

Cleaning an Abrasion

Treating an abrasion

Cleaning the wound and keeping it infection-free is very important. The common norm to treat an abrasion is to clean the wound using mild soap and water and further with the help of an antiseptic wash. This is followed by covering the wound using an antibiotic ointment and a dry dressing. This is thought to help the skin in healing itself.

Cleaning an abrasion

While a serious or deeper-than-normal abrasion needs to be cleaned and treated by a physician, mild scraping of skin can be easily handled by oneself. Cleaning an abrasion is the foremost step towards avoiding infection and speeding up healing. Any dirt or debris needs to be carefully removed. You may use water or any antiseptic solution to do the same. If required you can use a piece of clean gauze to gently scrub the area clean thoroughly. Dress the wound using sterile gauze, cotton and an antibiotic cream or powder. This dressing needs to be changed often, daily at least to quicken the healing process.

Avoiding infection due to abrasions

There is chance of contracting the nasty tetanus infection whenever the skin/flesh is exposed as in case of abrasions. Make sure you take your tetanus injection, in case your last booster was before 10 years. This is extremely important in avoiding infection that can cause further complications.

In case of deeper abrasions, also known as "lacerations", you need to check for deeper cuts that may require stitches to help heal the tissue properly.

Natural Remedies for Abrasion

Aloe is soothing, anti-inflammatory and antibacterial. It helps in healing all kinds of wounds including abrasions. Use the pure gel for topical application.

Calendula is anti-inflammatory, astringent and antiseptic. Calendula promotes new skin growth and stops bleeding.

A few drops of lavender oil is said to help in healing abrasions.

The affected area can be disinfected using thyme tea or with a cup of water containing 3-5 drops of the essential oil.

Home made salves and ointments made with tea tree, calendula and comfrey are effective in treating abrasions.