

## **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

Your skin art has been hygienically applied with sterile equipment. To preserve a fresh unfaded result, it is essential to avoid infection during the healing period. Always wash your hands before applying cream or touching the new tattoo. Your new tattoo will take from 5 to 10 days to heal, the healing time is related to the amount of physical damage to the skin and moisture in the area. The skin must be moisturised and protected from the damaging UV rays of the sun.

## **WASH**

After your skin art has been hygienically applied your artist will cover with a dressing to protect the artwork until you get home. It is at this point that the initiation of scab formation occurs. Under the dressing, the weeping tattoo allows blood platelets to begin collecting on the surface of the skin. To prevent further formation of a scab it is necessary to remove the blood platelets. Remove the dressing and wash the fresh tattoo (within 1 hour preferred) in warm running water (shower) using Protat Tattoo Cleansing Foam. DO NOT use bar soap as it can contaminate and dry the fresh tattoo. Using Anti Bacterial soap is not recommended as the tattoo applied by a Professional Artist is done so using clean and aseptic techniques to avoid the introduction of 'nasty' bacteria. The skin has a natural, friendly population of bacteria that actually help to protect the surface of the wound. Therefore, the use of an anti-bacterial product could kill any nasty bacteria if they were present, but it would also greatly reduce the natural bacteria population and leave the skin with out its primary defence mechanism. After washing, rinse thoroughly. DO NOT USE a washcloth or sponge. Pat dry. DO NOT RUB OR SCRATCH. Use Protat Tattoo Cleansing Foam once or twice a day until the tattooed skin heals. After drying wait 40-60 minutes to allow excess water in the tattoo to evaporate and inflammation to subside.

## **APPLY CREAM**

Apply Protat Aftercare Cream (Protat Premium Cream for normal skin or Protat Soothing Cream for sensitive skin) Always wash your hands before applying cream or touching the tattoo. Evenly apply cream over the tattooed skin. Use only as much cream as the skin will absorb. Rub cream in gently as this will help stimulate the skin and bring blood flow to the area, which helps in the body's natural healing process. DO NOT leave a thick film on the surface. Most people experience a mild tingling sensation after the first few applications, this is quite normal. After 10 minutes or so, clothing will not stick to the tattoo. Apply cream 2 to 3 times a day or as necessary to keep the tattoo slightly moist. DO NOT allow the skin to dry out. Wear clean clothes. Avoid close fitting clothes as they may absorb cream and dry the freshly tattooed skin. If you suffer from any allergies, seek advice from your GP and advise your body artist. Discontinue use of any product should irritation occur.

## **AVOID**

*During the healing period:*

Sunbathing. Chlorine. Soaking in a bath. Unwashed clothes. Touching with unwashed hands. Scratching. Salt Water. Oral Contact. Swimming.

## **SHAVING**

Most Tattooists will shave the area before tattooing to apply the stencil. Hair is on our body to protect our skin and on its removal the body's protective system sends fluid to the area. Where shaving has been done against the grain of hair, it can cause shaving rash and ingrown hairs, which can cause little white heads. To avoid this it is recommended, 3 to 7 days before being tattooed, to shave every day, shaving with the grain, the area you want tattooed plus 2 inches or 50mm around it. This will help the skin to be over any rash that may have appeared and to be ready to concentrate on the healing of the tattoo.

## **MOISTURISING**

When your body art is fully healed apply Protat Moisturising Cream regularly to rejuvenate and hydrate the skin and retain the quality of the artwork. Protat Moisturising Cream can be used over the entire body.

## **SUNSCREEN**

Use Protat SPF 30+ broad spectrum Sunscreen whenever you expose your body to the sun. Regular use can aid in the prevention of premature skin ageing, pigment fading and skin cancer.

These products have been formulated especially for, and in the long-term interest of, the tattoo Enthusiast. On going supplies of Protat Moisturiser and Protat SPF 30+ Sunscreen are available at your professional Tattoo Studio. Protat Products are for external use only