

## BDC Tattoo Care

Take your bandage off in 3-5 hours and wash your tattoo with Dial Soap, warm water, and your fingertips. Rinse with cold water and pat dry with a clean towel or paper towel.

*(Optional)* Apply an icepack to your tattoo while it is clean and dry. You should use a clean T-shirt or something similar to keep the icepack from making direct contact with your skin. Do this for 10-15 minutes to minimize swelling, reduce redness, and help close your pores.

Apply a thin layer of Aquaphor. Your new tattoo needs to breathe, so it's incredibly important that the layer is thinly applied. It should look wet or goopy. You will find it with the lotions at Wal-Mart or a drugstore, but it's thick like an ointment.

*(Optional)* You can also choose to use Bacitracin or A&D ointment providing you aren't allergic. If you use Bacitracin or A&D, only use it for 2 days and switch to Aquaphor.

In 3-5 days, your tattoo will start to flake and peel like a sunburn and should finish in 5-7 days.

Until then...

- Wash your tattoo 3 times daily. Morning, noon and night.
- Keep your tattoo moist by rubbing a small amount of ointment into it if it feels dry. 3-5 times a day.
- Never touch your tattoo without washing your hands first.
- Make sure any clothing touching your tattoo is loose and clean. This means that shoes, socks, pantyhose, elastic bands, waistbands, jewelry, shirt collars, or bra straps should NEVER touch your new tattoo. Clean, soft, cotton socks are ideal if you must wear shoes. You should never wear sandals, flip-flops, or any other footwear that make direct contact with your new tattoo.
- Never submerge your tattoo in water for any length of time. No baths, hot tubs, swimming pools, lakes or saunas. Quick showers are fine.
- Never re-bandage your tattoo.
- Never pick or scratch your tattoo

- Keep your tattoo out of direct sunlight and tanning beds for at least 3 weeks. After that, use SPF 50 or higher sun block. UV rays will fade color over time and using sun block regularly will prevent fading.

Once your tattoo is finished peeling, 5-7 days, continue to use Aquaphor or a fragrance-free or all-natural lotion. Your tattoo will be dry and itchy for a week or 2 after healing and lotion will help. When your tattoo feels smooth and completely normal again, you can discontinue all care instructions.

Failure to follow the above instructions may result in scarring, cracking, infection, and loss of color.

If you have any further questions, feel free to call or stop in.

Thank You!

**BDC Tattoo**

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