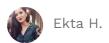


HOME INDUSTRE INSIGHTS DIAMOND EDUCATION DUTING GUIDES

How To Properly Care For Your Jewellery





Our diamonds and jewellery are some of the most treasured and valued belongings representing for most of us, a lifetime of memories and sentiments. It is therefore essential to handle them as you would fragile babies. Knowing how to care for your sparkly pieces requires a bit of effort but this in turn will reap rewards in having their lustre and shine maintained for generations to come. In return for a little care and upkeep, Nature's little treasures will bring you a continuing supply of love and dreams.

Here are a few of our suggestions on what you can do to look after your jewellery.

I. Use everyday home cleaners

The simplest DIY way to keep your diamonds and diamond jewellery clean is to periodically soak them in a small bowl of warm soapy water (made with a few added drops of dish washing liquid) or in hot water with a few pinches of baking soda thrown in.

After a little soak, brush lightly with a clean soft bristled toothbrush to remove



dirt and grime hiding in the nooks and crannies of your piece. Then rinse your diamond jewellery under running water in a sink with a rubber mat placed underneath, and please make sure to cover the sink drain before rinsing. Dry with a soft cotton cloth and witness before your very eyes your diamonds dancing back to life. It's that simple!



2. Using jewellery cleaning liquids and polishing cloths

Ever so often, it is advisable to do a a more thorough upkeep of your jewellery using commercially available ammonia-based cleaning solutions and

metal polishing cloths. This will get rid of the more embedded grime and sweat residue on your pieces which can visibly dull your treasures. Make sure that you know the metal of your jewellery and use the appropriate cleaning solution as each metal is unique and can react to these liquids differently.

We recommend our go-to jewellery cleaning products by <u>Town Talk</u> which can be purchased through us or from Town Talk directly.

If you are unsure of your metal or stone type, don't hesitate to get in touch with your local jeweller who should be able to assist you.

3. Store and travel safely

Jewellery storage is important and doing it safely is often overlooked. Diamonds are the hardest of all gemstones, even though, they require gentle handling as they can damage



other metals or gemstones or worse still can chip at the edges if they rub or come in contact against each other.

Firstly, keep your precious pieces away from direct sunlight/heat as well as damp and humid conditions. If possible, use the original boxes and pouches that your jewellery came in to keep them from contact with each other and to avoid dust accumulation.

If the original packaging isn't available, a jewellery box that features soft padded sections for rings, earrings and necklaces is ideal.

For silver and rose gold jewellery, it is best to include silica gel packs to absorb

moisture to prevent metal tarnishing. Silver jewellery tarnishes easily and even when it is kept in dry conditions, oxidation will occur over time. When travelling, protect your jewellery by placing it in separate small boxes or nylon zippered pouches. Place it in your hand carry and never in the suitcase — this one should be obvious. Insuring your precious diamonds against theft, loss or damage while travelling is highly recommended.

"Insurance against theft, loss or damage while travelling is highly recommended"

4. Keep away from chemicals

Whether it's silver, gold or platinum, exposure to household chemicals can tarnish metals and harm your gemstones. The best thing to do is use whatever spray-on you need to (lotions, perfume, hair products, cosmetics etc...) before putting on your jewellery — make sure everything is dry before adding those finishing touches. You may not realise it, but your daily-use lotions and creams may contain chemicals that may tarnish precious metals and damage the surface of pearls and gemstones if they come in contact.

The same caution is to be exercised to avoid contact with household cleaning products and indulging in your favourite sports and pastimes — it's best to avoid wearing your fine jewellery while taking on physical activity such as sports or household chores or taking a dip in the pool this summer.

If your jewellery does come into contact with any harsh chemical, rinse them under warm running water and pat them dry with a tissue or soft cloth.

5. When in doubt, speak to a professional

Of course, you can always send your jewellery our way for a professional clean

and wear and tear check. This includes a quick look at the setting to check for any loose claws or metal weakness. Any dirt, scratches and marks that have been acquired from everyday wear can be polished away and your jewellery will be made to look as good as new!

See Also: Our complete Guide to Diamond Engagement Rings

We recommend doing this at least once a year, especially if you have some delicate pieces which require being handled by a specialist. Doing so also gives us a chance to look at the overall state of your piece(s) and help to keep them bright, secure and beautiful for generations.

Do you need to speak with a professional about your jewellery care? Let's take this conversation further.

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