



About Henna

The history of henna goes back over 5,000 years, predating even tattoos. From ancient Egypt all the way to present day, henna continues to play its role, adding beauty to ceremonies and everyday wear.

Henna begins as a powder made of crushed henna leaves—yes, henna is a plant, a natural botanical known as *Lawsonia Inermis*. To the powder therapeutic grade essential oils are added (I prefer lavender oil for its gentle properties and calming effect) along with freshly squeezed lemon juice, sugar, and water. The recipe is the same today as it was 5,000 years ago. Henna is natural and safe for all skin types.



How long does henna last on the skin?

This depends on a number of factors—thickness of skin, how well it's cared for, etc.—but the general answer is 1—2 weeks.

Proper aftercare will help maximize the life of your stain. Once the paste is applied it will typically dry within an hour. From there it is best to leave it on the skin as long as possible—anywhere from 4 hours to overnight. The longer it is kept the darker the final stain will be. It is believed that the darker the stain the more love from your in-laws you will receive. And as any spouse knows, the more the better.

Once the paste is removed the initial stain will appear bright orange. From there it is best to avoid direct contact with water for 24 hours. The orange stain will darken over the next 1—2 days, becoming a beautiful and deep reddish-brown. This shade will last through the life of your henna, fading gradually on its own after about a week. For brides, this means the optimal time to receive your henna is 2—3 days before your wedding.



Henna paste applied on the skin



Fresh henna stain – just after removing the paste



Mature stain

What is White Henna?

White Henna is something entirely different from traditional henna. It is a cosmetic-grade, adhesive, waterproof body paint which, unlike traditional henna, does not stain the skin, but rests 3-dimensionally atop it.



How long does it last?

With White Henna there is no waiting—once the paste is applied it is ready to be worn and admired immediately. The design will remain on the skin from 1—3 days. For brides, it is best to receive your white henna the morning of your wedding. For bridesmaids and family the day before the wedding is usually best.

Glow up!

With white henna there is the option to incorporate shiny gems and tiny mirrors into the design. The result is beautiful and really makes it pop!



The Bridal Process

This is the fun part! I prefer to work collaboratively with my clients, offering my own ideas while honoring their vision. The first step is to fill out the brief introductory form on my website. After determining my availability for your dates we will start by chatting via phone and/or email—learning a bit about one another and developing a vision for your design. If you think it's a fit, we will reserve your date and proceed. From there, based on our design ideas, I will begin creating digital sketches which I will email to you for consideration and approval. It's always fun to share these with your girlfriends, family, or fiancé, seeing what they think. But of course, the bride has the final say!



The options for your design are literally limitless. The work can be a bold statement, or something more elegant and minimal. The design can be a compliment to your dress and jewelry, mimicking the lace work or flow of the dress. And with white henna you can incorporate jewels and mirrors that sparkle along with your necklace or earrings. It is always a thoughtful touch to incorporate some personal element—a symbol or word that is meaningful to you, or perhaps your husband's initials hidden away within the design. Hands, forearms, shoulders, upper chest, and back are all great canvases for henna! Get creative!

For local brides, or out-of-town brides who plan to visit the Charleston area prior to their wedding, I suggest an in-person consultation. This gives us the opportunity to chat face-to-face, and for you to receive a sample of my work. It's always calming and reassuring to experience the quality and expertise of your henna artist firsthand before your big day. For out-of-town brides who are unavailable for an in-person consultation, I offer Zoom or FaceTime chats.



A henna party or small gathering for your guests, family, or bridesmaids is a fun and unique way of showing your gratitude and love. If this is something you are interested in we can work out the details along the way.

Bridal Pricing

Once we decide that I'm the henna artist for you, a \$100 booking fee reserves your date(s). The booking fee goes toward the overall cost of your henna service and, in the case of cancelation, is nonrefundable.

My time spent creating sample designs is included in the overall cost. This is simply a necessary part of doing the job right and should cost you nothing.

The in-person or Zoom/FaceTime consultation is a flat fee of \$40. The cost of any henna provided during in-person consults is determined by the size and detail of whatever design you select. The \$40 must be paid prior to consult, and the cost of the henna service can be paid in advance or in-person the day of.

There is a flat travel fee of \$50. This covers all travel for all days, including consults, henna parties for guests, henna for bridesmaids, and of course the bridal henna.

For bridal parties the rate is hourly, \$110/hr, with a three-hour minimum. This must be paid in full at least one week in advance of service. Once I'm there, if it is determined that more time is needed, any additional fees can be taken care of at that time. For larger parties I usually suggest traditional henna rather than white henna, as white henna is a bit slower to apply and typically lasts just 1—3 days. For smaller more intimate groups, such as bridesmaids or select family, white henna is just fine.





Bear in mind, traditional henna parties can be scheduled anywhere from 1 week to 1 day before the wedding, and white henna parties should take place the day before the wedding.



For the bride, our final design and price will be determined long before the day of service. Via our chats and the design samples I create, you will know just what you're getting and what the cost will be. There is a \$200 minimum for bridal henna (white or traditional). The cost of your service is to be paid in full at least one week prior to date of service. If, during our session, you decide to get more than what you originally thought, any additional fees can be taken care of in-person at that time. Again, traditional henna is ideally applied 2—3 days before the wedding, and white henna is best applied the morning of the wedding.

For all henna services, please know that I do not copy or recreate the work of other artists. If you have a design that you are in love with, we can do a variation of it or add our own twist. Ideally I prefer every piece to be original—just like you. Also, I am a one-woman operation. If you see fit to hire additional artists, that is fine. But I do not vouch for the quality of any work besides my own.

Advance payment is accepted via Venmo or emailed PayPal invoice. In-person payments can be done via cash, Venmo, or credit card.



Non-Bridal Private Appointments

For locals or those visiting the Charleston area, I am available for Private appointments.

Treat yourself with something special that expresses your unique spirit! Henna is a great way to pamper yourself or loved ones with a beautiful piece of body art. The service can be just for you, or you can invite friends and enjoy some relaxing girl time.

The options for your design are limited only by your imagination. Start by filling out the brief introductory form on my website, and from there we can have a chat to get a feel for what sort of design you're after. I love it when clients give me a rough idea, or no limits at all, and allow my creativity to handle the rest! If you already have something specific in mind, we can run with that too.



The prices for private appointments (traditional and white henna) begin at \$150. Travel is included in the cost. The \$150 can be for a single client, or divided amongst up to five clients—\$75 designs for two clients, \$30 designs for five clients, etc. To reserve your date a \$30 booking fee is required. This fee is applied toward the cost of your service and in the case of cancelation is nonrefundable. All fees must be paid prior to date of service. For more than five clients or larger designs the price is adjusted accordingly. If during your service you decide to get more henna than you originally thought, the additional cost can be taken care of at that time.

Advance payment is accepted via Venmo or emailed PayPal invoice. In-person payments can be done via cash, Venmo, or credit card.

What Sets Me Apart

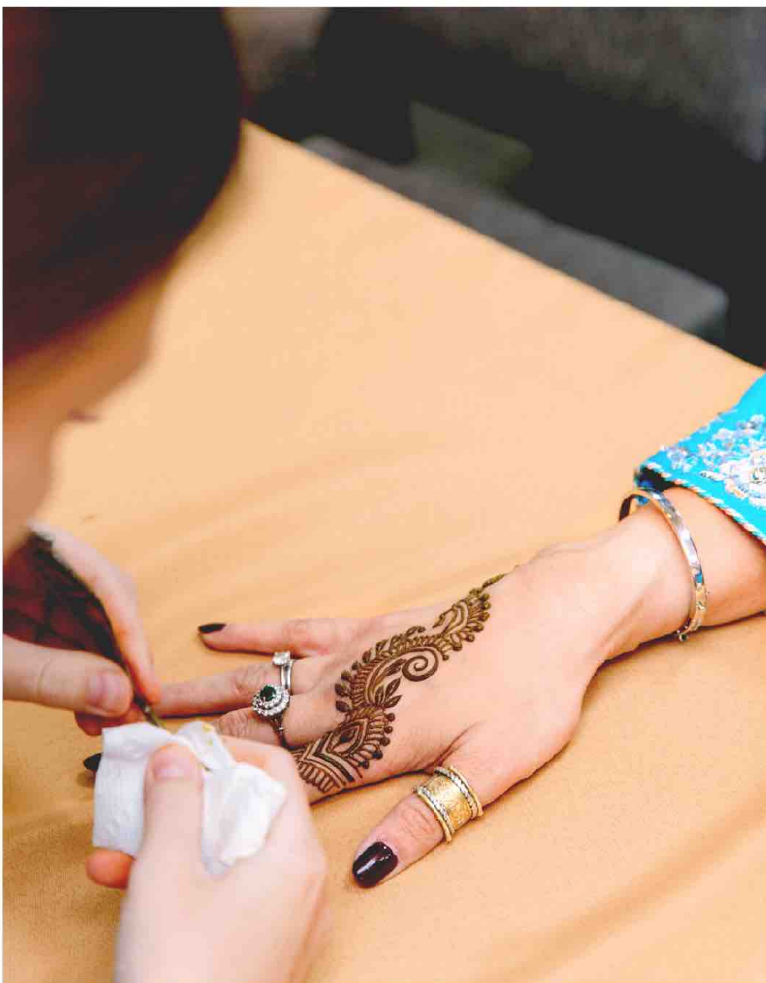
Henna is a lifelong love. Beginning at fifteen years of age, I have been practicing for nineteen years, and am entirely self-taught. Making my way through art school and earning degrees in fine art, design, and composition, all the while I was applying what new skill and techniques I accumulated to my henna. Along the way I have practiced and taught the art of henna on two continents and numerous countries. As a bonus, I am tri-lingual, speaking Polish, Spanish, and English.

For some henna is a hobby. For rare others, like myself, it is a passion and a profession—and I conduct myself accordingly. This is the difference between doodling and artistry. My design elements and style are all my own.



My attention to detail is meticulous. My lines are tight and neat, and my designs are always approached with a keen eye for pleasing and balanced composition. My aim with every client is to create a piece of body art so original and stunning that you cannot keep your eyes off of it.

Additionally, my henna is guaranteed fresh, safe, and natural. I use only the highest quality powder and oils, I mix and cone my henna myself, and I use it on myself. Beware of any so-called henna artist who uses pre-packaged cones or black 'henna.' These are toxic products and say everything you need to know about the individual using them.



Parting Thoughts

Weddings are blessed and sacred events, and the body you live in is no less so. To be trusted with your beauty and health is a commission I am honored by, and one I take seriously. I approach my work with integrity, creativity, and patience. As an artist, I am satisfied by no less than the satisfaction of my clients.

Thank you for considering me for your big day or your private appointment! I look forward to working with you and creating something singular and beautiful!



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