

# Why make a dread pact?

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Did you know that the majority of dread heads that keep their dreads one year decide to keep them 3 or more years? Crazy right? Well there's a really good reason for it. Dreadlocks require less and less maintenance as they mature. It's not until they are completely done maturing at about a year that you really know what it's like to have dreads.



Until then you are still technically starting dreads. Now this doesn't mean that your dreads can't look kick ass at 3 or 4 months it just means they will look better and take less time to maintain as they continue to mature. The one year mark is the point where the amount of maintenance levels off to about 10 min per week, often less. Of course you'll always continue washing them and doing habitual maintenance without thinking about it, like playing with tips and roots while you watch tv. But when they're mature you do the *least* and they look the *best*, they every have. This is why having mature dreads is an infinitely more enjoyable experience and why a wise dread guru once said:

“He who hasn't had the dread one year has never really had the dread” -a wise dread guru

The most effective way to guarantee your success is to make a pact with your dreads that you will stand by'em or beneath them, more likely....for at least one year. It's also important that you tell your friends and family about your commitment and write it down in your own handwriting. I know it sounds hoaky but writing stuff is much more powerful than saying stuff or even typing it. It's a psychology thing, so if you don't think it will help you really need to try it, you'll be that much more surprised when it does.

When your dreads are going through their un-cooperative stages, and others see it as an opportunity to give you crap and fill your head with doubts, you can remind them of your commitment and it makes things way easier. It will also remind you that you really want dreads when you need it the most.

I know this seems pretty hardcore but if making a Dread Pact doesn't seem like something you want to do, you should stop and make sure that it's not your uncertainty about getting dreads that's holding you back. If it's just that it seems unnecessary, let me put your mind at ease. It's completely unnecessary. Hell, you don't "need" to get dreads. It's something you want. The purpose of this is to help you get what you want. If ya really want'em, go ahead and do it. Before it's all over you'll look back and be glad that you decided to take this easy step.

Ok, so here goes....Despite how corny as it seems, write the following, with a pen, on sheet of paper, in your regular handwriting:

I REALLY WANT DREADS AND I KNOW IT'S GUNNA TAKE UP TO A YEAR FOR MY DREADS TO "FULLY" MATURE.

I'M GOING TO STICK IT OUT AND SEE THEM THROUGH, AND UNLESS IT'S COMPLETELY UNAVOIDABLE, I'M GOING TO KEEP THEM FOR 12 MONTHS. THIS WAY I WILL REALLY KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE AND ENJOY MY DREADIES BEFORE I MAKE ANY HASTY DECISIONS.

DATE DREADS ARE STARTED:  
THEIR 1YR BIRTHDAY:

Ok, now sign it and save it. Add in the dates when you start them and keep it somewhere you can see it.

Almost done. The last part is to let everyone know that you're going to keep them at least a year. Family, friends and especially the kind individuals you talk into helping you put them in. And that's it. You're dread pacted and ready to lock'em up!

Best of LOCK with your dreadies. If you need anything during your dread-journey were here for ya. Come visit us at [DreadHeadHQ.com](http://DreadHeadHQ.com) for all kinds of info about makin' and takin' care of your dreads. And please, if the dreads aren't workin' out and you need some friendly dread advice, give us a call..we can help!

Peace, Locks and Nappyness,  
KJC