



### **Tiny Tattoos After Care**

The initial state of tattoo healing begins immediately after your tattooing session is finished. You should look at your tattoo as an open wound, and treat it accordingly. Your artist will gently wash the area and put a protective bandage on it to protect it from bacteria. You might need to change your piece of film depending on the intensity of weeping you are experiencing.

**If your tattoo weeps severely in the first 24 hours, please contact XO Betty and we will change it for you.** Please do not try to remove the film on your own. Many people describe a fresh tattoo as feeling similar to a sunburn. The area tends to sting a bit, and it can look red and become a little raised or swollen. This is all a natural part of the tattoo healing process. Unlike other tattoo healing methods, the film that we use at XO Betty will make it so you don't see scabbing. **Attempt to keep the film on for 3-4 days, after that you can take it off.**

#### **PROCESS FOR REMOVING THE PROTECTIVE FILM:**

The best way to remove the film is to find an edge of the bandage, and then to pull it back over itself in the direction of the hair growth. Pulling upward on the film can be painful, so we don't recommend it. The best way is to try removing the film in a warm shower. The warmth will loosen the adhesive, and make it easier to remove.

**Only use CLEAN HANDS to wash your tattoo. NO washcloths, bath towels, bath sponges or loofahs on a fresh tattoo.**

- Make a lather in your hand with a soap and warm water
- Gently clean tattoo using a circular motion, until a ointment, blood and lymphatic fluid are removed
- Rinse the tattoo and wash once again, gently, until the skin is clean
- A hair dryer on the 'cool' setting may be used; a clean paper towel may also be used to dab the tattoo dry

## **AFTER THE FILM COMES OFF; SECOND STATE OF THE HEALING PROCESS**

Wash your tattoo with warm water 2 times daily. Use a mild cleaner to wash the tattoo. DON'T use a washcloth, loofah, or any other abrasive material.

Rinse thoroughly, however DON'T soak the area. Keep shower time to a minimum. Pat dry with clean paper towels. DON'T use a towel or any other abrasive material. DON'T re- bandage. Once it's off, leave it off.

Make sure to continue to take care of it by applying a small amount of Aquaphor, Grapeseed oil or ointment we provide at least 2-3 times a day for 2 weeks.

## **THE FOLLOWING MUST BE AVOIDED DURING ALL 14 DAYS AFTER THE PROCEDURE:**

Stay away from water: Although you can easily take a shower with a protective film on, it is important to still monitor the time you spend in the shower. Prolonged exposure to water will weaken the adhesion, so avoid soaking. As with all tattoo aftercare regulations, you should avoid submerging your tattoo in any body of water. This includes baths, lakes, pools, hot tubs, or oceans.

Increased sweating: Be aware that sweating can weaken the adhesive of the film and cause the bandage to come off prematurely. That being the case, we advise you to take it easy and keep the sweating to a minimum.

Don't pick and pull at the flaking/scabbing of skin: Picking the scabs can delay healing and can cause scarring, fading and increase the chances of infection.

Stay away from the sun: Do not expose your new tattoo to intense sunlight and do not apply any sun lotion or sunscreen to the area until it has fully healed.

Continue to look after your tattoo once it's healed: Once your tattoo has healed, keep your tattoo well protected from the sun and ensure you continue to moisturize the area regularly. Healthy skin means a healthy-looking tattoo.

**If you have any unexpected problems with your tattoo healing, please contact XO Betty immediately.** Contact a doctor immediately if any signs or symptoms develop such as the following: fever, continuous/extreme pain, rash, tattooed area is hot to touch, red streaking, elevated body temperature, blister or foul odor.

Once completely healed, you can apply a layer of sunscreen SPF 30 and up to SPF 50 on the tattoo is its exposed to the sun.

○