

# HOW TO DISGUISE A TATTOO

## 1 Wear long sleeves.

Long-sleeve shirts can cover arm and shoulder tattoos. The garment should be a dark, medium-weight fabric, not sheer or ultrathin; light-weight white shirts and blouses will not effectively cover upper-body tattoos in bright light.

## 2 Wear a scarf and hat.

A tasteful scarf (for women) or ascot (for men) can be used to hide neck tattoos. A wide-brimmed hat is effective for concealing forehead tattoos.

## 3 Wear boots.

Cover ankle tattoos with ankle boots, but they should be worn to an interview only if accompanied by a pantsuit or a long skirt. Do not wear cowboy boots or high-top lace-up shoes to a job interview.

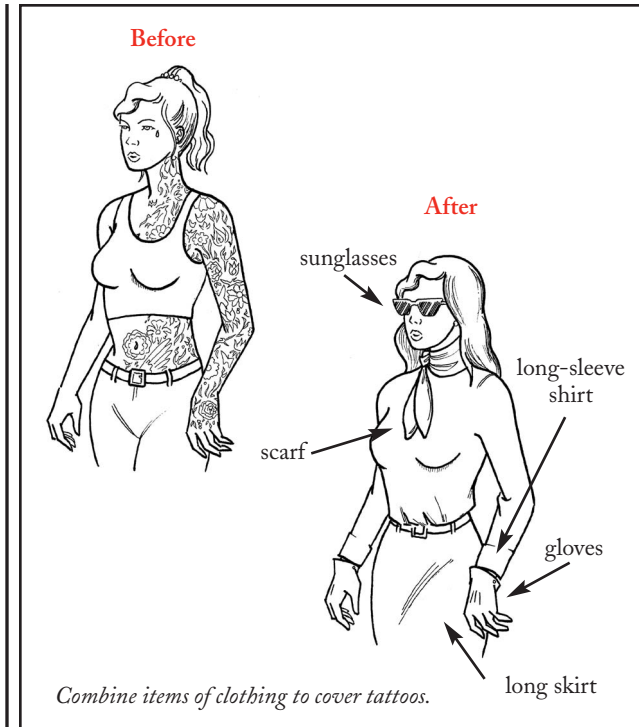
## 4 Wear pants or dark stockings.

For leg tattoos, wear pants, or use cosmetics (see step 5) and wear black or off-black medium sheer hosiery; ultra-sheer hosiery will not hide a tattoo. (Colored tattoos may be noticeable even through opaque stockings without the preliminary application of makeup.)

## 5 Apply a layer of eye shadow over the tattoo.

Use matte shadow without sparkle. Depending on the tattoo's colors and complexity, you may need to apply multiple colors of eye shadow:

- Dark tattoo colors (black, blue, purple): Use yellow eye shadow to cover.
- Red: Use light green eye shadow to cover.
- Yellow: Use light to medium pink eye shadow to cover.



If no eye shadow is available, use colored makeup. Apply green foundation to red shades in a tattoo, pink to yellow shades, and yellow concealer (usually used to cover dark circles under the eyes) for black, blue, or purple in the tattoo.

**6 Apply full-coverage makeup.**

Use a layer of thick, full-coverage foundation that matches your skin tone. Cover with a dusting of translucent powder to set the coverage. Allow the makeup to dry.

## HOW TO DISGUISE A PIERCING

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**1 Fill holes evenly with wax filler.**

Wax filler is available at most department stores. Use slightly softened beeswax if no filler is available.

**2 Touch up the area with a full-coverage makeup.**

Use a base that matches your skin tone.

**3 Dust with translucent powder.**

Use a fluffy cosmetic brush.

**4 Remove excess powder or makeup.**

Use an ear swab.

**5 Wear glasses with thick frames.**

The glasses can be either corrective or clear. The frames will obscure an eyebrow piercing and distract from a nose or lip piercing.

**6 Shade a lip piercing with a lip pencil.**

Choose a lip pencil that matches your natural lip color or wear a colored lipstick. Matte-finish lip pencils with long-lasting color stay are most effective; avoid soft lip pencils. Avoid wearing lipgloss or ultra-shiny lipsticks—the extra shine will draw more attention to your lips.

### Be Aware

- Multiple ear piercings can be concealed with hair; use hairspray to keep the hair in place.
- In a pinch, wear bandages to conceal tattoos, but never on the face.

## HOW TO FAKE A TATTOO OR PIERCING

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**★ Wear or draw temporary tattoos.**

Draw with an indelible marker or apply a temporary tattoo to your forearm, neck, hands, or shoulders several hours before the interview and allow it to dry completely. Pick a tattoo that matches the job.

- Yin/yang—health store clerks, coffeeshop workers
- Mermaids—dockworkers, fishermen
- Blood, thorns—bike messengers
- “Mother”—bouncers, mechanics

**★ Wear clip-on earrings or magnetic nose rings.**

An ear cuff may also be used in the nose to simulate a nose piercing.



★ **Do not play with the fake rings or stare at the “tattoos.”**

Treat the piercings or tattoos as if they have always been a part of your body.

★ **Do not perspire.**

Even though most temporary tattoos claim to be long-lasting and sweat resistant, perspiration can cause the tattoo to stain clothing or furniture, and fake piercings can become slippery and slide off.

**Be Aware**

Do not expose tattoos and jewelry completely. Place your fake tattoos just above a pants line, or below a sleeve. Hide piercings behind strands of hair, allowing you to naturally brush it back at some point to reveal the “piercing.” A little exposure can be more natural and convincing than a fully visible tattoo.

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