

# Tattoo You Designs

Helping You Find the Best Tattoo



## Tattoo:

# Book of Secrets

Forget What You Think You Know



Hello,

Welcome to **Tattoo: Book of Secrets.**

As a tattoo enthusiast, you're going to find the following pages insightful, educational, and, perhaps, even shocking.

The knowledge you gain here will help expand your appreciation of tattoos whether you're thinking about getting your first tattoo or whether you already have 10.

We've chosen to highlight three little-known tattoo secrets at reveal them to you in full detail.

So, without further ado, let's get started.



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# Tattoo Secret #1 – Facts & Figures That Will Surprise You

Tattoos have gained increasing popularity of the last 15 years, emerging from what could be considered as a somewhat dodgy past. In 1936, Life magazine estimated that 10 million Americans, or approximately 6% of the population had at least one tattoo.

A Harris Poll, done in 2003, nearly **triples** those numbers and estimates that 16% of Americans now have one or more tattoos.

For a complete breakdown of the Harris Poll numbers, see below.

Thirty-six percent of those ages 18 to 25, and 40 percent of those ages 26 to 40, have at least one tattoo, according to a fall 2006 survey by the Pew Research Center. (see pdf of tattoo poll numbers)

The National Geographic News stated in April 2000 that 15% of Americans were tattooed (or approximately 40 million people!)

Esquire Magazine estimated in March 2002 that 1 in 8 Americans was tattooed.

According to the American Society of Dermatological Surgery, they stated in 2005, that of all the people they treat with laser and light therapy, only only 6% are getting a tattoo removed.

Harris Poll, 2003, estimates that fully 36% of those aged 25-29 have one or more tattoos.

A 2006 a study done by the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology found that 24% of Americans between 18 and 50 are tattooed; that's almost one in four. And the survey showed that about 36% of Americans age 18 to 29 have at least one tattoo!



## Tattoo Secret #2 – The Origin of the Tattoo

The history of the art of tattooing has its roots in the ancient times. The word 'Tattoo' has originated from the Tahitian term 'Tatu' or 'Tatau', which means mark or strike. Tattooing is an incredibly popular form of art through which people used to put on decorative marks on their skin. Tattoo art has never been more popular than it is today.

Scientific discoveries reveal that certain marks were found on the skin of the Iceman, a mummified human body dating from about 3300 B.C. Those marks are actually believed to be the tattoos and thus we can say that they represent the earliest known evidence of the practice of the art of tattooing. Then there are more widely recognized tattoos that were found on Egyptian and Nubian mummies dating from about 2000 B.C.

The classical authors also contribute in this regard by mentioning the use of tattoos in connection with ancient Greeks, Germans, Thracians and Britons. But the general belief is that with the growth of Christianity, tattooing was forbidden in Europe. However the practice continued in the Middle East and other parts of the world.



The history tells us that in some of the countries the art of tattooing has been in fashion for thousands of years whereas in other countries it is a newly adopted art. In the ancient and medieval period the people in different parts of the world employed different methods of tattooing. But the fact is that this form of tattoo art was hugely popular throughout the world in general and the US and Europe in particular. Another interesting fact about history of tattoos is that the tattoos seemed to be missing among populations with the darkest skin tone and in most of China until more recent centuries.

No wonder, like many other things, with passage of time this form of tattoo art as well as the tattoo artists have also changed. The tattoo artists have skillfully adapted themselves to the latest changes and adopted the newest techniques of tattooing in order to keep pace with the modern time. For the same reason the methods of tattooing have also changed.

The Maoris of New Zealand and the Japanese people were expert of the puncture method of tattooing. Later the sailors introduced this art into Europe. However, the modern method of tattooing employs an electric needle for drawing the tattoos.

## **Tattoo Secret #3 – The Ten Most Popular Tattoos**

There are literally tens of thousands of tattoo designs you could find being worn around the World today.

For some reason though, these following ten seem to capture our hearts and minds more than any other tattoo designs. Read on and discover the Ten Most Popular Tattoos in the World.

### **1. Tribal**

This is the most requested tattoo design ever. I am not sure why folks really want tribal tattoos in this modern world, but perhaps the contrast of savage design and the new-age body gives a certain level of charm. Besides, tribal designs are quite intricate and attractive, offering rich choices for the tattoo enthusiasts.

Tribal tattoos consist of an exciting array of tattoo design possibilities, ranging from the traditional tribal designs of indigenous and aboriginal cultures to the latest in graphic design for the ink-hungry body.



## 2. Star

There is something about stars that is very pleasing to the eyes. Aside from the fact that stars symbolize fame, guidance, and luck, these striking symbols create exciting tattoo designs that even celebrities can't refuse. Victoria Beckham and Rhianna are two of the most well-known celebrities rocking star tattoos.





### 3. Cross

The cross tattoo is very popular among people from all walks of life. The message of Christ dying on the cross for our sins is one of the most powerful messages ever told. Even among those that consider themselves less spiritual, the cross can have powerful meaning. The most popular cross designs include the Celtic Cross, Maltese Cross, and the Iron Cross.



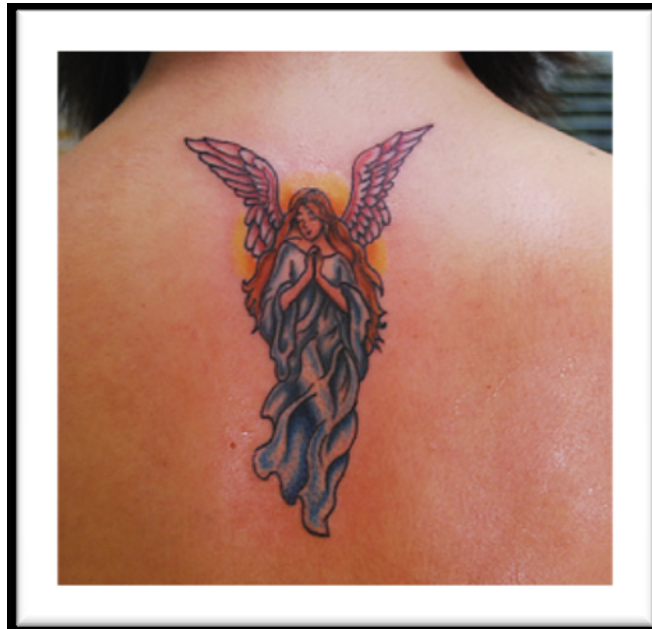
## 4. Angel

Whoever chooses to opt for an Angel Tattoo will have a tattoo that they will cherish for the rest of their lives.

Whether or not you are prone to believe in such supernatural entities, a certain amount of mysticism and awe is nearly always present within most of us.

Angels are religious symbols that are believed to be winged spirits intended to deliver the word of God to mankind. They are considered higher beings and therefore a nice niche for a cool tattoo design.

Angel tattoos are very popular among all cultures in various forms. They can also take the form of an archangel like Michael or Uriel.





## 5. Wings

Most of us strongly believe that angel wings symbolize all that is good in this world and a lot of individuals actually believe that they may have a guardian angel benevolently looking over them.

Having such a tattoo design can be undertaken as a mark of respect to this spiritual force and it may be thought to bring the person much closer to their guide.

This is a tattoo design that is both magical and spiritual. In many legends and myths, to have wings is a reward given to those who have proven their worth. And aside from the aesthetics a pair gives to any design, knowing that it is associated with speed, elevation, and freedom is enough to make wing tattoos among the most requested tattoo symbols and designs.



## 6. Maori

Of all the tribal tattoo designs, Maori is one of the most famous. The Maori people that live throughout New Zealand have a long history of tattooing. The art of tattoos was prevalent in their ancient culture and remains today. This was practiced heavily in early times as warriors decorated themselves in full body tattoos including intricate facial tattoos. The Maori believed that this made them fearsome warriors and would intimidate their opponents. Some love this tattoo design so much that they would even try to offer their entire face for the craft.



## 7. Dragon

One of the things that make dragon tattoos so desirable is their colorful and bold designs. There are so many different ways to depict a dragon; it is easy to get creative. There are two designs that are seen most frequently. The first is the Western dragon — which has a thick, scaled body; bat-like wings, and a long neck. The second is the Eastern dragon — though still scaled, it has more of a serpentine body and generally does not have wings.

Dragons are symbols of power and mystery. Legends of both Eastern and Western origins depict dragons as creatures to be feared and worshipped. We can't really deny the coolness of a dragon tattoo so that makes this one quite popular.



## 8. Phoenix

Phoenix tattoos are generally a rather considerable scale, encompassing large sections of the body such as the back, chest or wrapping around the leg or upper arm. There is a good reason for this, as most of these pieces are very detailed, and given that it is an expression of a new life beginning, it makes sense that these should make a powerful statement.



## 9. Butterfly

The butterfly tattoo is really popular among the female population. I have yet to see a guy with a butterfly tattoo, but I'm sure they're out there somewhere. Mariah Carey really made this one very popular during her 'Butterfly' days. And it sure clicked.



A butterfly tat can represent beauty, metamorphosis, freedom, happiness, and fragility. And those are elements women can definitely relate with.

## 10. Fairy

For those who like magic and magical creatures, a fairy tattoo is always the most common choice. Fairy tattoos are a flexible design that can be anywhere on your body and any size. Although, cute fairy tattoos are usually found to be small and are located somewhere on the ankle, calf, shoulder, hip, lower back, and foot.

So what fictional characters do people associate with when thinking of these mysterious and magical creatures? Two of the most popular fairies are Tinkerbell and Queen Mab who is not just a fairy, but a fairy queen no less. Knowing that fairies have the power of flight and can make wishes come true, it surely is fun to have a fairy tattoo, especially if the design is elaborate and fanciful.



## Are You Ready to Get Your Ultimate Tattoo?



If the answer is **yes**, be sure to check out the Thousands of Killer Tattoo Designs at the Best Tattoo Gallery Online:



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