

Dylan's Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

- Keep clear Tegaderm on bandage on for up to four days from the initial appointment day
- Since it is a clear bandage you will see body fluid such as blood and plasma stained with the ink used. This is **normal and to be expected** since the wound will weep for up to 36 hours after the appointment.
- There are a few reasons to take off the bandage early:
 - If you notice the fluid underneath the bandage is leaking outside the edges of the bandage it means the seal is broken and bacteria could now get in.
 - If you start developing a rash or irritation around the perimeter edge of the bandage it means you may be having an allergic reaction or just having high sensitivity to the adhesive to the area.
 - On some occasions in certain areas if the skin is too oily or is too moist the bandage may start unsticking from the skin and falling off, in this case just take the bandage off
 - You do not need to Re-bandage, just keep it clean by washing it 2-3 times a day minimum :)
- If you cannot wear the Tegaderm bandage and are wearing a temporary cling wrap bandage, wear the temporary bandage for about 5 hours if possible, do not keep it on overnight.
- Some swelling and redness as well as tenderness are normal during the healing process and tends to die down after a couple days.
- When you clean your tattoo, always make sure your hands are thoroughly clean (you are touching/cleaning an open wound).
- Clean the tattoo gently with **UNSCENTED/FRAGRANCE-FREE** liquid soap (when in the shower make sure to clean you tattoo last to prevent other soaps with the fragrance chemical from irritating the tattoo).
 - Dial Antibacterial is great!

- Rise soap off and let the tattoo Air Dry, do not use a towel of any kind to avoid irritation and encountering bacteria
- You may use **UNSCENTED/FRAGRANCE-FREE** lotion after about 4 days after the initial appointment day. This gives time for the wound to heal and developed a scab, after which is when you may use lotion
 - I recommend Aveeno or Lubriderm
 - Do not put on lotion sooner than 4 days from the initial appointment.
 - **DO NOT** use Aquaphor, Petroleum jelly/Vaseline, or Neosporin as these are not designed for tattoos and are way too thick which will lead to suffocation of the tattoo and will very often pull ink from the wound.
- Remember **LESS IS MORE**, if too much lotion is put on it can make the healing process take longer and it is unnecessary.
- Do not pick or scratch your tattoo. Doing this can rip out scabs and open the wound which can create scarring and loss of ink.
- **DO NOT** go swimming or submerging you tattoo in water of any kind for at least a month. Water may have lots of bacteria and chemicals and can you put you at high risk of severe infections like MRSA and Staph. Taking short showers is fine because you are not submerging or soaking your tattoo in the water for too long.
- Keep excessive sweating to a minimum for at least a week If the tattoo and skin around is too moist the tattoo will not heal as well or as quickly.
 - If you exercise, play sports, or do hot yoga for instance, take a break for a little bit.
- Keep your tattoo out of direct and long sun exposures. You can only put sunscreen on after your tattoo is fully healed which usually takes minimum two weeks up to a month depending on each persons' immune system. You'll know your tattoo is done healing when it is no longer flaking any skin and the area does not look shiny anymore.
- When applicable put sunscreen on your tattoo once it is healed as it will make the tattoo (especially those with color) last much longer since the suns UV rays slowly fades ink from the skin overtime.

- Keep your tattoo away from pets and animals as the hair/dander/scales could irritate the tattoo and cause infections and the ink loss.
 - When in doubt if you touch something dirty or think is dirty go clean the tattoo right away.
- If you have any other questions feel free to contact me via email, text, Instagram, or Facebook. Never assume, it is ok to ask!

Take good care of your new tattoo!

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