STYX
TATTOO/PIERCING STUDIO

PIERCING AFTERCARE

Please read these instructions carefully. Healing varies from person to person. If your skin becomes red, itchy or irritated, ask for advice about your aftercare routine. Seek medical advice for a severe allergic reaction or other significant health problems.

WHAT IS NORMAL AFTER A PIERCING?

- The skin around the piercing may be red, tender, sore or itchy.
- Some bleeding is common in the first few days, particularly after a genital piercing.
- A small amount of whitish or pale yellow fluid can dry into a crust on the skin or jewellery. This is different from pus.
- Healing tissue can tighten around the jewellery, making it harder to move when dry.

CARING FOR YOUR PIERCING

A fresh piercing is exposed to dirt and bacteria. Keep it clean throughout healing. It may look healed on the surface while the tissue inside is still fragile.

WHAT TO CLEAN IT WITH

- For the skin around a fresh piercing, use sterile saline wound wash containing 0.9% sodium chloride and water. Ready-made saline has a consistent salt concentration.
- The original studio leaflet mentions homemade sea salt solution, antibacterial soaps (Protex and Detol) and tea tree oil. Current aftercare guidance favours sterile saline. Antibacterial products and tea tree oil may irritate healing skin or cause a reaction.

WHAT TO AVOID

- Rubbing alcohol (isopropyl alcohol) can dry out the skin.
- Hydrogen peroxide can damage healing tissue. For a tongue or lip piercing, ask your piercer about oral aftercare.
- Avoid undiluted tea tree oil. It can irritate and dry out the skin.

HOW TO CLEAN YOUR PIERCING

Touching fresh piercings with unwashed hands can introduce bacteria. Keep up a gentle cleaning routine throughout healing.

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, then dry them before touching the area.
- Spray the area with sterile saline. Let crusts soften and rinse away loosened debris gently. Leave the jewellery still while cleaning.
- Gently pat dry with clean disposable gauze. A cloth towel can snag on jewellery.

EVERYDAY PRECAUTIONS

- Avoid swimming pools, ponds, hot tubs and shared baths while the piercing heals.
- Protect the fresh piercing from direct sun and tanning beds during the first few weeks.
- Avoid knocks, pressure and friction during sport or sex. Cleaning too often can also irritate the piercing.
- Keep cosmetics, creams, powders, make-up, perfume, sprays, shampoo and lubricants away from the site.
- Avoid contact with saliva or other people's bodily fluids. Use barrier protection during sexual contact, particularly while a genital piercing is healing.
- If clothing or bedding irritates the site, switch to a gentle detergent and rinse it thoroughly.
- Leave the jewellery in during healing unless a qualified professional advises otherwise. The channel can close quickly. Ask your piercer to check the jewellery's fit and material if it causes discomfort.

INFECTION: CAUSES, SIGNS AND TREATMENT

COMMON SOURCES OF INFECTION

- Touching the piercing or jewellery with unwashed hands
- Contact with bodily fluids
- Swimming in contaminated water
- Contact with dirty clothing or bedding

SIGNS TO LOOK FOR

- Increasing swelling or redness
- Heat around the piercing
- Sharp pain or increasing tenderness
- Thick yellow, green or greyish pus

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT INFECTION

- Seek prompt medical advice if the piercing is hot, increasingly painful or swollen, leaks pus, or you feel feverish or unwell.
- Leave the jewellery in unless a doctor advises removal. Removing it yourself may allow the opening to close.
- A doctor can assess whether you need antibiotics and prescribe the appropriate treatment. Use Bactroban (mupirocin) only if prescribed, following the directions you are given.

COMMON COMPLICATIONS

Migration means the jewellery moves from its original position. Rejection means it gradually works its way out through the skin. Infection, repeated knocks, a reaction to the material, unsuitable jewellery or the placement itself may contribute.

The strip of skin holding the jewellery may become thinner. In a shallow piercing such as an eyebrow piercing, the jewellery may become visible through the skin and the area may scab. Ask your piercer to assess it early to limit scarring. Re-piercing may be possible once the area has fully healed, but scar tissue does not guarantee a better result the second time.

A red bump can have several causes, including irritation, scarring or an inflamed hair follicle. Friction, irritating products or poorly fitting jewellery may be involved. A bump alone does not tell you whether it is a keloid. Ask your piercer to check the fit. If there is pain, heat, spreading redness, bleeding that persists or pus, seek medical advice.

SUPPORTING HEALING

- Cleaning more often will not speed things up. Over-cleaning can delay healing.
- A balanced diet and adequate rest support recovery. Ask a clinician before taking vitamins or zinc specifically for healing.
- Avoid applying vitamin E oil, ointments or other products to a fresh piercing unless a clinician recommends them.

HOW LONG DOES HEALING TAKE?

Approximate times from the studio guide. Healing varies with placement and from person to person.

Navel – 6 months to 2 years
Lip – 6 to 8 weeks
Tongue – 4 to 6 weeks
Cheek or eyebrow – 2 to 3 months
Clitoris, inner labia or Prince Albert – 4 to 8 weeks
Nipple, outer labia or scrotum – 2 to 6 months
Ampallang or apadravya – 4 to 8 months

STYX
TATTOO/PIERCING STUDIO
603 953 777
TATTOO@BORIS-STYX.CZ
WWW.BORIS-STYX.CZ
TATTOO STYX
OSTRAVA