

# BLACKFISK

CUSTOM & WALK-IN TATTOO

BLACKFISK  
TATTOO CO.  EST. 2012

## Tattoo Aftercare Instructions

**#1 Bandage:** Leave your clean film bandage on for a minimum of 1 hour and no longer than 5-6 hours. (We would rather you left it on longer as opposed to washing it in a dirty bar bathroom). The black DRYLOCK-pads can be left on over night and taken off the morning after.

**#2 After the removal of the bandage wash thoroughly with hot water** and preferably a “soap-free wash lotion”, which helps your tattoo heal faster. If you can't find a soap-free wash lotion, a ph-neutral, unscented, liquid soap is absolutely fine too. Only use your hands to wash it, no washcloth or anything else that could irritate it. After you're done washing it, wrinse it off with cold water.

**#3 Pat dry with a clean paper towel** or similar and let air dry for a while, ideally 10-15 mins or till you can feel your skin tensen up, before applying aftercare. Do not use your shower towel or anything that has been used before, since there is a high risk of rubbing bacteria into your fresh tattoo.

**#4 Apply a THIN layer of product** and massage into the skin to the point where it just barely looks moist. ALWAYS WASH YOUR HANDS THOUROUGHLY BEFORE TOUCHING YOUR TATTOO AND DO NOT TRY TO MASSAGE A HUGE AMOUNT OF LOTION INTO YOUR TATTOO. Only use enough to give it a little glossy shine, a little goes a long way. We do recommend a lotion that is specifically designed for tattoo (we're happy to recommend some brands for you). Bepanthen is great for healing wounds but not tattoos. Bepanthen, Bodylotion, Vaseline or other unsuitable products can result in visible scarring and reduced brightness in the colors of your tattoo. You should keep your tattoo moisturized, but not try to keep it “wet” at all times ! You only want to prevent it from completely drying out. When the tattoo is being cared for in that way it doesn't have a chance to form a solid scab but does form a thin membrane to protect the tattoo while it heals. This layer peels off very similar to a sunburn (do not try to rip off any scabs, you will most likely pull parts of the ink out!) and it is perfectly normal to see small flakes of colored skin falling off during this stage of healing. Repeat the cycle of washing, drying, and applying ointment to the tattoo about 3-4 times per day for the first 4 days (while the tattoo feels tender). After that, putting lotion on it 2-3 times a day is usually sufficient, but depends on your skin type. You'll get the hang of it after a day or two, and know when it feels dry and uncomfortable. Then it will need some lotion. If you keep applying too much lotion over a long period of time, your tattoo won't be able to close up and heal properly! After 2-3 Weeks your tattoo should be completely healed and will only need regular skin-care.

**#5 KEEP YOUR TATTOO CLEAN WITH SOAP AND WATER: THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF HEALING YOUR TATTOO!** It is a mere matter of common sense. If you are out and about, working on a construction site you'll need to wash it more than if you are sitting on the couch watching Darkwing Duck re-runs. It's best to wash off the old layer of lotion off your tattoo before applying more lotion to it, you don't want to rub more nad more dirt into it since the lottion is slightly sticky

**#6 NO PICKING OR SCRATCHING:** Scrubbing with a washcloth can be very harsh on a tattoo and will cause your colors to fade. Disrupting the tattoo while it's healing can also cause scar tissue. It is normal for the tattoo to become a little itchy during the healing time. Just remember not to pick or scratch no matter what! Gently applying aftercare or a gentle taps with your hand will usually help with the itching.

**#7 NO SUN, NO SOAKING IN WATER OF ANY KIND** during the healing process – no direct sun, no swimming in pools, lakes, bathtubs or the ocean - NO SOAKING IN WATER OF ANY KIND! After your tattoo is fully healed, always use sunblock or cover it. That way your tattoo will look good in the years to come on, not only for 2-3 years!

**#8 The better you take care of the glass/skin the better the picture/tattoo looks underneath:** Think of it this way, you are looking THROUGH the skin at the ink underneath, much like a picture in a frame with glass over it. The better you take care of the glass/skin, the better the picture/tattoo looks underneath.

**#9 After the tattoo is all healed** (usually about 2 weeks), stop in and say hello, so the artist can give it a good looking over to make sure it does not need to be touched up, and to get a nice healed portfolio picture. All touch up work is included in your original price for up to a year or so, unless you desire to CHANGE the tattoo in some way. If this is the case there may or may not be a small fee.

If you have any other questions please don't hesitate to contact us via mail or phone, we're always happy to help you