Day 1: Immediately After Getting a Tattoo

Keep it covered: The tattoo artist will cover your tattoo with a bandage or plastic wrap. Leave it on for 1-2 hours. This helps protect the tattoo from dirt, bacteria, and rubbing. Wash hands first: Before removing the bandage, wash your hands with soap and water. Clean the tattoo: Gently wash the tattoo with lukewarm water and mild, fragrance-free soap. Avoid using a washcloth or anything abrasive. Just use your hands to gently clean the area. Pat dry: Gently pat the tattoo dry with a clean paper towel or soft towel, do not rub.

Day 1-5: Early Healing Stage

Apply a thin layer of ointment: Once the tattoo is dry, apply a thin layer of a recommended healing ointment (like Aquaphor or a tattoo-specific aftercare cream). This helps protect and hydrate the skin. Avoid using too much—just a thin, even layer. Avoid soaking the tattoo: Don't submerge your tattoo in water (baths, pools, hot tubs, etc.) for the first 2 weeks. Showers are fine, but avoid direct water pressure on the tattoo. Wear loose clothing: Avoid tight clothing or anything that may rub against the tattoo.

Days 5-10: Peeling and Flaking Stage

Keep moisturizing: Continue to apply a thin layer of fragrance-free moisturizer (such as a tattoo-specific lotion or something like Aveeno or Eucerin) a couple of times a day. This helps keep the skin hydrated and promotes healing. Don't pick or scratch: Your tattoo will begin to peel and flake, but do not pick at it. Picking can cause scarring or infection. Avoid sun exposure: Keep your tattoo out of direct sunlight during the healing period to prevent fading and sunburn. Avoid tight or abrasive clothing: Tight fabrics or anything that rubs against the tattoo should be avoided to prevent irritation. Start using sunscreen: After the tattoo has fully healed (usually around 3-4 weeks), always apply sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher to protect it from the sun.

General Aftercare Tips

If your tattoo is on a part of your body that touches a surface while sleeping (such as your arm or leg), avoid putting pressure on it. This can affect healing and cause irritation.

Avoid excessive friction: Avoid activities that cause excessive friction on the tattooed area, like heavy workouts or wearing tight clothing, especially during the early healing stages.

Be patient: Tattoos can take 2-4 weeks to fully heal, and some areas may take a little longer to fully heal completely (up to 6 weeks). Be patient and gentle with your new tattoo.

By following these steps, your tattoo should heal properly and look great for years to come! If you have any doubts or issues during the healing process, consult with your tattoo artist. Please if you have any questions, Please email us at Westsidetattooco@gmail.com