

Body Art

Safe tattoos and piercings



Go to a licensed artist working in a licensed shop, and help make sure your tattoo is done in a clean environment with sterile equipment and sanitary technique.

What to do

Go to a licensed shop

- Licensed artists have had training to prevent disease transmission.
- Licensed shops are inspected to ensure the environment, equipment, and technique meet health standards.
- Licensed shops are used only for body art and don't double as someone's kitchen area or car.

Don't risk damaging your skin – or worse. Keep in mind, an infection can ruin your tattoo! In addition to finding an artists based on the quality of the work and whether their personal style is one you want to wear on your skin, take the simple step of checking for a license to protect yourself.

What to know

Minors cannot access all services

- The law prohibits a minor from getting a tattoo, even with a parent's consent.
- Minors can get most types of piercings if their parent is present and signs a consent form in the presence of the artist.

You can report an issue

- Call 651-201-3731 and ask for Minnesota's body art program. We investigate complaints and can help artists correct minor problems. If a problem is serious enough, we can close the shop.

For more information

- **Minnesota Department of Health:**
<http://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/providers/bodyart/>



At the Minnesota Department of Health, we work for all people and communities to have what they need to be healthy.

Visit us at www.health.state.mn.us

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