

# Jewelry Cleaning Checklist

By Lauren Meir

- Cleaning Gold
  - Prepare a solution of 2 cups warm water with a few drops of mild dishwashing liquid.
  - Soak gold in the prepared solution for 15 minutes.
  - Gently scrub the gold with a soft bristle toothbrush.
  - Rinse with warm water and dry with a soft jewelry cloth.
- Cleaning Silver
  - Rinse silver in warm water and pat dry.
  - Remove silver tarnish Use a silver polishing cloth or a jar or bottle of silver cleaning fluid.
  - Use a soft rag or cloth with the silver cleaning fluid The tarnish will come off on the rag.
  - Use a rag with silver-cleaning paste for jewelry with intricate designs The paste will get into and clean the crevices.
  - Rinse quickly in lukewarm water.
  - Wipe completely dry with a clean, soft cloth.
- Cleaning Diamonds and Platinum
  - Prepare a solution of 1 cup water and 1/4 cup ammonia.
  - Soak jewelry in the prepared solution for 20 minutes.
  - Gently scrub with a soft-bristle toothbrush.
  - Rinse with warm water, and lay on a cloth to dry.
  - An ultrasonic jewelry cleaner may be used on platinum and diamonds.
- Cleaning Emeralds
  - Prepare a solution of ;1 cup lukewarm water and a few drops of mild dishwashing liquid.
  - Soak emerald for a few minutes in the prepared solution.
  - If emerald is still dirty, put some soap on a soft-bristle toothbrush and gently scrub the underside of the emerald.
  - Once the emerald begins to brighten, rinse with warm water and pat dry.
- Cleaning Pearls
  - Prepare a solution of 2 cups warm water and a few drops of mild dishwashing liquid.
  - Dampen a soft, clean jewelry cloth with the prepared solution.

- Carefully rub each pearl with the dampened cloth.
- Let pearls air-dry overnight.
- Cleaning Rubies and Sapphires
  - Prepare a solution of 1 cup lukewarm water and mild dishwashing liquid, or 1 part ammonia to 6 parts water.
  - Soak gems in prepared solution for a few minutes.
  - Gently scrub gems with a soft-bristle brush.
  - Rinse with warm water and pat dry.
- Cleaning Opals
  - Prepare a solution of 2 cups warm water and a few drops of mild dishwashing liquid.
  - Dampen a soft, clean jewelry cloth with the prepared solution.
  - Rub the opals until they are clean.
  - Rinse briefly in lukewarm water and pat dry.
- Cleaning Amethysts, Garnets and Other Gemstones
  - Prepare a solution of ;1 cup lukewarm water and a few drops of mild dishwashing liquid.
  - Soak gems in prepared solution for a few minutes.
  - Gently scrub gems with a soft-bristle brush.
  - Rinse with warm water and pat dry.