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Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

How To Clean Jewelry

By Lavinia Snider

Caring for and cleaning jewelry doesn't have to be difficult, but it is important that you do so

carefully to prevent damage and possibly help to ensure a longer life. Well cared for jewelry will stand the test of time and have a much nicer appearance than jewelry that is generally left to collect dust and grime without being cleaned. The exact technique you use to clean and care for your jewelry will depend on the item itself.

Regardless of the type of jewelry you should obviously try to prevent it from being scratched, knocked or banged. Even if damage doesn't appear visible immediately, knocking jewelry can often lead to unseen damage. Over time this damage will build up or progressively worsen until your jewelry becomes irreparable.

Should your jewelry suffer any damage you should have it seen to as soon as possible. Take it your local jewelers and ask their opinion. In most cases they will either be able to fix it themselves or send it away to be repaired properly. Super gluing any piece of jewelry yourself is a bad idea.

Many chemicals can damage jewelry and you should stay away from chemicals in general. In particular, cleaning fluids, chlorine and bromine can have a detrimental effect on some jewelry. Take off any rings or other items and leave them somewhere safe until you're finished. Direct sunlight and extreme hot or cold conditions can also weaken the metal or jewel.

Use a jewelry cleaning cloth on metal jewelry and clean regularly using soapy water but ensure that you rinse it off thoroughly when you've finished cleaning. Use a very mild cloth to dab it dry and don't rub it too vigorously. You should also take care when storing jewelry. If you don't intend to wear it or show it for some time then place it in an airtight bag away from heating or particularly cold areas. These simple maintenance tips should ensure the integrity of your jewelry for many years.

Lavinia Snider is the editor Jewelry Palazzo. Get detailed information on jewelry. Learn how to care for it and the best and cheapest places to buy jewelry online.

<http://www.jewelrpalazzo.com>

Protect Your Investment – Caring for Your Jewelry

By Lisa Jay

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Sterling Silver & 14kt Gold: Both will tend to tarnish over time.

- Store all precious metal jewelry in a zip lock bag to protect it. This does not stop the discoloration, but will drastically slow the process.
- Use a polishing cloth as needed for cleaning your jewelry.

Jewelry with semi-precious stones and crystals:

- Store all jewelry with semi-precious stones and crystals in a zip lock bag to protect it.
- Check the instructions on your jewelry cleaning solution prior to placing any items with stones in it to be cleaned. Some stones, such as turquoise, and freshwater pearls cannot be placed in most jewelry cleaning solutions.
- Do not wear your jewelry when you are showering or washing dishes.
- Use caution when wearing lotions and perfumes, for they will discolor gems such as turquoise.

Pearls: Special care should be taken with pearls. They are much more fragile than most gemstones.

- Use caution when using hairspray and perfumes. Let dry completely before donning your pearls.
- Cleaning pearl jewelry: wipe with a clean dry soft cloth after wearing them.

Lisa Jay is a freelance writer and the jewelry designer behind Lantana Designwear. You can visit her websites at <http://www.LantanaDesignwear.com> and www.JewelryMakingHQ.com Be sure to sign up for her newsletter at http://www.LantanaDesignwear.com/signup_newsletter to receive information on jewelry, fashion and womens issues.



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