



Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

Wicked Heart Art Collective • Littleton, Colorado

Thank you for choosing Wicked Heart Art Collective! Your new tattoo is a piece of art and deserves the best care to heal properly. These instructions will guide you step by step so your tattoo stays vibrant and healthy for years to come.

Cleanliness & Hygiene

Always wash your hands thoroughly before caring for your tattoo. Keep your towels, sheets, and clothing fresh and clean during the healing process. Cleanliness is key to avoiding infection and ensuring your tattoo heals smoothly.

If You Have Dermashield

Your tattoo may be covered with a protective Dermashield wrap. Leave this wrap on for 3–4 days, but not longer than 4 days. It's normal to see some fluid build-up underneath. If the wrap leaks, peels back, or your tattoo becomes exposed, remove it immediately. When removing, do so in the shower—peel it back gently, never straight up. Let warm water rinse the tattoo once unwrapped.

If You Have Saran Wrap

If your tattoo was covered with standard plastic wrap (Saran Wrap), remove it as soon as you get home. Do not leave it on for extended periods. Once removed, wash the tattoo gently with warm water and fragrance-free antibacterial soap, such as Dial Gold, then pat dry with a clean paper towel. From this point on, follow the washing and ointment instructions below to care for your tattoo.

Washing Your Tattoo

First Few Days: Wash your tattoo 2–3 times daily with warm water and mild, fragrance-free antibacterial soap (for example, Dial Gold). Always use clean hands. Pat dry with a paper towel or soft cloth—never rub. Allow your tattoo to air dry for 10 minutes before applying ointment.

After the Initial Few Days: Continue washing your tattoo as needed, especially if it feels dirty, sweaty, or irritated. Always use gentle cleaning methods and avoid over-washing, which can dry out the skin.

Moisturizing & Ointment

Apply a thin layer of ointment (such as Aquaphor or a tattoo-specific aftercare product) with clean hands. Use only a light application—too much ointment can suffocate the skin. Repeat the clean → dry → ointment cycle 3–4 times daily, or whenever your tattoo feels dry or tight. Always allow your tattoo to breathe naturally between applications.

Things to Avoid

Until your tattoo is fully healed, avoid sun exposure, tanning beds, swimming, hot tubs, and long soaks in water. Wear loose-fitting clothing to let your tattoo breathe. Never rewrap your tattoo. Do not scratch, slap, or pick at scabs or peeling skin. These can damage your tattoo and increase the risk of infection.

Healing: What's Normal & When to Seek Help

Normal: Redness, swelling, tenderness, and mild clear fluid for the first few days. Itching and peeling similar to a sunburn as the tattoo heals.

Not Normal (contact a physician if you notice): severe or spreading redness, worsening pain, foul-smelling or colored discharge, fever, chills, rash, blisters, or swollen lymph nodes. These may be signs of infection and require medical attention.

Artist Information

Tattoo Artist: _____

Contact

For questions or concerns during healing, please contact us at:
art@wickedhearttattoo.com

We're always here to help! Thank you for trusting Wicked Heart Art Collective with your tattoo—take care of it, and it will take care of you.