

How to care for Your Veda Jewelry

To care for your jewelry and keep it clean and ready to wear, **gently** wipe off excess make-up and skin oils after each wearing, using a soft cotton cloth.

To help **retard tarnish** on sterling silver, place the piece in the anti-tarnish zip lock bag it came in or wrap the piece in jeweler's tissue paper and place it inside a regular plastic zip lock bag and seal.

Sterling Silver is very soft. You can scratch it with your fingernail or another piece of jewelry, which is why you don't want to toss it into your jewelry box. To remove light grease or dirt, add a small amount of mild liquid soap to a half cup of warm water, soak 2-3 minutes, rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry completely before storing in an air-tight plastic bag.

To remove excessive tarnish, polish with a 100% cotton cloth and a good **nonabrasive** metal cleaner. Be sure to remove any remnants of the cleaner from gemstones and rinse thoroughly with clean water. Dry thoroughly.

NEVER, NEVER, NEVER DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Use Chlorine Bleach – it can damage the metals in your jewelry, which means take off your rings before you use household cleaners containing bleach.
- Use Denatured alcohol, acetone, nail polish remover, ammonia, paint thinner, turpentine—most chemicals.
- Use Toothpaste -- the abrasives in toothpaste can scratch the metals and permanently damage the polish on the softer stones such as opal, amber, lapis lazuli, malachite, and turquoise. You heard it here – NEVER USE TOOTHPASTE ON JEWELRY!
- Wear your jewelry into swimming pools or hot tubs (the chemicals break down the gold and silver metals)
- Use Ultrasonic cleaners; they can damage stones, loosen prongs and settings, and dissolve pearls.
- Soak jewelry with soft stones such as amber, lapis lazuli, malachite or turquoise, as soaking may mar the polish on the stones.

ALWAYS:

- Use **100% cotton** when cleaning your jewelry, as other materials may scratch the surfaces, especially of Sterling Silver.
- Use clean Rouge Cloth. If your **Jeweler's Special Cleaning Cloth** (Rouge Cloth) looks dirty, replace it, because it *is* dirty and could scratch your jewelry. A good rule: “buy a new piece of jewelry; buy a new cleaning cloth.”
- Take care with soft stones. **Soft stones** like lapis, malachite, turquoise, amber, pearls and opals are easily scratched by other jewelry. Protect pieces with these gemstones by wrapping them in jeweler's tissue and storing separately.

Stones that require special care:

- **Opals** Never use an ultrasonic, never use chemicals and avoid heat. Don't leave your opal ring in strong sunlight for even a short time, as sun can dry out the water in opals which could cause hazing or color change.
- **Pearls** Protect from scratches; perfumes and household chemicals which can wear away the nacre or cause color change; never leave in the sun, as this can bleach the color.
- **Amber** Amber burns easily, so keep it away from heat and petroleum products.

Liquid Silver and Gold

Never use cleaner of any type on your Liquid Silver or Liquid Gold. If you need to clean it, use plain, dry baking soda, gently rubbed on with a soft dry 100% cotton cloth, and then rubbed off with another soft, dry 100% cotton cloth. Clean the beads with a Rouge Cloth.

To keep your Liquid Gold or Silver necklace at its best, store it in a sealed plastic bag. Avoid cosmetics and hairspray. Never wear into a swimming pool or salt water.

Matte Onyx, Jade, Agate

Never use cleaner of any type on your Matte surface stones. If you need to clean them, use a damp cloth. Usually the oils from your skin will be sufficient to keep your jewelry looking good, but if the stones begin to look dim or chalky, put a drop or two of baby oil on a cotton ball or paper towel and run over the stones. Pop into a plastic bag for several hours, then bring out and polish gently with a clean, soft 100% cotton cloth. Your Matte Onyx, Jade or Agate jewelry should look as good as new... Never wear into a swimming pool or salt water.

Veda's Jewelry Cleaner Recipe

A few drops of a mild dish detergent such as Ivory Liquid – (but sometimes if I'm out of Ivory I use Dawn)

1 Tbls baking soda

1 cup of warm water

Mix well

Using a soft toothbrush saved just for this use, gently scrub your jewelry, being sure to keep your toothbrush wet with the solution.

Rinse your jewelry with warm water and dry with soft, pure cotton cloth.

Discard cleaning solution after use.

While you're cleaning your jewelry, check for loose fasteners, prongs, hooks, etc. and call Veda at 614-444-4532 for repair if needed.