

Tatu-derm® Frequently Asked Questions

What is Tatu-derm®?

Tatu-derm is a breathable thin film bacterial barrier to protect new tattoos from dirt and abrasion. The technology is based on products used for burns and chronic wounds that have been widely used for more than 15 years.

Tatu-derm is the only breathable bacterial barrier developed for use on new tattoos. Tatu-derm technology is patent pending in the US.

When should I use it?

Tatu-derm should be used on new tattoos to eliminate risk of disease transmission while the skin is open.

If you have a disease that is transmitted by blood Tatu-derm is the best way to protect those around you and avoid leaving your blood in public places.

If you work in a dirty environment like welding, plumbing or construction Tatu-derm will keep your tattoo clean while you work.

If your tattoo is on a place that is exposed to a lot of abrasion - wrist, waistline, under a bra strap - Tatu-derm will eliminate rubbing directly on the tattoo.

If you have close contact with animals - pets or other - Tatu-derm will protect the tattoo from picking up bacteria.

If you plan to go out drinking after you get a new tattoo - you can show it off and still keep it clean.

What are the benefits?

It keeps the tattoo clean as long as it is covered with Tatu-derm.

It contains all body fluid so you will not stain your clothes.

It keeps you from sticking to the sheets when you sleep.

It protects the tattoo from irritation and abrasion.

It allows you to show your new tattoo without exposing it to dirt and germs.

It keeps the tattoo moist.

It won't rub off on your clothes like topical aftercare products

How do I put it on?

Tatu-derm should be applied to clean dry skin within an hour of completing a new tattoo. Be sure the area at least one inch around the tattoo is shaved and all soaps are rinsed away. Cut the product to cover the tattoo plus one inch for border. Place adhesive directly on the tattoo and press firmly. Peel the paper backing from the center slit slowly making sure it is sticking well. Pieces can be overlapped for larger tattoos.

It's best to place Tatu-derm with paper slit parallel to the bone - for ease of removing the paper backing.

Elbows should be covered first with anchor pieces over each end second to hold in place.

Shoulders can be covered with pieces cut to overlap to allow the product to conform to body shapes.

Gloves should be worn following shop protocol. Gloves are not necessary if you are covering yourself.

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How long should it stay on?

The first application should be removed within 12 to 24 hours. Clean, dry and reapply. The second application can stay on 24 - 48 hours.

Should I put any ointment on first?

It is best to put on clean dry skin. Lotions or ointments may contain solvents that can affect the adhesive.

How do I remove it?

Tatu-derm will stay in place until it is removed. It sticks very well to dry skin. It will not stick to the new tattoo because the skin will be moist, producing body fluid.

Peel the Tatu-derm very slowly away from the skin.

Does it breathe?

Yes, Tatu-derm is designed to breathe like your own skin - allowing vapor molecules out while preventing any fluid from penetrating.

Can I shower with it on?

Yes, Tatu-derm is waterproof and your new tattoo will be protected when you shower, bathe, swim or surf. This is a benefit especially to people that get tattoos on vacation.

I am on blood thinners. Can I use Tatu-derm?

Yes. When applied correctly Tatu-derm will contain body fluid produced by the new tattoo. People that take blood thinners will need to reapply the product more frequently until bleeding slows down or stops.

What if I am allergic to tapes and bandaids?

Tatu-derm uses a hypoallergenic medical grade adhesive. A small percentage of people have allergic reactions to adhesives which leaves a sunburn like redness on the skin. This redness goes away after the product is removed. Use your best judgement - is the risk of redness worse than the risk of infection? Will you keep your tattoo clean until it is healed? Or will it be exposed to dirty and highly populated environments? Make the best decision for yourself.

What if the tattoo is bleeding?

Tatu-derm will contain the fluid that comes naturally in the tattoo process. Be sure there is at least 1/2 inch of Tatu-derm around the perimeter of the tattoo. If the tattoo comes too close to the edge or is exposed body fluid will leak and your tattoo will not be protected.

Tatu-derm should not be used on tattoos that have started to scab.

Scabs are dry and Tatu-derm sticks to dry skin. If Tatu-derm is applied to a scab there is a risk that the scab could lift in removing the product.

When I removed the Tatu-derm my skin was very sticky. What happened?

Green soap commonly used on tattoos contains glycerine - which is a solvent. Solvents cause the adhesive to come off of the film and will stay on the skin. Adhesive removers are available over the counter and online. Wiping the adhesive remover on the skin will fix the problem. This will not affect the tattoo.