

Caring for Gemstones

Agate:

Agate tends to chip or crack rather easily. Take care to protect it from scratches and blows.

Alexandrite:

Protect alexandrite from scratches, sharp blows, harsh chemicals, and extreme temperatures.

Amber:

As amber is soft, it may be easily scratched. Be certain to store amber jewelry separately from your other jewelry.

Aquamarine:

Clean your Aquamarine at an ultrasonic jewelry cleaner or with warm, soapy water and a soft bristle brush. Do not clean in a home ultrasonic machine. As with all gemstones, care should be taken to protect it from scratches and sharp blows. Aquamarine often pales if left out in the sun.

Amethyst:

Clean your Amethyst at an ultrasonic jewelry cleaner or with warm, soapy water and a soft bristle brush. Amethyst often pales if left out in the sun.

Aventurine:

Aventurine may fade in the sun.

Bloodstone:

Generally, the polish will be removed if you get this type of stone wet. As with other jewelry, avoid scratches, sharp blows, and harsh chemicals.

Carnelian:

Carnelian placed in the sun will change color from brown to red.

Chrysoprase:

Chrysoprase will fade in the sun.

Citrine:

Citrine may be easily scratched. Citrine often permanently changes color if left in direct sunlight for several hours.

Coral:

Coral is especially fragile. Protect coral from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean coral in a home ultrasonic cleaner.

Diamond:

Generally, diamonds are quite durable. However, diamonds are subject to chipping and fracture when handled roughly. Diamonds should be stored separately from themselves and other jewelry. Diamonds may scratch other jewelry as well as each other.

Emerald:

Clean your Emerald with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid sudden temperature changes, household chemicals, and ultrasonic jewelry cleaners. Emerald is often treated with oil to fill fissures and fractures as are characteristic to the gem. Hence, You should never clean an emerald in an ultrasonic cleaner, because this oil could be removed or damaged, making the fissures more visible. In addition, do not clean emerald in hot soapy water, since it too may remove this oil.

Garnet:

Garnet should be cleaned with a dry, soft cloth. Care should be taken to protect it from scratches, sharp blows, harsh chemicals, and extreme temperatures.

Jasper:

The polish on jasper will often wash away in water. Clean with a soft dry cloth.

Kunzite:

Kunzite is especially fragile as a result of its crystalline structure. Protect kunzite from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean kunzite in a home ultrasonic cleaner. Kunzite will fade over time when exposed to sun light .

Lapis Lazuli:

Lapis Lazuli may be easily scratched or chipped. Water will dissolve its protective coatings.

Malachite:

Malachite is especially fragile. Protect malachite from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean malachite in a home ultrasonic cleaner. Washing malachite in water will remove its finish.

Moonstone:

Moonstone tends to chip or crack rather easily. Take care to protect it from scratches and blows.

Obsidian:

Obsidian is fairly fragile. Avoid sharp blows as it will crack.

Onyx:

Onyx tends to chip or crack rather easily. Take care to protect it from scratches and blows.

Opal:

Opal is an extremely fragile stone. Avoid large temperature changes (i.e. do not leave the opal next to your heater or in a hot car). Store it in the dark. Clean it with a soft, dry cloth. Ultrasonic cleaners and strong solvents may damage the stone and should thus be avoided.

Pearl:

Pearls are less durable than most gems. They are sensitive to acids, dryness, and humidity. If you wear cosmetics and/or perfume, put these on before wearing your pearl jewelry. When taking off your pearls, wipe them with a dry, lint-free cloth. If needed, clean your pearls with warm soapy water being very careful to avoid wetting the drill hole, as the pearl may become thus discolored. Dry your pearls flat on an absorbent, soft (preferably lint-free) towel. Always store your pearl necklaces as flat as the silk will stretch. Store pearls separately from other jewelry, as they are easily scratched. Store pearls in a dry environment. Avoid using plastic bags (as moisture may get trapped and cause damage).

Peridot:

Protect peridot from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean peridot in a home ultrasonic cleaner.

Rose Quartz:

Rose Quartz will chip and crack rather easily, and it will also fade in the sun. Avoid placing it in direct sunlight, and be extra careful to protect it from scratches and blows.

Ruby:

Ruby is generally quite durable. Still, rubies are subject to chipping and fracture if handled roughly.

Sapphire:

Sapphire is generally quite durable. Still, sapphires are subject to chipping and fracture if handled roughly.

Tanzanite:

Tanzanite may be easily scratched or chipped. Clean it with warm, soapy water and a soft bristle brush. Avoid using ultrasonic cleaning.

Tiger's Eye:

Protect tiger's eye from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean tiger's eye in a home ultrasonic cleaner

Topaz:

Protect topaz from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean topaz in a home ultrasonic cleaner. The best way to clean topaz is with warm soapy water.

Tourmaline:

Protect tourmaline from scratches and sharp blows. Also avoid large temperature changes (such as those which would occur if one were to leave the gem by a heater vent or in a hot car). Do not clean tourmaline in a home ultrasonic cleaner

Turquoise:

Turquoise is somewhat soft, so avoid scratches and sharp blows. To be certain that coatings are not removed, also avoid hot water and household chemicals.

Zircon:

Zircon is somewhat soft, so avoid scratches and sharp blows. Avoid hot water and household chemicals. Brown Zircon is usually heat-treated as a means by which to transform it into colorless or blue Zircon. Blue stones that have reverted to brown will regain their blue color if reheated. Blue Zircon reheated in the presence of oxygen will transform into a golden yellow.