



755 JENKINS AVE
NORMAN, OK 73069

THE CICADA CLOSET

TATTOO AFTERCARE

Thank you for trusting The Cicada Closet with your tattoo. Proper aftercare is essential for healing, color retention, and long-term appearance.

🕒 FIRST 24 HOURS

KEEP YOUR BANDAGE ON

- Leave your wrap/bandage on for 2–4 hours unless instructed otherwise by your artist.
- If using a second-skin adhesive bandage, leave on for the timeframe recommended by your artist (typically 2–5 days unless irritation occurs).

WASH YOUR TATTOO

After removing the bandage:

- ① Wash your hands thoroughly.
- ② Gently clean the tattoo using:
 - lukewarm water
 - fragrance-free antibacterial or gentle soap
- ③ Remove excess plasma, blood, and ointment gently with clean hands only.
- ④ Pat dry with a clean paper towel.
 - Do not rub.
 - Do not use cloth towels.

💧 MOISTURIZING & DAILY CARE

FIRST FEW DAYS

- Allow the tattoo to breathe.
- Apply a very thin layer of tattoo aftercare ointment if recommended.
- Too much ointment can suffocate the tattoo and delay healing.

AFTER PEELING BEGINS

Switch to a:

- fragrance-free lotion
- light unscented moisturizer

Apply sparingly 2–3 times daily.

📅 HEALING TIMELINE

- Surface healing: approximately 2–3 weeks
 - Full settling/healing beneath the skin: approximately 4–6 weeks
- Large, detailed, or heavily saturated tattoos may take longer.*

👁️ WHAT TO EXPECT

Normal healing may include:

- redness
- tenderness
- light swelling
- peeling/flaking
- itching
- cloudy or dull appearance during healing

This is normal and temporary.

⊗ IMPORTANT HEALING RULES

DO NOT:

- Scratch or pick at peeling skin
- Soak in baths, pools, lakes, or hot tubs
- Expose the tattoo to direct sunlight
- Wear tight or abrasive clothing over the area
- Shave over the tattoo while healing
- Allow pets to contact the tattoo
- Re-bandage unless instructed

DO:

- Wear clean, loose clothing
- Keep bedding clean
- Stay hydrated
- Protect healed tattoos with SPF sunscreen

⊕ WHEN TO CONTACT A DOCTOR

Consult a physician if you experience:

- excessive redness spreading outward
- worsening swelling after 48 hours
- pus or foul-smelling drainage
- fever or chills
- severe pain
- allergic reaction



As required by Oklahoma regulations, it is still possible to experience transmission of a bloodborne disease or infection from tattoo procedures, even when proper precautions are followed.

This establishment complies with Oklahoma tattoo and body piercing regulations. (Chapter 233)

Complaints may be filed with the Oklahoma State Department of Health.