Scarification aftercare
by Ryan Ouellette of Precision Body Arts

Leave your bandage on for a minimum of twelve hours, remove bandage slowly as it may stick to your skin. Gently wash your piece with warm water and mild soap, rinse fully, and gently pat dry. Do not use your regular shower or bath towel when you dry your piece, use new disposal paper towels. Never wipe your piece dry, only gently pat it dry.

DO NOT apply any ointments or chemical irritants to your piece. Once washed and dried cover your piece with plastic cling wrap (use a new roll, not the one that’s laying around in your kitchen). Keep your piece covered for the majority of the day and night, but you can leave it unwrapped when showering, cleaning/drying, or to let it air out for short periods of time. You’ll need to unwrap, clean with soap and water, dry, and re-wrap your piece several times a day for the first week. Clean your piece whenever a significant amount of moisture has built up under the plastic wrap, at least 2-4 times daily. If you do not clean your piece regularly it can lead to heat rash and potentially infection. Do not soak or swim in any standing water while your piece is healing and the wound is still open. Do not touch your piece with unwashed hands, or let it come in contact with any debris while the wound is still open.

If you abandon wrapping early you’ll want to let your piece scab over and heal naturally. If you decide to stop wrapping your piece early you’ll want to wash, rinse, and dry your piece fully first. Then let it sit in the open air for several hours before covering with clothing. Do not cover a moist wound with clothing, the fabric will stick to the wound. If your piece scabs, even mildly, DO NOT pick at the scabs. This will cause additional damage to your piece and may cause uneven scarring.

With consistent cleaning and wrapping you can expect initial healing within 1-2 weeks. If you do not wrap and you allow your piece to scab, initial healing can stretch out to 2-3 weeks or more. “Initial healing” means the wound is fully covered by a new layer of skin. Once initial healing is done it will take several months for scar tissue to form and mature. Expect your final scar anywhere from 6-12 months after the piece was done. Each scarification piece is unique and healing will vary depending on design type and location. If you have any questions about your specific piece contact Ryan. Email: ryanpba@hotmail.com

Precision Body Arts
116 West Pearl Street
Nashua, New Hampshire
603-889-5788
precisionbodyarts.com
facebook.com/ryanpba
ryanpba.tumblr.com