, or an infection, please call us at any time of the day. If our shop is closed, please don't hesitate to call your tattoo or piercing artist's personal cell phone.

Keep all piercings elevated for first few days if possible. Avoid sleeping on new piercings, and please be cautious using towels on your face when drying off after your showers. Keeping the tongue piercing above the heart will help reduce swelling. Tongue piercings also benefit significantly from ice chips, ice water, soft food through a straw, and anti-inflammatories perscribed by your physician. All mouth piercings (labret, tongue, lip) need to be rinsed with anti-bacterial mouthwash at least 5 times a day using a non-alcoholic mouthwash or Biotene. Every time you eat and before bed, you rinse for at least 30 seconds. Use an alcohol-free or germicidal mouthwash. Avoid putting foreign objects into your mouth that could potentially infect your piercing (finger, pen, dirty cups, etc.) Be careful with having your teeth worked on by a dentist directly after a mouth piercing. Consume only healthier fibrous foods and stay away from high-glycemic carbs. If you don't know what that means please call me for a reminder anytime. Remember if you think the bar is too short call us!!!

Know this: everyone has an opinion, and you are going to hear the advice of many different people, professional or not, but you need to do your research if you are truly interested in creating the perfect healing environment for your piercing. All of this concludes the same advice I would give to my own family members. (Also, if you think I did something wrong please give me the honor of addressing it first.)

Healing is 3 to 5 times more faster in a moist environment. Humidifiers and emu oil are the most touted healing agents through moisturization. In addition, saline solutions can be made in the household and used to help maintain healthy healing skin; however, we only recommend solutions that are intensely configured and measured at our shop using sterile equipment.

If your piercing develops a minor infection, there are a few things you can do to improve the problematic site until you are able to visit your physician. If you are unsure if it is an infection, we encourage you to stop by the shop and speak to a professional.

1. Use warm compresses to encourage drainage.
2. Using the saline soak method, taking an anti-inflammatory, or squeezing the area should not be considered until speaking to your doctor, because I am not one. I still would like to be informed immediately if you think you have an infection.
3. DO NOT remove the jewelry without seeing me or another professional first! You can cause an abcess by letting the wound seal shut.
4. DO NOT exchange the jewelry without consulting with me first!

Tattoos and Piercings Near Me

11102 Stratford Dr. Suite B450

Oklahoma City, OK 733120

(405)WYA-TATS: shop (405)WYA-TATT: cell

5. Saline is not great at cleansing or disinfecting. Use the medicated lotion soap included inside your aftercare kit only unless told by a doctor to not do so. Saline is a cheap alternative but in my opinion an inferior one.

FOR ALL TATTOOS:

New tattoos need to be intensely cared for in order to avoid infection, ink loss, and scarring. Apply A+D Ointment to the tattooed area in very small amounts. You want to cover it with the thinnest layer possible. The A+D will accelerate healing, but it is a risk to use if you apply too much. Too much ointment on a fresh tattoo will act as a vehicle for ink loss. It also prohibits soaps from cleaning the area. Instead, the soap washes the surface of the A+D—not the skin that you intend to cleanse. So, keep it thin *thin* THIN! In addition, only use A+D for first 3-5 days, then you can use unscented Nutriderm lotion. It is best to discontinue any ointment as soon as possible, but how do I know when exactly? Try using lotion after 3 days, if it burns, go back to A+D. Lotion will burn if the tattoo is still an open wound. We do not advise using fragrant or pigmented lotions, because of the increased risk for skin reactions.

We offer comprehensive aftercare kits containing the best aftercare options for your tattoo or piercing. Aftercare kits are free so there is no excuse for you not to properly care for whatever service you received. What is green soap? It's a sterilizing surgical lotion soap that is used during the tattoo process to wash debris and wash away foreign objects and blood. I include some of this inside your kit. You do not have to rinse this soap off. It is diluted properly, so please don't add more water to it trying to stretch it out. After you have cleansed the area with green soap, and you are confident the area is completely clean, and while the skin is moist from the green soap, this is when you add your A+D ointment. Mix the two together as you spread it over your tattoo. This will make the thick ointment less viscous so that it spreads more evenly and thusly allow the skin to breathe more easily. Remember that tattoos tend to scab when they are near crevices or elastic areas of the body (i.e. olecranon crevice, behind knee, wrists, near armpits, etc.) If you have scabbed, please come into the shop to have your scab professionally treated. If you have major scabbing or unusual appearance to your developing skin, do not panic! Call us.

If you have been given saniderm, please leave the saniderm on until it comfortably comes off—no less than 3 days! If you remove it beforehand, prior to the tattoo regrowing the surface layer of skin, you can run the risk of removing some of your tattoo ink along as it can stick to the bandage. On rare occurrences, the saniderm adhesive can embed itself inside the tattoo wound itself. Trust me..you don't want that! If you agreed to use the saniderm or tachyderm and agreed to the terms of its use as your option for aftercare out of Justin Abel Art, then please abide by the agreement made and LEAVE IT ON as prescribed. If the saniderm was placed onto your new tattoo (same day of your tattoo), there is a chance that fluid can become trapped under the saniderm and accumulate and manifesting as trapped fluid bubbles. The fluid can cause the colors to mix and saturate into each other and cause the vibrance to disappear or become muted. Please remove the saniderm as soon as you notice an abundance of fluid underneath as long as you can not have it removed and replaced at our shop. To avoid this sometimes you're instructed to wait to apply it until the post-procedural fluids cease the next day. Placing saniderm on dry skin that stays dry is ideal for healing and maintenance.

Keep tattoos out of the sun during the healing process. Tattoos can take up to 2 months to heal, but typically will show completion after 4 weeks. Expect two stages of peeling. After 3-4 days, there will be minor ink-sloughing and flake. Then in about 8-10 days a major peeling. Just because the skin is finished peeling—DOESN'T mean the tattoo is done. Remember that the deeper skin tissues take time—especially in tribal, coverups, realism, and large script. Stay out of the jacuzzi, pools, and any body of water that is not coming out of your shower head or bath tub. Be attentive and aware of your tattoo at all times. Remember that everyone around you, your kids, your clothes, and especially your cell phones are vectors for the transmission of staph, strep, and other serious bacteria and fungal infections. Signs and symptoms of infections can include but are not limited to: swelling, redness, small pustules, tiny pimples displaying white-heads, pain, throbbing, excessive heat, nausea, light-headedness, dizziness, disorientation, rashes, large painful knots underneath or nearby tattoos or piercings, and drainage through cracked skin. You should remember to always consult your physician if you suspect an infection !!!

Fun Facts: (1)Smoking prolongs the healing time of a tattoo or piercing! (2)Eating healthy and drinking lots of water for the following month after your procedure can vastly improve healing time (3)Even with proper PPE and safety procedures (i.e.wearing gloves, washing hands, covering mouths with masks, etc.) you can STILL get infected with a bacteria or receive a blood-borne or air-borne pathogen. Tattoos and piercings involve breaking the skin and implanting foreign objects which can also carry infectious materials into your body. Even if the artist and you follow every protocol to ensure safety. (4)Body modification is significantly more painful 10 days within your estrous cycle for women and 6 hours from bedtime for either sex. (6)Smoking marijuana, doing illegal drugs, taking painkillers, drinking alcohol should not be considered prior to any body modification without doctor approval. Doing any of these can cause an increase in pain, prolong the healing time, cause errors in artwork, or increase blood flow which aggravates ink retention and artist performance.

THIS GOES FOR EVERYBODY!!! REMEMBER infections are not caused by the shop's jewelry, tools, or procedure. They are solely a result of the aftercare carried out by you. We use an autoclave to clean everything involved with your piercing. It is only possible to get an infection if you fail to follow these instructions. Infections are easy to get, and you waived liability by signing the Liability and Consultation Form prior to your procedure. If an infection ensues or if you think your jewelry causes an allergic reaction—call your doctor! If either an infection or allergic reaction happens Justin Abel, Tattoo Shop Near Me LLC, or any affiliates thereof can NOT be held accountable and will not refund you for these reasons. Stopped payments are prohibited if you use a card since you waived all liability and accepted these terms at signing. If you issue a stop-payment through your provider you will be held liable for the balance due including fees, interest, and loss of wages if the shop has to take time to resolve your dispute breaching contractual arrangements. If you need to file a complaint you can do so by contacting the Oklahoma Department of Health at PO Box 268815, Oklahoma City, OK 73126-8815. The name of your artist was Justin Abel (license#BART8461)who is also the owner of the establishment at 11102 Stratford Dr., Suite B450, Oklahoma City, OK 73120.

Client affirms he/she received an aftercare kit by signing below. Also, client agrees to follow the instructions prescribed above and promises to call and/or come in to seek remedy. If shop is unable to help and refers you to a doctor, you agree to see the doctor immediately for the problem, should one occur. Again, no refunds will be allowed if the piercing is misplaced, falls out, rejects, or develops an allergy. Nor will there be a refund if a tattoo or piercing doesn't turn out as expected, gets infected, scabs, itches, shines, scars, falls out or fades. These are all risks you are willing to take by having piercing or tattoo work here at Tattoo Shop Near Me LLC (DBA "Tattoos and Piercings Near Me"). Client agrees by signing below:

Client Signature

Date

Client's Guardian if Client is under 18

Date

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