## **Tattoo Aftercare Instructions**

## Fuzzy Pits Tattoo

## - Always wash your hands before caring for your new tattoo -

If your tattoo is covered with a clear adhesive bandage, keep it on for 2 - 5 days. Since your bandage is waterproof, you can shower with it on during this time period. (Just don't submerge it for prolonged periods of time) You may see blood and/or fluid under the bandage, this is part of the healing process and won't harm your tattoo. When it's time to remove your adhesive bandage, we recommend doing this in the shower, as the warm water will loosen the adhesive and make it a little easier to take off. It's recommended to start at the top of your tattoo, and pull straight down, as close to your skin as possible. Don't hesitate to ask your artist for more detailed instructions.

If your tattoo is covered with a soaker pad and sport tape, leave it on for 24 hours, then follow the directions below:

After removing your bandage, wash your tattoo with non-scented soap and warm water, using your clean hands (cloth towels can be too abrasive). Pat dry with a paper towel, or let air dry.

Keep your healing tattoo hydrated for about a week (or longer if it appears dried and flakey). Apply only a thin amount of natural lotion 3-5 times a day and continue to wash your tattoo with non-scented soap and warm water daily.

Yes, you can (and should!) shower with a new tattoo. It's OK to get your tattoo wet - just don't soak or scrub it. Submerging your tattoo for prolonged amounts of time in water will disrupt the healing process and very likely create an infection, so avoid soaking for 2-3 weeks. Swimming in a pool, fresh water, or salt water should all be avoided for at least 2-3 weeks.

In the process of your new tattoo healing, it will likely become itchy. Don't scratch or pick at your tattoo. It will peel, but let dead skin fall off naturally. This is a good sign and indicates your tattoo is almost healed.

Sun or UV exposure can cause a breakdown of pigments in the ink during the healing phase. To keep your lines crisp and colors bright, we suggest keeping your fresh tattoo covered from UV exposure and using sunscreen after 2 weeks of healing time. Going to the gym is OK after a few days of healing but protect your tattoo from the gym equipment. If you feel your tattoo isn't healing properly, feel free to call us and ask questions. If you experience abnormal symptoms after the procedure such as: infection, yellow or green pus discharge from the tattoo site, extreme pain, or swelling, please call a physician immediately!