

## **TATS IN-ZAYN! £68,000 BILL TO REMOVE ALL OF ONE DIRECTION'S TATTOOS**

- **One Direction's Zayn Malik would have to spend more than £31,000, and 219 hours across a period of 38 years, to remove all of his tattoos**
- **Heart throb Harry Styles would need to fork out more than £19,000 for 150 sittings over 17 years in the tattooist's chair, to return to his former clean-cut image**
- **The boy band would have to spend 435 hours, over a period of 75 years collectively, to return to ink-free skin**
- **Over the past six months enquiries for tattoo removal have risen by more than half (52%) across the UK**

Tattoos might be skin deep, but you'll need pretty deep pockets if you decide to have them removed later on, according to new research by private healthcare search engine, [WhatClinic.com](http://WhatClinic.com).

WhatClinic.com analysed the body art of the four tattooed members of world-famous boy band One Direction and found that – should the boys ever regret going under the needle – it would cost them almost £68,000 collectively to make their tattoos just a 'Midnight Memory'.

Zayn Malik's body art has become a hot topic amongst the hundreds of thousands of 1D fans, but removing his famous tattoos – including a cartoon design of fiancée Perrie Edwards – would set him back over £31,000, the most of all the bandmates. Because it's necessary to wait at least six weeks between removal sessions, which normally last around 40 minutes, Zayn wouldn't be tattoo free for 38 years.

Harry Styles has undergone quite the transformation in the last four years, abandoning his squeaky-clean image. But should Styles regret the rock-and-roll look, he will have to fork out £19,250 and spend more than 100 hours under the laser. And it would take him a total of 17 years to achieve a blank canvas.

If Louis Tomlinson decides he's over his tattoos, he will need to find time in his hectic tour schedule for more than 100 removal sessions, over a 12-year period, at a cost of £11,894. Liam Payne, who has the least ink of all the boys, would still need to spend almost two full days (44 hours) in the chair for 66 individual sessions over eight years.

Although the 1D boys might still love their tats, WhatClinic.com has seen a 52% increase in the number of tattoo removal enquiries in the past six months across the UK, with the cost of removing a small, black and white tattoo starting at around £400.

The following table, based on average costs provided by three tattoo-removal specialists, estimates how many laser sessions and the total cost for the One Direction bandmates to have all their tattoos removed:

Band member	Number of sittings required	Total number of hours	Duration of treatment (years)	Total cost
Zayn Malik	327	219	38	£31,312
Harry Styles	150	100	17	£19,250
Louis Tomlinson	108	72	12	£11,894
Liam Payne	66	44	8	£5,378

**Emily Ross, director of WhatClinic.com, says:** "Body art is a lifetime commitment but people change and, sometimes, the symbols we once wore proudly become something of an embarrassment. Ink also ages and degrades along with our skin, so it may not look as good decades later.

"While the technology to remove ink is improving, this is not a great reason to rush any tattoo decision or to take risks with the artist. Always look at the previous work of the actual artist, not just the shop, and be sure to check the standards of equipment and hygiene.

"It's also worth knowing that factors like colour, position and size make a significant impact on the cost and ease of removal - just in case you end up regretting your decision."

**Wayne Tatzapa, founder of London-based tattoo removal specialist, Discardead Soho, says:** "The time needed to remove a tattoo varies according to the individual, as do the chances of wiping out all trace of the design. Skin type, the colour and location of the tattoo, scarring and the degree of density will all make a big difference.

“The laser technology used to remove tattoos has come on leaps and bounds in the past few years and the introduction of a state-of-the-art laser called PicoSure means tattoos can now be removed in a third of the time of a normal machine.

“Most people don’t realise that removing tattoos can take months or even years, because laser sessions should be at least six weeks to three months apart to get the best results and minimise the risk of scarring and other side effects.”

– ENDS –

#### Notes to Editors:

1. Each tattoo removal sitting lasts for 40 minutes
2. To calculate number of years taken to remove all tattoos: number of sittings, based six weeks apart = number of years required to complete treatment

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#### About WhatClinic.com

[WhatClinic.com](http://WhatClinic.com) is a clinic comparison site that lists over 100,000 clinics globally. In 2013 15.7 million people visited the site to find, compare and book treatments across a wide range of elective, self-pay medical treatments. WhatClinic.com’s mission is to give the patient, as an empowered consumer, access to all the information they need to make an informed choice, including price, availability and reviews. WhatClinic.com was founded in 2007 by tech entrepreneur Caelen King, and is in operation in over 127 countries.