



CONSULTATION HELP!

Consultations are the first and most important step to getting a custom tattoo. You like your artist's work and they like your idea, but this is only the beginning. Getting the design you want actually requires a lot of teamwork and communication between you and your artist, even if you want to give them total artistic license. The 30-minute consultation you have scheduled is your one shot to make sure your artist knows exactly what you want, so PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY.

The most important thing to remember when you come in to talk about your tattoo idea is that YOUR ARTIST CANNOT READ YOUR MIND. Drawing is a lot of work, so they're going to do their best to get your design right on the first try. Your artist needs your help with this. That means you need to come in to your consultation with a clear and complete idea of what you want, as well as a game plan for how to communicate it. You do not need to be artistic or creative for this, you just need to be decisive and communicative.

Bringing examples/printouts of things you like is always helpful if you don't feel confident about verbally describing your artistic preferences. For style references, examples from your artist's portfolio are particularly helpful. It is important that you review their whole portfolio before you come in. This is the best way for you to gain an understanding of what you can expect from their work.

When it comes to details, your artist will ask you a lot of questions about size, placement, style, etc. in order to try to understand all of your preferences as thoroughly as possible. Likewise, have all your questions ready for your artist, as this is the best time to ask.

Of course, your artist will be happy to exercise any amount of artistic license with your design, but they still want to be sure that you know what you're getting so they can save themselves the trouble (and you the money) of having to redraw your design if you don't like it. Small revisions are okay, but big revisions (revisions that require your artist to start over with the design) may require an extra fee.

Lastly, you will be required to leave a [Deposit](#) for your artist to start your drawing or book appointment. You are under no obligation to leave a deposit or commit to the tattoo at the end of our consultation, but your artist may charge a fee for their time if you decide not to go through with the idea you came in for.

Every artist operates a little differently! When in doubt, ask questions.

Last revised: April 14, 2018