

TATTOOS & PIERCINGS

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health provides the information, resources and services you need to be as healthy and safe as possible wherever you live, learn, work or play.

Visit our website or call for more detailed information on public health programs.

wdgpublichealth.ca

1-800-265-7293

Fergus

490 Charles Allan Way

Guelph

160 Chancellors Way

Orangeville

180 Broadway

Shelburne

167 Centre Street (Mel Lloyd Centre)

TATTOOS & PIERCINGS



Make getting a tattoo or
piercing a safe experience

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Tattoo and piercing artists are expected to follow infection control and best practice guidelines set out by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

If they don't sterilize equipment properly, you could catch diseases like hepatitis B and C, HIV and bacterial or fungal infections.

Shops should use only sterile, individually packaged needles or equipment for each procedure. They should discard any disposable items like gloves, razors, ink caps and swabs after each use. For tattooing, you should see the artist pour fresh ink into the disposable cap.

Public Health inspects shops at least once a year to make sure that they are taking steps to control the spread of infectious diseases.



Before you decide where to go for your tattoo or piercing, call Public Health to see if the shop has been inspected.

You can also look online at checkbeforeyouchoose.ca where we post shops that we have inspected. If a shop isn't on this list, it has not been inspected.

Just because a shop has been inspected doesn't mean that it continues to follow safe procedures. If you think a shop isn't following safe infection control procedures, you can call us at 1-800-265-7293 to report a complaint.

Choose an artist with a good reputation working in a properly equipped space inspected by Public Health. Before you leave the shop, ask how to take care of your new tattoo or piercing. Treat your new piercing or tattoo carefully to prevent getting an infection, which could affect your health and ruin your new body art.

If your tattoo or piercing becomes red, swollen or feels hot to the touch, contact your doctor right away.

checkbeforeyouchoose.ca