

# Drop The Ink



## Aftercare Instructions

Laser Tattoo Removal is a very simple procedure. However, proper aftercare is essential for the best results. The tattoo removal treatment may create a superficial burn wound, and there will be an immediate whitening of the treated area, usually lasting for several minutes. Some patients may experience bruising or swelling, and many clients develop blisters, crusts or scabs within 8-72 hours, lasting for up to 2 weeks or more. The treated areas may be pale or pink after the scabs separate, and loss of pigment in the treated area may occur temporarily. In very rare cases loss of pigmentation may be permanent. Hypertrophic or even keloid scarring may occur but this is very rare. Healing is usually complete within 6-8 weeks, though this could be quicker as healing times vary.

1. Keep the treated area clean and dry while it is healing. Gently clean the area with soap and water and then pat dry, do not rub.
2. Due to the dehydrating effect of laser tattoo removal, itching is very common. Please don't scratch, this can slow down the healing time. Use a Vitamin E ointment, or hydrocortisone cream on the treated area. Aloe Vera gel and Savlon gel have proven to work very well.
3. Blistering is common, and can occur within hours after your tattoo removal treatment. Do not be alarmed, blisters heal well and are part of the normal healing process. Blisters are an indication that your immune system is healing the area and beginning to remove the ink from your tattoo. It is natural for the blisters to pop, and this actually helps the skin to recover faster in many cases. Continue to apply the antibiotic ointment over the blisters once they have popped for at least 24 hours.
4. To help reduce discomfort and inflammation, apply cool compresses as necessary to the treatment site for 24 hours after the tattoo removal. You may take plain paracetamol for pain relief, but avoid aspirin as it can increase the risks of bruising and/or bleeding.
5. Do not pick at the scab or allow the skin to become scraped, as this may result in infection and scarring. Shaving should be avoided on the treated area until it is completely healed.
6. Feel free to shower 12 hours after the tattoo removal, but take care to avoid high pressure water hitting the treated area. Baths, hot tubs, swimming pool, or any other form of soaking are not recommended until all blisters and scabs are completely healed, as they may increase the risk of infection.
7. Exercise is generally safe after treatment, taking into account the other after care instructions provided here.
8. If you are planning on being in the sun, wear a sun block with an SPF of 25 or higher over the area for three months following the laser treatment. Do not wear makeup or any cream or medication on or near the treated area unless recommended by our technician for 48 hours.
9. And of course, although very unlikely, if you have any extreme reaction, seek medical attention immediately.