

## Healing Times and Aftercare

Infection risks:

Do not submerge your piercing in any body of water for the first two months. Showers are okay, no baths.

Do not allow pets or other people to touch your piercing for two months.

Do not get dirt or debris on the piercing for two months. Refrain from activities like gardening, camping, etc.

Infections can look like redness, piercings that feel hot, throbbing, thick yellow to green discharge, a bad odor, tenderness around the piercing site, and fever.

There are other signs of infection, if you feel like you may have one, consult a physician. If anything looks or feels concerning, consult with a physician.

### Navel Healing time:6-8 MONTHS

For the full healing time, remember to clean your piercing(s) twice a day minimum. Try not to clean more than four times a day. Do not wear any high waisted pants or clothing that will put pressure on it when you stand or sit. Wear pants with a waist band that sits about three fingers width below your navel (about 2.5-3 inches), for the first six months.

Our recommendation is to buy a sterile store bought saline spray. Neilmed makes a Nasal mist that works great. Any other saline is great, As long as the ingredients are a .9% salt to water ratio. Stay clear of anything that is "extra strength" or has any other additives in it.

Daily cleaning should look like this, spray the piercing on both ends where jewelry touches the skin. Let the saline sit on the piercing for at least two full minutes, if the saline dries, re apply. After two minutes have passed, wipe the debris (the scabby crusty stuff) off the piercing thoroughly with a tissue or a paper towel rolled up like an ice cream cone, using the point to gently get it spotless.

When in the shower wash your face and hair like normal, but refrain from washing the piercing with soaps of any kind, this includes shampoos and conditioners. It's okay to get soap on the piercing, just make sure to rinse it well, and dry it thoroughly after.

### **Weeks 1-2: Red scabs, and red piercings :(**

Bleeding, swelling, as well as bruising are expected. If you are concerned about the length of your jewelry, such as difficulty cleaning, or tenderness, come in and get a longer post. This will be a free service at no cost to you, if it is necessary.

To keep this from happening, remember to do cold compresses on your piercing nightly, and in the morning for the first month. We recommend using cold water out of the refrigerator in a ziplock baggie for the first month of healing. You are also welcome to use anti-inflammatory medications if you are medically cleared to do so.

Tenderness is also expected. If it hurts, or you're worried contact us.

**Weeks 3-24: Yellow to white scabs**

Your piercing will scab quite a bit for the first 2 months, and will start to decrease to an almost invisible level at around 4-6 months. Please keep cleaning until a piercer tells you to stop.

Itching is normal at this stage, your piercing should also not be red or pink anymore.

**Weeks 8-16: Downsize time!**

Your swelling should be done, please come by and have it checked to see if you can shorten it.

**Weeks 16-24: Piercing is maturing.**

Almost there! At this point your piercing is maturing, meaning your piercing is almost healed but still fragile, so don't give up yet! Keep cleaning twice a day even if you barely see any scabs. Even though your piercing may look healed, it's not time to change it or remove it. Piercings heal from the outsides to the center. Just like baking a cake, if you're impatient and do anything too soon you'll be looking at a goey mess, and you might have to start all over. Yuck!

**Weeks 16-24: Almost there, Keep going, You did it!**

Come by and give us a look at your piercing! You may be able to change your jewelry.

Remember to always use high quality jewelry. Implant grade titanium, implant grade steel, niobium, and solid 14k gold that is nickel free are always safe options. Refrain from anything silver, or plated, if it seems like you're getting a great deal, you most likely aren't, sadly. Please bring in any pieces of jewelry you have to have them checked, you may also send us pictures of stuff to our instagram, email, or any media you can find us on.

Just please be safe, you have invested a lot of love into this shiny part of you, one bad piece of jewelry could set you back if you have an allergic reaction. Remember, we are just as invested in this as you are, and we would love for you to express yourself safely. <3