

At Pricks Of The Trade we've examined and tested pretty much every ink we've come across and we also listen to and learn from our professional tattoo artist customers a lot – because they've also tried pretty much every ink they come across. It's that part of them that is always striving to achieve new pinnacles in quality and detail and richness. The best ink looks as good after 10 years as it did the day it was laid on. But that is pretty hard to find.

You would not believe some of the inks we tested. There seems to be some folks out there who think all they have to do is throw a bunch of pigment and liquid in a bottle and then sell that to whoever will buy. Others are content to purchase inks made in China or Taiwan where there are no health controls in place and no quality control testing – these usually have fallen out by the time the tattoo heals.

We've even heard there are tattoo supply companies out there who buy their ink from a respected manufacturer in a large bottle and then break the seal and pour that ink into small one or two ounce bottles they can sell at a higher price.

What they don't seem to realize or care about is that, as soon as they crack the seal and expose that ink to air they are putting it at risk of contamination

Then what happens is the poor unsuspecting tattoo professional orders these inks not knowing they have been tampered with (the shysters shrink wrap a plastic seal back on them). The artist then uses it on his clients. His clients go home and their tattoo becomes severely infected because they have just had harmful bacteria injected into their skin. And you get the picture...

And for what?! To squeeze a few extra dollars of profit out of their customer?! Even if that might end up putting them out of business?

So at Pricks Of The Trade we feel real strongly about this. Real strongly. Not kinda sorta strongly. Real strongly. Because people like that give us all a bad name.

So we have one simple ironclad rule and guarantee. First, you will never ever never ever receive a bottle of ink from us that has not come directly to you from the original sterile environment of the manufacturer without any opening, decanting or otherwise potentially contaminating the ink. And we guarantee that.