PRO TIPS

Guide for Tattoos

Whether achieving seamless continuity for camera work, or tattoos for any event, executing a proper application technique is vital. This guide delivers professional-grade instructions to ensure maximum adhesion, edge integration, and extended structural wear for water-transfer temporary tattoos.

Preparation Checklist

Before beginning the transfer process, ensure the skin area is prepared and the necessary tools are at hand. Proper prep directly determines the durability and visual realism of the final transfer.

Required Materials: Witch hazel or any similar astringent, 99% alcohol, clean sponges or cotton cloths, water, a dry towel, no-color powder, and a matte liquid sealer.

Application Procedure

01 Tattoo prep
Carefully cut out the tattoo design with scissors, leaving a narrow 2-3mm margin around the graphic perimeter. You can use a pencil to trace the tattoo on the backside to help with placement.

02 Cleanse the skin site
Clean the target area thoroughly using an astringent, such as witch hazel, because skin oils, moisturizers, lotions, and sunscreens create a barrier that severely undermines the adhesive bond. Ensure the skin is entirely dry before proceeding.

03 Applying the Transfer
Take your prepared tattoo and peel off the clear acetate to expose the tacky adhesive surface. Avoid touching the exposed adhesive layer directly. Place the transfer face-down onto the prepped skin, ensuring the graphic lies completely flat without stretching or buckling the skin surface. Press firmly across the entire paper backing to secure initial contact.

04 Saturate the Paper Backing
With a water soaked sponge or cloth, apply steady uniform downward pressure over the entire paper backing ensuring the water penetrates completely across the entire surface. The paper backing must be completely saturated to release the transfer layer cleanly.

05 Release and Slide
Maintain contact for 30 full seconds to ensure the tattoo releases fully. Gently slide a corner of the backing paper sideways to check the release. If it resists, apply more water and hold for an additional 10 seconds. Once released, smoothly slide the paper away to reveal the tattoo.

06 Dry and Set the Transfer
Blot any loose water and allow the transfer to air dry. Do not twist or flex your skin during this window. Once dry, use a cotton swab with 99% alcohol to blend out any edges around the applied tattoo. At this point, apply a light dusting of translucent setting powder if you still have work to do on the tattoo and want to remove the tackiness. Alternatively, if the tattoo is finished, apply a matte sealant spray to lock it in place.

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CRITICAL PERFORMANCE CARE

Hydration Check: Although the tattoo itself is water resistant, avoid aggressive scrubbing or hot water contact for the first 12 hours post-application unless further sealing is done.
Environmental Factors: Keep chlorinated water, heavy sweat, and oil-based topical agents clear of the design site to prevent premature edge lifting and clouding.

Pro-Tips for Realism
To eliminate any shininess of the tattoo, apply a thin coat of matte sealer or specialized anti-shine cream over the applied transfer. For high-definition photography or on-camera continuity, a very light dusting of loose cosmetic powder breaks down light reflection and blends the clear edges directly into the skin tone texture.

Removal Protocols

Temporary tattoos are designed to resist standard water washing but break down easily under solvent action. Use one of the following methods:

- **Oil Dissolution:** Saturate the transfer area completely with baby oil, olive oil, or an oil-based makeup remover. Allow it to sit for 60 seconds, then gently wipe away with a cotton pad.
- **Alcohol Breakdown:** Apply isopropyl alcohol to a soft washcloth and rub the design gently using circular motions until the adhesive lifts.

Follow with a warm water rinse, general cleanse, and moisturizer.