

## [Getting Sleeved: Full Sleeve Tattoos How To](#)

Have you wondered what a full sleeve or half sleeve tattoo is? Maybe you have heard about them or even want one but you are not sure exactly what they are, how to go about getting one, nor how much they are going to cost. Well, get ready to learn all of the above and a lot more. Full sleeve, half sleeve and even quarter sleeve tattoos are very hot and in right now. They have become a very popular spot for tattoos in both men and women. There are many women today that sport full sleeve tattoos and love them greatly!

**What Is A Sleeve Tattoo?** So if you are wondering what I am talking about it is a large arm tattoo. Sleeve just comes from the shirt sleeves that typically cover our arms and a sleeve tattoo is a full tattoo design that frequently covers up the whole arm in the tattoo design. You can get a variety of different lengths which will mean different amounts of the arms will be covered. For example a half sleeve tattoo is typically from the shoulder down to the elbow or forearm area. A full sleeve then is all the way down to the wrist with the tattoo design.

**The Two Paths Of A Sleeve Tattoo** There are really many different ways to go about getting a sleeve tattoo. However, most of the ways fall into two common categories or steps for getting the work done. The first way is through individual tattoos and the second way is through one complete project. Which one you choose to have done will really be up to you and what you like. Also you will have to take into consideration any existing tattoos you already have in the area.

**Connecting Tattoos:** One way to end up with a sleeve tattoo is to take already existing tattoos that are on the arm and somehow find a unifying theme to connect them together. For example one might have a horseshoe tattoo for good luck on their bicep and want to connect this and extend the design down their arm. So they might decide on some flames and a pair of lucky dice to go with the horseshoe.

**One Project Method:** Another way in which people will go about getting a sleeve tattoo design is to design the whole tattoo at one time. This is not done by connecting up individual designs but instead starts with a blank slate and the design is unified and created at one time. This can make for a wonderful looking sleeve tattoo that is very unified and well put together.

**Tattoo Inspiration, Designs and Ideas:** Choosing the perfect design for your sleeve tattoo can be a long and sometimes painful or frustrating process. It can be hard to find a pre-made flash design that is exactly what you are looking for. It is therefore often better for people that want to get a sleeve tattoo to work with a competent tattoo artist and get a custom design done. Take your time with this process and don't try to rush it or be in a hurry to get the work finished. Once it is done you will have the design for the rest of your life and you want it to be something you are proud of and satisfied with. Therefore take your time and look at existing ideas, designs and photos. From every source you look at try and find the things you like and the things you don't like. This should help clarify the elements you want in the design. Then you can work with a professional and competent tattoo artist to come up with a custom full sleeve tattoo design.

**What Is Popular?** Of course your tattoo design will be something that you live with for the rest of your life and you do not want to decide or choose a design just because it is popular. However below there are some ideas of common full sleeve tattoos. Look through and see if any spark an interest for you.

**Sleeve Tattoo Ideas: Flames** - One popular design theme that you can find on a good number of full sleeve tattoos are flames. These typically start down at the wrist and the flames burn upwards towards the shoulder. This looks great and can easily be incorporated with other designs or tattoos.

**Sleeve Tattoo Designs: Tribal** - Tribal sleeve designs are another great tattoo design that can commonly be done as a sleeve. Tribal tattoos are typically made up of large bold lines done in black and they look great from a distance and really stand out. Therefore they make great sleeve tattoo designs. Don't feel you have to go with the standard tribal designs either as there are many different native cultures that used tattooing. You can go with something really unique like a Maori tribal design.

**Celtic Knotwork Sleeve** - Another popular option is the Celtic knotwork sleeve. These can come in a variety of designs and also are bold and make beautiful designs. Things like intertwined animals, illuminated letters, step patterns and spirals all make great tattoo sleeves.

**Sleeve Tattoo Designs: Florals** - Another option to go for is a floral pattern. This can work for men as well as women but more typically women choose to get floral designs. The combination of flowers and vines can often be interwoven into an almost tribal or even Celtic look for a really amazing sleeve tattoo. These look great when they start down at the wrist and then grow up towards the shoulder.

**Time, Cost and Commitment** If you are thinking about getting a full sleeve tattoo then you should be prepared ahead of time. This is typically a big project that will cost a good deal of money and time. Prices and times will vary greatly depending on the design chosen for the tattoo and the shop.

However a good guide is they take around 20 hours of work to get done and can cost between 1,000 to 2,000 dollars. The popularity of the shop and artist will change the price a good deal as will the amount of business they currently have. So shop around and don't be afraid to ask questions. Find a tattoo artist you are comfortable with.

Once you know the amount of time, cost and commitment it will take on your part and you still really want to get a full sleeve tattoo then go for it. Spend some time planning the design carefully before getting started and make sure you choose a tattoo artist that you can communicate with and someone you feel listens to you.

### About the Author

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