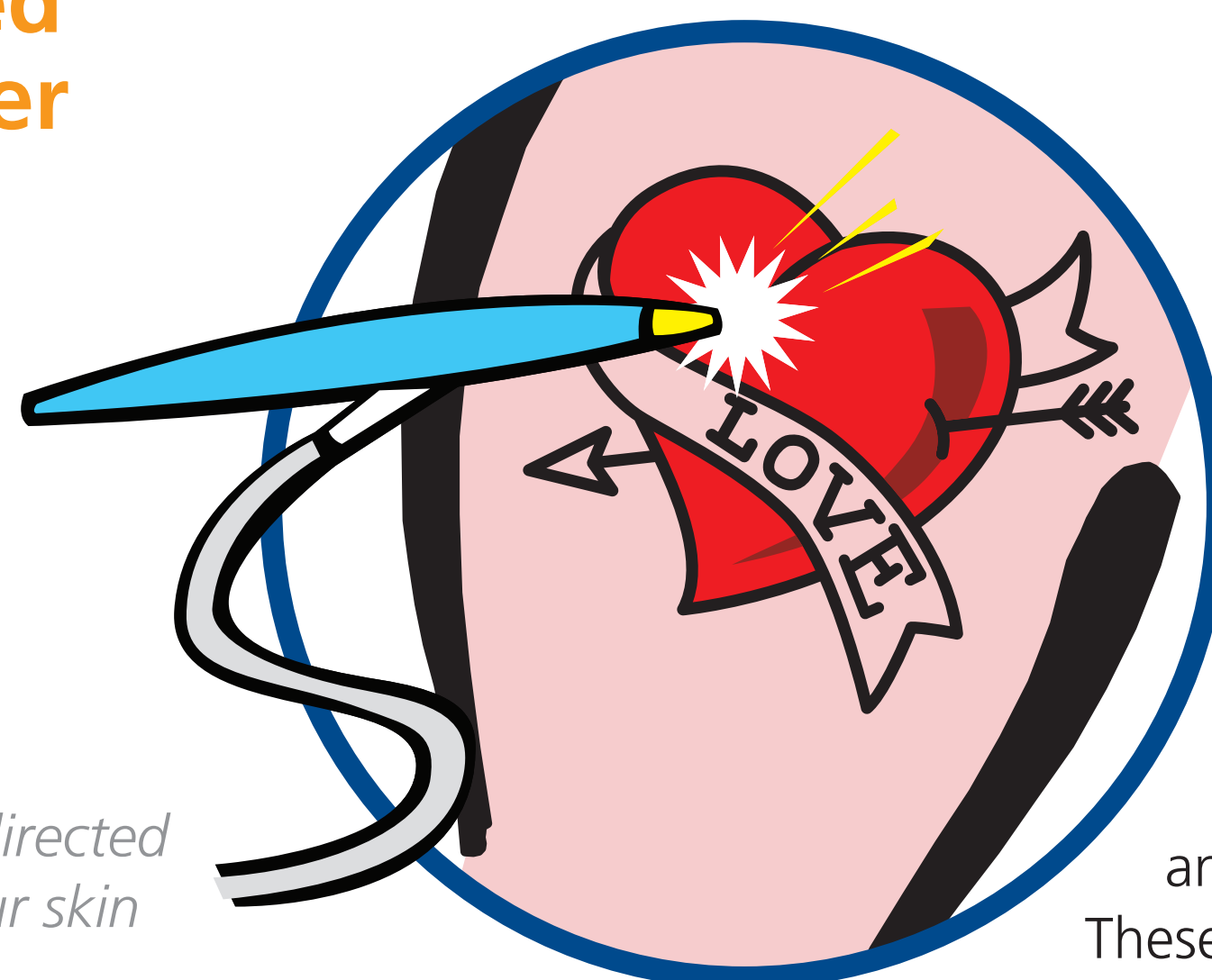


# Laser Tattoo Removal

## Why are lasers used as opposed to other methods?

Laser procedures are the most common and effective method for removing a tattoo. Previous methods, such as dermabrasion or excision, typically lead to unpredictable results and damage the skin.

*Lasers emit light energy which can be directed at your tattoo through the layers of your skin*

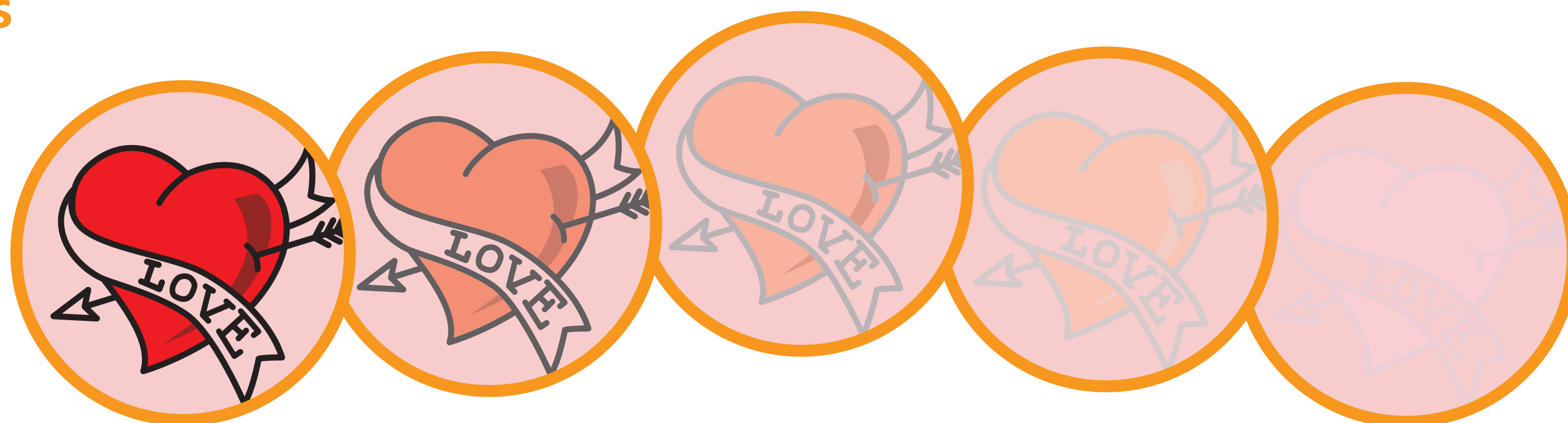


## Laser breaks up the tattoo pigment, your body helps remove it.

Laser pulses of intense light pass harmlessly through the top layers of the skin. The light from the laser targets the tattoo ink and breaks it up into smaller particles. These small particles are then absorbed and broken down naturally by the body's immune system.

## How many treatments will it take?

On average, a black ink tattoo can be removed with about six to eight treatments. Some tattoo ink colors are more difficult to remove and may require additional treatment sessions. The number of treatment sessions to remove a tattoo will vary from person to person.

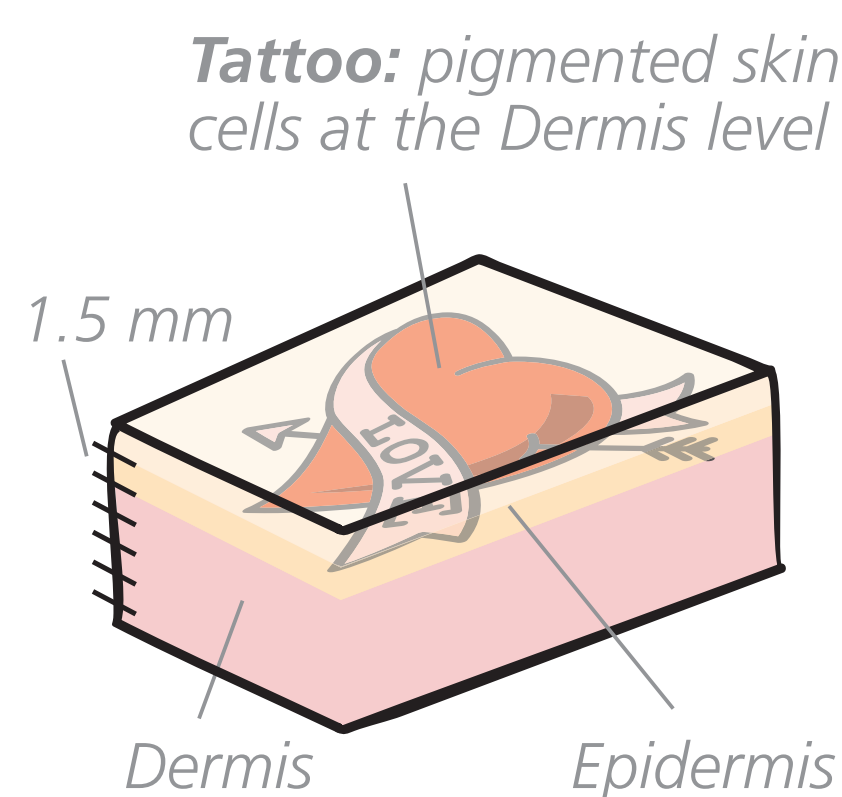


## Removal Process

Tattoo removal is a gradual process that takes time. After your first treatment session, you will most likely return for treatment every 6-8 weeks. With several treatments, you will notice that the tattoo has faded and some spots are lighter than others. Over the course of your treatment sessions, the tattoo will continue to lighten until it is completely cleared. Your tattoo should be barely visible or not visible at all.

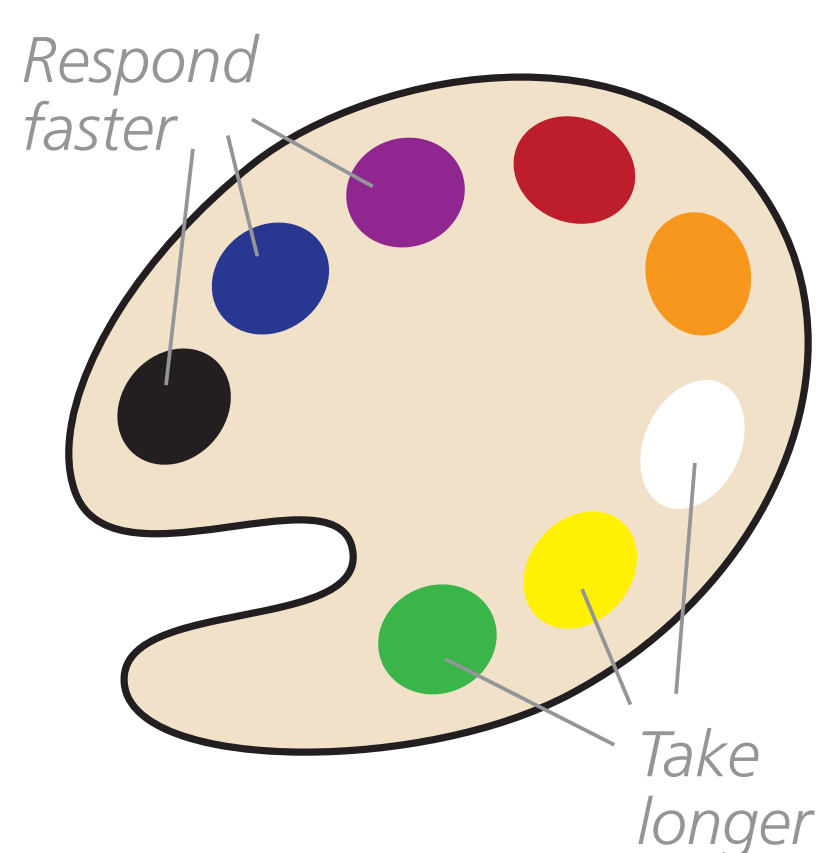
## Why does the number of treatments to remove a tattoo vary?

The following factors affect how tattoos respond to the laser treatment:



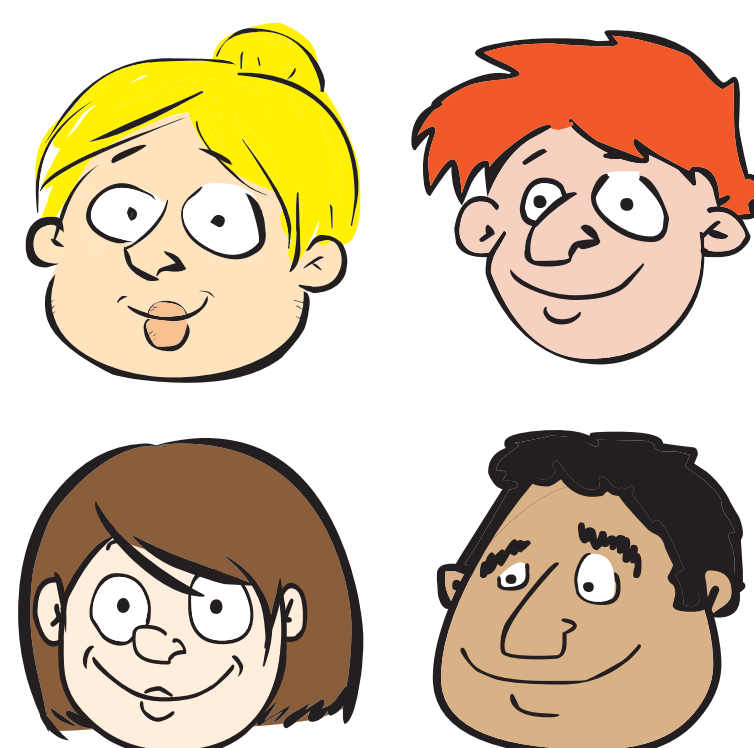
### Depth and Amount of Tattoo Ink

Professional tattoos typically require more treatments because they are deeper in the skin and have more ink.



### Colors Used

Darker colors, such as black, tend to respond faster to laser removal treatments. Light colors, such as green or yellow, may require more treatment sessions.



### Unique Immune System

Have you ever noticed how some people never get sick while others seem to always be sick? This is because everyone's immune system behaves differently. During tattoo removal, your body breaks down the ink pigment at its own rate which is unique to each individual.



### Type of Ink Used

Tattoo ink is not regulated by the government and different inks can affect the skin in various ways. Because of these variances, treatment results can vary as inks react differently to the laser removal treatment.

*Results can vary. Greater than 95% fading of the tattoo may be accomplished; however it is impossible to predict the degree of removal. Possible complications may include scarring, infection, hyper-pigmentation and hypo-pigmentation.*

## Providence Center for Community Health Improvement

6801 Coldwater Canyon Ave., Suite 1A  
 North Hollywood, CA 91605  
 (818) 847-3860  
[www.providence.org/tattooremoval](http://www.providence.org/tattooremoval)

