

# Think Before You Re Inked: The Ultimate Guide to Tattooing



## Think Before You're Inked: Your Guide to Everything You Need to Know About Getting A Tattoo by Cherie Johnson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Tattoos are a permanent form of body art that can be both beautiful and meaningful. However, before you get inked, it's important to do your research and make sure that you're making the right decision for you. This guide will provide you with everything you need to know about tattooing, from choosing a design to finding the right artist to caring for your new tattoo.

## Choosing a Tattoo Design

The first step in getting a tattoo is choosing a design. This is a personal decision, and there are no right or wrong answers. However, there are a few things to keep in mind when choosing a design:

- **Consider the meaning of the tattoo.** What does it represent to you? Is it a symbol of something important in your life? Or is it simply a design that you find aesthetically pleasing?
- **Think about the placement of the tattoo.** Where do you want it to be on your body? Do you want it to be visible or hidden? The placement of the tattoo will also affect the size and design of the tattoo.
- **Do your research.** There are many different tattoo styles to choose from. Take some time to look at different portfolios and find a style that you like. You can also bring in pictures of tattoos that you like to your artist as inspiration.

### **Finding the Right Tattoo Artist**

Once you have chosen a design, the next step is to find a tattoo artist. This is an important decision, as the artist will be responsible for permanently inking you. Here are a few tips for finding the right tattoo artist:

- **Ask for recommendations.** Ask your friends, family, or coworkers if they have any recommendations for tattoo artists. If you know someone who has a tattoo that you like, ask them who did it.
- **Look at online portfolios.** Many tattoo artists have online portfolios that showcase their work. This is a great way to get an idea of the artist's style and experience.
- **Visit different tattoo shops.** Once you have found a few artists that you like, visit their shops and talk to them about your ideas. This will give you a chance to get to know the artist and see if they are a good fit for you.

### **Getting Your Tattoo**

Once you have chosen an artist and design, it's time to get your tattoo!

Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- **Be prepared for pain.** Getting a tattoo can be painful, but the amount of pain will vary depending on the size, placement, and detail of the tattoo.
- **Follow the artist's instructions.** The artist will give you instructions on how to care for your tattoo. Follow these instructions carefully to ensure that your tattoo heals properly.
- **Be patient.** It takes time for a tattoo to heal. Don't be discouraged if your tattoo doesn't look perfect right away. It will take a few weeks for the tattoo to fully heal and for the colors to settle in.

### **Caring for Your Tattoo**

Once your tattoo is healed, it's important to take care of it to ensure that it looks its best for years to come. Here are a few tips for caring for your tattoo:

- **Keep your tattoo clean.** Wash your tattoo with soap and water twice a day. Avoid using harsh soaps or scrubs, as these can irritate the skin.
- **Moisturize your tattoo.** Apply a thin layer of moisturizer to your tattoo every day. This will help to keep the skin hydrated and prevent it from drying out.
- **Protect your tattoo from the sun.** Sun exposure can damage tattoos. When you're outdoors, cover your tattoo with clothing or sunscreen.
- **Avoid scratching your tattoo.** Scratching can damage the tattoo and cause it to fade. If your tattoo itches, gently pat it or apply a cold

compress.

Getting a tattoo is a big decision. By following the tips in this guide, you can ensure that you make the right decision for you. With proper care, your tattoo will be a beautiful and meaningful work of art that you can enjoy for years to come.



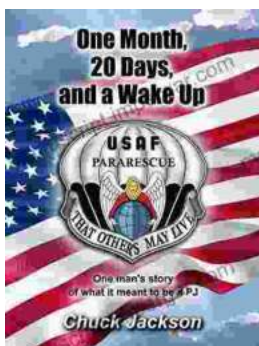
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