

Suggested Aftercare Guidelines for Tattoo Procedures

Obtained from the Suffolk County Dept. of Health Services

Tattoo Aftercare

- a. First, wash your hands thoroughly with mild soap and water and dry your hands with clean paper towels. No cloth towels!
- b. The dressing may be removed after approximately 4 hours.
- c. Using warm water, a mild soap and gentle technique carefully cleanse the tattoo area, do not scrub.
- d. Using a sterile gauze or dressing, gently pat the area dry. Do not rub. Do not use a cloth towel.
- e. After a few days, gently and lightly apply a sanitary, gentle, mild skin lotion to the tattoo, do not leave excess lotion on the skin. Do not use any lotions or oily applications or petroleum jelly on the tattoo.
- f. Do not scratch or pick at the tattoo during the healing period, allow scab material to fall off naturally (usually in 4-7 days).
- g. If there is any reason to suspect an infection of the tattoo or its surrounding area, immediately seek medical attention!
- h. Avoid soaking the tattoo in pools, spas, Jacuzzis, hot tubs, beach water, baths, etc.
- i. Avoid direct sunlight, after healing use sunscreen on the tattoo if sun exposure is expected.