

Wookie Style Tattoos

From the desk of: Terrance "Wookie" Hoffman.

Subject: Tattoo Aftercare.

If you are a client of mine then you've heard this speech immediately following a tattoo session with me. If you are not a client of mine and you are looking for some aftercare ideas, then these are my personal suggestions as an experienced tattoo professional for the care of freshly tattooed skin.

First off, you need to leave the bandage on for two hours. When you take it off, clean it with warm water and soap. Use just your hands, no washcloth, it is too rough. Blot it dry, don't rub it. It is an open wound, and the towel is too rough as well. I recommend using a mild lotion, such as Curél® for sensitive skin or Gold Bond Ultimate® Soothing Chamomile Skin Therapy Lotion. Massage it in very well, leaving no extra lotion ie; no white streaks. I want you to use the lotion 5 times a day.

NO soaking, sunning or swimming for **10 days**. Showers are ok, but **NO** bathtubs, hot tubs or swimming pools.

On the first night, I want you to cover your new tattoo with Saran Wrap, clear plastic wrap. It will **NOT** stick to you, so it will actually protect you from sticking to your sheets while you sleep. A fresh tattoo seeps a lot of plasma the first night, so don't be surprise when you wake up and you are extremely "goopy" underneath your plastic wrap. Just hop in the shower after you've removed it and clean the tattoo just like you did the first time; warm water and soap, **NO** washcloth... blot dry.

After the ten days, you will want to protect your tattoo with a Sunblock with a SPF of 45 or greater. This is especially important for the first year. Sun damage will cause the colors to fade dramatically.

Follow these suggestions to the letter and you will increase your odds of having your tattoo heal without incident.