

How To Care For New Industrial Piercings

In principal, industrial piercing aftercare is the same as for any ear cartilage piercing. However they can be trickier to clean and usually take longer to heal: often up to 24 weeks for [complete](#) healing. You should clean your industrial piercing twice daily with saline solution, using cotton buds – cotton wool balls get tangled in the piercing and leave fibres behind. Avoid swimming or submerging the piercing in water as this will all introduce bacteria. Tie or clip long hair away from the piercing and avoid contact with soap, shampoo or [hair products](#). If you get any of these on the piercing, rinse with clean water and clean with saline.

Your industrial piercing should feel progressively better as it heals. If you experience persistent pain or swelling, consult your piercer – these can be signs of an infected piercing. Other [symptoms](#) include sharp pain, constant sensitivity, pus, redness and the skin feeling very hot. Infections in ear cartilage piercings can be more serious than in other piercings, so it is vital to seek help immediately. Do not assume it will just get better! Most piercing infections can be dealt with but in some cases infection can spread in between the layers of cartilage and even destroy the cartilage, leading to cartilage collapse. Good piercing aftercare can prevent infections, so it is very important to take good care of your industrial piercing!

Once healed, your industrial piercing requires very little care. Keep it clean and consult your piercer if you notice any changes to the piercing or immediate area.