

## [How to Take Care of Your New Tattoo](#)

It is probably safe to say more people think about getting tattoos than get them. One of the problems people have is the concern for the process of getting a tattoo from a health perspective and knowing how take care of the tattoo once you get one. On top of that worry, there is a misperception that tattoo artists are not professionals and we see them in the same category as circus people and pawn shop operators. But it is important to note that there are many very professional and sanitary tattoo parlors who will do their part to make your experience both fun and safe when you get your first tattoo.

This is not to say that there has never been a tattoo artist that didn't conduct himself in a sanitary way. There are bad elements in any business. So the first step of taking care of a tattoo is to be discriminating in who you use to put the tattoo on you. Make sure they are running a good business that has been there a while and is in good standing with the community. Get references and then go and check them out yourself. If you look at their facilities for giving you a tattoo and you are not convinced they will take care to apply the tattoo in a safe fashion, just keep looking.

There are several ways you will see a truly professional tattooist make sure experience with your first tattoo is both safe and enjoyable so you will come back for a second and a third tattoo from them. Before they start, the tattooist can discuss the ointments and cleaning procedures that will go on throughout the application of the tattoo to raise your confidence that all is well. In addition to good hygiene as the tattoo is applied you can expect your hygienist to know how to dress the "wound" so the tattoo is well cleaned and bandaged for maximum protection as you leave the tattoo parlor with it. But before you go the last act of making sure your tattoo experience is complete will be for the tattooist to instruct you in the care and cleaning of the tattoo over the next week or two so it heals into a beautiful work of art on your skin.

When you get home, that natural desire to wash the tattoo vigorously should be resisted because it isn't dirty. In fact, if all of the steps we just discussed are done well at the tattoo shop, that tattoo are may be the cleanest area you have on your body. But as the next few days unfold, keeping it clean and dressed is important and it is your job. Just make sure that your cleaning is done in accord with your post tattoo instructions from the tattooist and that you keep it dry for several days so the ink of the tattoo can set. And along with proper cleaning and changing the dressing, also give the tattoo some time without covering to speed the natural healing process.

Talk to your tattooist both about the ointment he uses during the process and what kind of treatment he would recommend for the recovery period. It will almost certainly be something you can get at the local drug or grocery store. You will use this treatment for the next week or so but be gentle when you apply the ointment directly to the tattoo. Change the covering at least once a day so it is completely clean and don't wash the tattoo area with soap for at least a week to avoid irritating the open skin that is still getting over the trauma of the tattoo.

After you finish the first week or two applying the ointments your tattooist recommends, the recovery time is not over. You should get a stock of good gentle lotions that have no perfumes or additives to keep the skin moist as the healing continues. Don't be shy to shop the baby supply aisle at the supermarket for a gentle lotion to use for this purpose because if that lotion is good enough for a baby's bottom, it's good enough for the skin of your tattoo area.

The final step of healing will be phase that may be the hardest for you of all of them but you have to be ready for it so you preserve the beauty of the tattoo you have worked so hard to get. When the tattoo area develops scabs, you will feel an instinct to work on them with your fingers. Resist that instinct because allowing the skin to heal as it already knows how to do will sure you don't remove some of the tattoo itself by working on that scabbing before it has finished doing its job.

When you get a new tattoo, it's in many ways a new lifestyle for you as well as a great image on your skin. By being a responsible tattoo owner, the result will be a tattoo that is just as great as it looked in the picture you had and one that will keep looking great for years. And when it comes to artwork that changes your look forever and that you made the investment of money and discomfort to get, you want it to look that great for a long time too.

## About the Author

[Tattoo lettering](#) is popular today but most artists don't have much choice, check out our reviews at [5minutereviews.com](http://5minutereviews.com) of the best tattoo designs site on the internet.

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