

# Tattoo Removal

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I recommend that you purchase Emla cream prior to your first treatment, I can call in a prescription for this powerful topical anesthetic. Apply the Emla cream liberally then cover the area with saran wrap for 1 hour prior to the procedure.

The skin treated turns a white frost color immediately. This usually lasts several minutes. Complete healing usually occurs within 14 days – although this may vary.

The first 24 hours following your treatment: If a bandage was applied leave it in place for the first day. Do not shower or soak the area in water if you can avoid it.

Day 2 & beyond: You can shower but try to keep the treated areas out of the direct stream of water while the skin is still healing. Do not soak in baths / hottubs / or pools until all blistering & scabbing are completely healed – as these may increase the risk of infection. Leave the treated area uncovered as of Day 2 as much as possible. Apply Biafine or your chosen moisturizer twice per day – once in the morning & again in the evening. Keep the treated area clean & dry throughout the healing process. Some patients like to use the fragrance free 16 oz tub of CeraVe cream during this healing process – which is available at Target / Walmart / CVS / etc.

Blisters: Patients can expect to see some blisters developing between one to three days after the treatment. These will drain & dry into scabs just like when you got your tattoo. Mild bruising / swelling / tingling sensations similar to sunburn are normal. Blistering at the treated area is a perfectly normal reaction to the laser treatment procedure. It is a positive indication your immune system is healing the area & removing the ink from your tattoo.

Scabs: Once the blisters drain they may turn into scabs just like when you got your tattoo. The scabs usually fall off between the tenth & fourteenth day after your treatment. Then your skin returns to normal while your body continues to fade the tattoo. Allow your skin to heal & avoid picking the scabs. Peeling scabs that are not ready to be removed can result in infection / scarring / pigment discoloration of your skin. Avoid shaving the treated area until it is completely healed. Treated areas may be pink or pale after the scab separates. Often any scarring following a tattoo removal procedure is due to lack of care between treatments. Scarring is extremely rare & can be hypertrophic or even keloid. Please adhere to these aftercare tips to achieve the best results in protecting & healing your skin.

You must wait four to six weeks between treatments on the same area of skin. We recommend a six week waiting period to maximize the fading process.

Cold pack: You can apply a cold pack to the treated area if you want to after your treatment to ease any swelling. You can also take an anti-inflammatory as long as you are not allergic to it. Avoid aspirin-based pain relief because it could increase unnecessary bruising at the treated area.

Itching & Moisturizing: Itching is very common because the laser tends to dry out your skin. Use Biafine / CeraVe / or a moisturizer of your choice twice each day to keep the treatment area hydrated.

Makeup & fragrance: Do not apply makeup or anything directly on the healing area that may irritate the skin.

Skin Pigment: Areas of lighter or darker pigment in the treated skin can occur. Skin discoloration usually returns to its original color within a few months to one year – except in very rare cases.

Shaving: Avoid shaving the treated area until it is completely healed.

Sunblock: The treated area will be particularly sensitive to sunlight. It is essential you wear sunblock minimum SPF 50 over the area for at least 3 months after each session.

Working out: Exercise is generally safe after treatment – taking into account the other aftercare instructions provided here.

Anything else: If the area looks infected / you experience unusual discomfort or bleeding / any other complications develop / or if you have any questions or concerns – contact our office immediately. Of course if you have any extreme reaction – seek immediate medical attention.

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treatment



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