

Illie the Impaler Piercing Aftercare

Now that you have your new piercing, it is important to take good care of it and stay healthy!

- -Resist touching your new piercing as much as possible, and if having contact is necessary, wash your hands first. Any touching and/or movement can cause aggravation and transfer dirt and bacteria, even if your piercing is almost through the initial healing process.
- -Clean your new piercing twice a day for the entire healing period. Use a mild antibacterial liquid soap (such as Dial Gold), that is free of dyes and fragrances, and warm water on a cotton swab (Q-tip) to gently clean around the jewelry and the entrance and exit of your piercing. Rinse piercing with clean water to remove excess soap. Turning or twisting your jewelry is not necessary, it will move as it needs to on its own.
- -Do not use harsh cleansers such as alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or "earring/contact solution" to wash your piercings. They are often full of harsh ingredients, can cause irritation, and can prolong the healing process.
- -For oral piercings (such as a tongue, lip, etc) use an alcohol-free mouthwash every time you eat or drink anything besides plain water, or after smoking/vaping. Do this as often as needed throughout the day.
- -Fresh/healing piercings may have secretions or scabbing, that cause a crusty or scaly build-up on and around the piercing. This is normal. Resist picking or touching the piercing with your hands; clean it away gently but thoroughly with warm water and cotton swabs. Some redness and/or swelling is to be expected during the first several weeks.
- -Do not cover or bandage your piercings unless directed to do so. Do not apply makeup or beauty products on or around the piercing. This can cause a warm, moist breeding ground for bacteria. Let your piercing breathe!
- -Ibuprofen or other anti-inflammatory medication (taken appropriately) is recommended to manage swelling and discomfort. It is especially important to monitor and control swelling, to prevent infection and rejection.
- -Avoid submerging new piercings under bodies of water (i.e. oceans, pools, hot tubs, etc.) for the first four weeks after initial piercing, and continue to wash your piercings afterwards during the entire healing process. Showering as normal is completely safe for new piercings.
- -Do not remove jewelry for any reason during the healing process, unless you wish to remove it permanently. If removing the jewelry permanently, make sure the area is cleaned beforehand, and then wash the area gently for 90 days afterwards to prevent infection.
- -Do not change your jewelry or remove initial jewelry until recommended by your piercer. Putting your piercing through premature trauma can cause damage, lead to setbacks in the healing process, or even the loss of the piercing completely. Ask us for help with jewelry changes, free with jewelry purchase!
- -If the piercing is on your face or ear(s), resist sleeping directly on your new piercings as much as possible, and be sure to sleep on a clean pillow case.
- -The jewelry you are given for the initial piercing is most often temporary. Once the piercing is healed, change jewelry to pieces that are more appropriately fitted. Ask us for help with jewelry changes, free with jewelry purchase!

THE RECOMMENDED HEALING TIME FOR YOUR	PIERCING IS	MONT	HS
DO NOT CHANGE JEWELRY EARLY!!!			