

## The Design Journey That Starts the Moment You Enter a Tattoo Shop Bath



It should always be remembered that a good tattoo begins way before the needle gets to your skin. On the contrary, it begins with a discussion, drawing, and understanding between you and the artist. Right from the time one steps into the shower room in the [tattoo parlour bath](#), the process of creating his/her tattoo begins. All the questions the artist asks and all the information one gives to him/her determines how good or bad the final tattoo will turn out to be.

### First Impressions: Why the Studio Atmosphere Shapes Your Design

The atmosphere of the studio has a lot of effect on your decisions while creating. When there is a comfortable atmosphere in the studio, you will feel comfortable, and the relaxed client will express his vision to you without any hesitation. All the art work displayed in the studio, the opened portfolios, and a friendly welcoming attitude will make you believe that the studio is all about creativity. As soon as you go into the studio, you create the very first impression about the studio itself. Notice the attitude of the staff towards you, how they keep the place organized and how they do not put any pressure on you.

### Sharing Your Idea and Telling the Story Behind It

All tattoos come with an individual history as well. You should let the artist know about the history of the particular tattoo, since it will be useful to the artist and will help him to illustrate your tattoo accordingly. Why did you choose this tattoo? There could be many reasons such as the love of a person dear to you or some period of time in your life. It is important that the artist knows how you feel and how he should express it in his creation.

### How Reference Images Help Artists Understand Your Vision

These references help in enabling the artist to get a better idea of what you visualize so that he may be able to design the tattoo in accordance with your vision. You may provide him with any pictures, designs, color schemes, etc., which reflect the tone that you wish to portray in your tattoo. The artists analyze all such references in order to comprehend the thickness of the lines, use of shadows, and the composition of the design. The artist would not copy some other person's tattoo but would design it using his own expertise and your references.

## **Choosing the Right Style for Your Idea and Skin**

While some designs may be more appropriate for certain ideas than others, the artist whom you choose will guide you accordingly. Fine lines will give way to detailed tattoos while the traditional style will provide you with bold and enduring ink designs. Black and gray can also be employed to bring in some dramatic elements to the design while the inclusion of lettering will bring in a further degree of clarity and uniqueness to your design. Factors such as the texture of the skin, skin tone, and the location will affect the aging of your tattoo.

## **From Rough Sketch to Refined Artwork**

After establishing the direction, it's time for the artist to start sketching. These sketches are often very rough and simple, which is quite common and natural. It is at this stage that the artist tries out various options with regard to the composition, proportions, and lines without being preoccupied with details. Usually, at this stage, you look through the work together and decide on what to preserve and what to change. At the next stage, the artist works on improving the drawing by making it cleaner in terms of lines and shading. This stage may take some time, from several hours up to several days, depending on the complexity of the project.

## **Deciding on Placement, Size, and Flow**

The Location of the Tattoo and Its Size Will Define Its Appearance

While designing the tattoo, the artists will always consider the shape of your body, the way muscles work, and the way the tattoo is going to interact with the area where you plan to place it. However, while making the decision, you may consider some additional factors, such as:

- Will it be seen on you in public places, in your workplace and during your usual activities?
- Does it look good against the shape of your body?
- Is there enough space for additional elements?
- Will it alter its appearance because of the age, stretching, weight gain?
- How much pain will you experience from this location?
- Is there a chance that you will want to add one more tattoo there in the future?

Considering these issues, you will definitely prevent regrets in the future. Right placement will guarantee that the tattoo will perfectly match your body.

## **Using Stencils to Preview Your Tattoo Before Ink**

This is the point where you get to see a true representation of your tattoo. The tattoo artist takes the completed drawing and puts it on your skin in the form of a temporary stencil. Then, you can inspect your tattoo in the mirror. You should move about and inspect the [tattoo shop bath](#) from various angles.



Take note of any straight lines, symmetry, and balance issues. In case you see something wrong, speak up right away. Tattoo artists move stencils a lot and are used to it. This stage is important since it transforms a drawing into a physical manifestation.

### **Making Changes Without Feeling Rushed**

When you are in the middle of a design process, there is nothing wrong with second thoughts, and it is simply fair for any reputable place to listen to what you have to say. Perhaps you find the lines too thick, the letters too small, or the design being placed a little higher than desired. Just say how you feel about it. Talented artists will see your changes as just a part of the process, and they will try to make sure that you are pleased with the outcome. Nobody is going to push you to do anything if you are not fully prepared.

### **Final Approval and Getting Ready for the Session**

During the last stage of approval, you finalize your arrangement with the design. In this phase, your tattoo artist will make sure that all the information regarding the size, location, cost, and booking time is confirmed, and you can even sign any consents that are needed. Check everything, starting from the spelling of all the letters and going to the exact location of all the elements of the design. It will take just a moment to fix small mistakes, but they won't be fixed at any other point later on. Get answers to any open questions you may have concerning the time frame, pain control, and aftercare. Finally, it is time to get prepared for the procedure. Eat right, drink water, and put on some loose clothes.

### **How the Design Journey Continues Through Healing and Aftercare**

Just because the last stroke has been made doesn't mean that the process is over. The healing process affects how your tattoo will look like in the coming years, therefore, aftercare should be treated equally to the design process. Your tattooist will inform you about how to keep the tattoo clean, moistened and protected. Be careful in following these instructions and don't try to scratch or pick at the tattoo or submerge it into

water. Don't let it get exposed to the sun rays during this period. Once in a couple of weeks your tattoo will settle down and reveal its true colors.

## **Conclusion**

Designing is a natural part of each amazing tattoo. The process begins with creating a friendly atmosphere, continues with serious talks and sketches, and ends up with the healing of the created masterpiece which you can be proud of. Every step – from storytelling to stencil choice – brings you closer to the result and increases your faith in it. Do not be afraid to make any questions, get information and find a tattoo artist who values the process of cooperation. When you give equal value to both designing and tattooing, you create your masterpiece.