



JEWELLERY CARE

SILVER

Silver is a metal containing at least 92.5% silver.

This is the legal standard of purity set by the assay offices in Britain and used for silver jewellery throughout the world.

It means that the metal used is of a specific quality.

Silver should not come into contact with harsh chemicals as this causes tarnishing

What is Silver tarnish?

Silver tarnish occurs when the outer layer of the Silver jewellery undergoes oxidization process when it is exposed to air or comes in contact with or placed in close proximity to a variety of contaminations e.g.

Harsh chemicals such as bleach, ammonia, sulfur or chlorine. Tarnish can be identified by dark purple-blue-black/black/gold/ brown, coloured discolorations, which look like stain or dirt residue

Silver also tarnishes in the following ways:

Contact with Humidity, Food, Perfume, Hairspray, Salt, Wool, Felt, Rubber, Latex Cloves, Carpet padding, Body Lotions, Acidic, and Oily residues form our hands.

In addition, whilst Hair Colouring is applied, bathing with your jewellery on, Sporting Activities (Sweat), etc.

Silver Jewellery maintenance/ preventing tarnish and storing your Silver:

To minimized tarnish and avoid scratches during storage, store your valuable Silver in an appropriate jewellery box or individual velvet pouches. This will prevent the jewellery from tarnishing as when it is left exposed to the elements for long periods of time it reacts with the sulphur or hydrogen sulphide in the air. Cleaning and wearing it regularly will help maintain its shine and prevent this. Immediately upon noticing discoloration, use a Silver jewellery polish made specifically for removing tarnish. Store in a cool dry place. Store pieces individually so that they don't knock together and scratch. Place individual pieces of silver inside velvet or polyethylene plastic bags (Ziploc bags work great) then seal the bags. Wrap each piece with non-buffered tissue paper or soft, anti-tarnish tissue, to guard against humidity and prevent contact with materials from the storage bag to the silver.

**NB: APPLY HAIRSPRAY AND PERFUME BEFORE PUTTING ON ANY JEWELLERY!
PLEASE DO NOT CLEAN SILVER WITH TOOTHPASTE OR HANDY ANDY.**

Cleaning your Silver Jewellery:

1. Use a high quality Silver cloth
2. Jewellery with sandblast, brushed, cross-stitched and dazzle finishes should not be cleaned with a silver cloth, but by using warm soapy water and a soft brush or selected silver dips.
3. When polishing or dying always use a clean high quality Silver cloth or a soft cotton cloth.
4. Rub the object in a straight, back-and-forth manner so to maintain a uniform appearance. **AVOID RUBBING IN A CIRCULAR MOTION.**

5. If there is no tarnish on your Silver, use a phosphate-free detergent and a soft bristled brush to clean it after use. Frequent light cleanings, then drying with a soft cloth is better than waiting until the tarnish gets so difficult to remove that more abrasive polishes would be needed.



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