

V·ink Cosmetic Tattoo

How to look after your Cosmetic Tattoo

Immediately after a cosmetic tattooing procedure the area treated will look about 50% darker than the final results. This is temporary, the colour will lighten and soften over 3 to 14 days. It is normal for the area to feel slightly tender or dry. Here are some instructions and tips to follow to look after your cosmetic tattoo.

Home care instructions

Purchase a small tube of [Bepanthen Cream](#). This is a gentle antiseptic cream which assists in the skin's natural healing process. It will prevent infections and scabbing and will hydrate and soothe the tattooed area. Apply every 4-5 hours for the first week, then twice a day for the second week, and always after showering or washing your face (do not use soap on the treated area).

Do's and Dont's

- Avoid direct sun exposure on the treated area for the first 2 weeks.
- Exposure to the sun over time can cause fading and may cause the colour to change. If you are going out into the sun apply sunscreen to protect the area. When swimming in chlorine water you can cover your Cosmetic Tattoo with vaseline to prevent bleaching.
- No make-up is to be applied on the treated area for at least 48 hours. This can lead to infection and the colour to change. For Eyeliner Tattoo it is particularly important to avoid mascara.
- No soap or cleansers on the treated area for the first 4 days.
- Do NOT scrub the treated area, crusting will fall off naturally please don't force it.
- Avoid using teeth whitening tooth paste if you had a Lips Tattoo. Chemicals of any kind can interfere with healing and the colour.
- Skin topicals that contain acids or retinol may lighten the colour prematurely with continuous use.
- Avoid exercise or any activity that can make you sweat for one week after the treatment. Don't sit in a heated spa, sauna or steam room for 2 weeks. Steam and sweat will open the pores of your skin and may make the colour bleed out.
- Do not wax, pluck or bleach the hair for at least 3 weeks after the treatment. If you are having laser hair removal or resurfacing, it may result in adverse changes to your Cosmetic Tattoo.
- Do not use products like Retin-A or Roaccutane for at least 2 weeks prior to treatment and 4 weeks after the treatment.
- No fillers or anti-wrinkle injections such as Restylane or Botox on or near the treated areas 2 weeks before or after treatment.

Eyebrow Care

During the first 24 hours post treatment, your eyebrows could weep a clear fluid which is normal and part of the healing process. Wipe them gently by tapping with a soft tissue or a damp cotton pad to remove the fluid. As your skin heals it may become flaky. Do not scrub off or scratch the flaking as that could cause scarring or make the pigments bleed from your skin. If the tattooed area feels itchy it is possible that not enough cream has been applied, so apply more frequently. After 5-6 days the brow tattoo will dramatically soften and lighten by approximately 50%.

It is recommended to apply a thin layer of Bepanthen Cream every 4-5 hours for the first couple of days and about 3 times a day for the following week. Then apply as needed till skin is healed and smooth.

Eyeliner Care

Expect the eye to be slightly tender for 1-3 days. Swelling is minimal and with most clients it will subside within 24 hours. Apply a small amount of Bepanthen, less is better. Cold pads can be applied to minimise swelling. Do not use eyeliner till fully healed and mascara for the first 3 days although it is also recommended to avoid till healing process is complete. Do not rub the eyes and most importantly do not use contacts during and for at least 24 hours after the procedure.

Lip Care

This area will take the longest to heal. Immediately after treatment your lips will appear swollen and much darker than the colour that was decided upon during the consultation, the colour will subside over the next week, your lips will feel very tender and may have a tender tingling feeling for up to a week if you had a full lip treatment. It will then fade to no colour and re-appear after 3-6 weeks. Bepanthen Cream must be applied constantly as your lips will be very dry. If you have dry pieces of skin do not pull or pick at them let the lips exfoliate naturally. Keep them moist with the Bepanthen cream and if you suffer from cold sores use your cold sore cream along with the Bepanthen cream.

Do not wear lipstick until fully healed and for the first week no hot drinks, spicy foods or kissing.

LONG TERM CARE

A cosmetic tattoo can last a shorter or longer period depending on your skin type, skin colour, and the colour of the pigment used, the thickness of the lines, how much pigment is deposited and how aggressive your immune system is in metabolising the pigment. Sun exposure, sweating, Retin-A skin creams and lotions, exfoliating treatments, and many others factors may speed up the natural fading process of your Cosmetic Tattoo.

Even in the absence of any of the factors mentioned above, fading will still occur over time. With some people the tattoo may or may not remain visible for long periods of time, this can vary considerably from person to person.

“Colour Maintenance” may be required anywhere from 6 months up to 18 months after the last treatment, at the very least I suggest that my clients have a refresh treatment every year to keep their makeup tattoo looking at its best.

Some clients are happy to let their cosmetic tattoo fade considerably between Colour Maintenance treatments, others like to keep their Cosmetic Tattoo looking very bold and fresh all the time. For this reason no guarantees are offered or implied in regards to how long your cosmetic tattoo will last before you feel you need to have a touch up.