

Prairie Wynde Tattoo Shop & Art Studio

Q: How old do you have to be to get a tattoo?

A: You must be 18 or over. Be ready to prove yourself with a photo ID because I will need a photo copy of it.

Q: Do you take Credit Cards?

A: Yes, we accept VISA and Mastercard. No Checks

Q: Do you take "walk-ins" or must I make an appointment?

A: No Walk-ins. I am only accepting tattoos by appointment. My schedule is usually booked out about 1 month ahead, so please plan ahead.

Q: How do I take care of my tattoo?

A: Good Question, every artist is going to have a slightly differing opinion on proper aftercare. It is highly recommended to follow the direction of the artist who gave you the tattoo.

Q: Can I shower after a tattoo?

A: I'm a firm believer of showers, they are great. Cleaning any kind of cut is good for you. If there is any residue leftover from getting the tattoo, cleaning it gives germs nothing to feed on. On the other hand you should stay out of pool water, lake/pond water and salty beach water until at least 7 days after your tattooing.

Q: Can I walk in the sunshine?

A: If your tattoo is brand new avoid sun exposure. I always tell people not to forget that your tattoo is like an expensive scrape. The skin is exposed to harm because it has lost part of its protective epidermis, so if you expose a tattoo to sun, the sun burns your skin with nothing to stop it.

Q: I've had this tattoo for years; do I still need to avoid the sun?

A: Your tattoo will last a lot longer if you protect it. Try to use sun block if you know you're going to tan or be working or walking in the sun for awhile.

Q: How do you guys sterilize your instruments?

A: Actually I use only single use tubes and needles, so aside from the constant cleaning of the tattoo room, everything that can be disposable is disposable.

Q: Does it Hurt to get tattooed?

A: Some people are annoyed by this question, but it really is a valid question because what people really want to know is how MUCH will it hurt. Yes it hurts, but: everyone handles it differently. What you feel depends on who you are, whether you had a good lunch, if you got good sleep that night, etc. I feel that the stress involved in getting a tattoo is good for people. It is very much like a healing ritual in which you volunteer to endure to reach a higher goal. Some people find getting a tattoo will snap them out of a depression for a while. The human body "rewards" you with endorphins to deal with pain. So the tattoo usually hurts only for the first 5 - 10 minutes and then you either feel numb in that area or you feel very good all of a sudden. I always feel like I accomplished something really good after getting a tattoo, and that's a good feeling. Of course, being rewarded with a beautiful tattoo is an even better feeling.

Q: What part of the body hurts the least, what hurts the most?

A: The arm is the absolute easiest, the genitals would probably be the most, but since we don't tattoo those.....Areas where you have lots of muscle will absorb the needle better and as a result hurt less. The places that hurt more than usual are areas of either high nerve concentration, erogenous zones like inner thigh or areas right over bone like the ankle. Certain areas that hurt a lot like the rib cage usually are chosen by those with more experience. But, if it's your first tattoo and you are nervous, stick to the arm or leg. Really though I think people should get them wherever they envision the tattoo looking good regardless of pain, because once it's over you live with it for the rest of your life, which hopefully will be a long time.

Q: So I can get high or drunk to deal with the pain?

A: That question always reminds me of people who say they drive better when drunk. Alcohol makes your surface blood vessels dilate, which means you will bleed more and that means it will be harder to have ink spread evenly in the skin. People who are drunk I find can never stay still while getting tattooed. This is incredibly annoying, try painting a straight line on a moving car for example, almost impossible. You want straight even lines

you have to stay still. The main point however is that we want you to be a 100% with us when your being tattooed so you are happy with all your decisions later.

Q: Are Tattoos addictive, why does everyone have so many?

A: Honestly, most people do end up getting more than one. I personally don't see anything wrong with that. A lot of people feel off-balance with just one tattoo. In my opinion there are three major rewards to getting tattooed.

1) "Runners high" or endorphins after enduring something stressful like getting a tattoo or running 4 miles.

2) The feeling of accomplishing something, enduring stress towards the higher end of a beautiful design on your skin forever.

3) Attention from people, in which the tattoo is appreciated for its beauty or cool factor.

Q: Can tattoos be removed?

A: As much as I dislike this question, I have to admit there are definitely tattoos worth removing. Before we get into it however I have to say you shouldn't get a tattoo if imminent removal is on your mind. Almost every method of removal leaves some trace scar tissue. The best method is laser removal in which a laser vaporizes the ink particles in the skin. Old methods usually involved burning or abrading the entire area, definitely messy. If you like tattoos I suggest you look into getting a cover-up from someone competent. Laser removal usually requires many sessions and the fees add up usually 3-4 times what a cover-up would have cost. However if the old tattoo is on the darker side, 1 or 2 laser sessions may ease the complete concealment of the design. Cover-ups are always best with a consult session or two before hand.

Q: If I have dark skin can I still get a Tattoo?

A: Absolutely, the most important thing to understand is that the style should be adjusted for the design to be bold and show contrast well, especially if the person is very dark. In general I encourage having a large design tattooed on dark skin because it's easier to decipher the image. Believe me there's nothing more disheartening for a person with a new tattoo than to have all their friends wondering "what is that on your arm?"

Q: Can people with dark skin get GOOD tattoos?

A: Notice I phrased the question like I did. If your artist knows what he/she is doing they will take into consideration just how light or dark you are. If you are light caramel colored than you can have black & grey, red, orange, blue & green. Moderate colored skin I use black & grey & red. Red combines with brown skin beautifully. Really dark skin I say you should stick to black and shades of grey.

Q: How much does it cost to get a tattoo?

A: I have a minimum charge of fifty dollars. I do custom work and charge one hundred fifty dollars per hour. I charge for actual time in the chair. So depending on how easily your skin tattoos and how well you sit still the price could be more or less.

Q: Do you tip a Tattoo Artist?

A: Now there's an awesome question that I love to debate. In a perfect world I wouldn't tip a waiter or waitress because I HAD too. The service should be better than just "good enough" which is what you get in most places. If a tattoo artist has gone out of their way to make things good for you, or really set you up with something sweet, than by all means. What's typical? \$10-\$20 or about 10% of the cost. This however should be considered only if you get exceptional service and NOTHING LESS.