



**Inkworks Tattoo Studio**  
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## INKWORKS AFTERCARE GUIDE

### INTRODUCTION

Your tattoo will move through several natural phases as the skin settles, renews, and seals the artwork beneath. Clear aftercare helps your piece heal cleanly and stay true to the design.

Follow the guidance below and keep this leaflet close during the first few weeks.

### 1. THE FIRST 24 HOURS

- Keep the dressing on for the time advised during your appointment.
- This protects the fresh tattoo from friction and bacteria.
- Wash your hands before touching the area.
- Clean hands prevent irritation and contamination.
- Gently clean the tattoo with lukewarm water and mild, fragrance-free soap.
- Avoid scrubbing — let the water do the work.
- Pat dry with clean kitchen roll.
- Do not rub or use a towel.
- Allow the tattoo to breathe for a short while before applying aftercare.
- A little redness or warmth is normal at this stage.

### 2. DAYS 2–7: EARLY HEALING

- During this phase, the tattoo may feel tight, shiny, or slightly tender. You may notice:
- Light peeling
- Mild itching
- A thin, dry layer forming over the surface

These are natural signs of healing.

Apply a thin layer of your recommended aftercare product 2–3 times a day.

Use only a small amount — enough to keep the skin supple, not smothered.

Avoid:

- Scratching or picking
- Long baths or soaking
- Swimming
- Direct sun exposure
- Tight or abrasive clothing over the area

### 3. DAYS 7–21: SETTLING PHASE

The outer layer of skin continues to renew. Your tattoo may appear slightly dull or cloudy — this is temporary and expected.

Continue moisturising lightly.

Avoid heavy friction and keep the area clean.

### 4. WHAT'S NORMAL

- Mild redness
- Light scabbing
- Peeling
- Itching
- A “frosted” or cloudy appearance

These signs indicate the skin is repairing itself.

### 5. WHEN TO CONTACT US

If something feels unusual or concerning, reach out through the Healing or Medical Concern section of our contact form.

A clear photo helps us guide you with accuracy and care.

### 6. LONG-TERM CARE

Once healed, protect your tattoo with SPF 30+ whenever it's exposed to sunlight.

UV is the main cause of fading — consistent protection keeps your artwork strong and true.