

AKSHAR CHOUDREE

FINE JEWELLERY

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CARING FOR YOUR DIAMOND JEWELLERY

HARD TO ACCEPT?

1. **Diamonds NEVER EVER fall out of rings** they are only ever dislodged by a force, not deliberately.
Think about it, you could put a diamond ring on a table and watch it for 1,000 years & the diamond would never move. There has to be some force to compromise the setting which dislodges the stone. Everyday wear exposes a ring and its diamond to such threatening forces.
2. **Precious metals, don't become scratched or dented on their own****
Like dents in new motor cars, some force has to occur.

DO NOT FEAR- a little respect, understanding, simple precautions and some elementary housekeeping will keep your jewellery sparkling for years.

THE ENEMIES

1. **The Bed - remove your jewellery before going to bed.**

Wearing your diamond ring in bed-you're asleep, and a claw catches in the bed linen, you turn over and that 1mm claw is subjected to 50 kilograms + of body weight, of lift and pressure.

2. **Gardening and DIY.**

Remove jewellery when doing any manual work, even though diamonds are very strong, a hard blow can dislodge, even chip them. There is also the risk that you expose them to chemicals that may be harmful to the jewellery.

3. **Washing and Washing up.**

Diamonds are natural grease attractors and can become coated with an oily film when they are immersed in dishwater. Energetic contact with metal pots and pans in hot greasy water is not the healthiest way to treat fine jewellery. There is also the risk that you expose them to chemicals that may be harmful to the jewellery.

4. **Bathing and showering.**

Remove all jewellery before bathing and showering since soap causes a film that can dull diamonds. Do not leave your ring next to the sink when washing your hands, it can easily slip down the drain or you could leave them in a public place.

5. **General house work.**

Exposes diamond jewellery to dust and dirt, cleaning chemicals and the knocks and bumps of manual labour.

6. **Sports.**

Remove jewellery when partaking in any sports, even though diamonds are very strong, a hard blow can dislodge, even chip them.

7. **Door handles and heavy bags.**

Few people respect the enormous pressure exerted by the human grip, your ring is between that grip and the metal door/bag handle is bound to have some effect - just think just how many times you open doors every day.

8. **Playing with your ring and jewellery.**

You regularly see people running their pendant up and down the chain, running their hand across a table or seat to roll their wedding ring, these acts must be avoided.

9. **Storing jewellery incorrectly.**

Store your jewellery separately, as even platinum can be scratched. However, if visible scratches appear a professional polish will restore its natural beauty. When travelling, special care should be taken for your diamonds and other precious pieces of jewellery. There are many types of

carry-alls, specially designed for jewellery travel. Most have padded compartments to protect each piece.

IMPORTANT DAILY CHECKS

1. Check the claws.

Look sideways at the claws while rotating the piece daily and check that ALL the claws still have contact with the diamond & remove any fluff. If they don't, return it to the jeweller who sold you the ring, it's a simple, routine and affordable job to tighten the claws. We recommend, and your insurance company may insist on an annual inspection, correction and cleaning. It's not an expensive job, use the jeweller who sold you the piece, out of respect, loyalty and the fact that any guarantee is invalidated if you allow a third party to work on the piece.

2. Ensure that the stone is not loose or turning in the setting.

CLEANING YOUR DIAMOND JEWELLERY

Don't use abrasive cleaners on jewellery.

It's tricky to keep a diamond ring clean. Diamonds are natural grease attractors and can become coated with an oily film when they are immersed in dishwater or when they come into contact with any greasy substance including hand or body lotions and natural skin oils. Powders, hair spray and soap also diminish a diamond's brilliance.

If you wish your diamond to look better than most rings worn today keep it clean! A clean diamond will have the same sparkle and brightness that it did on the day you bought it while a dirty diamond will look dull and dark and shorten its lifespan.

Diamonds should be cleaned so that the maximum amount of light can then enter and return in a fiery brilliance. It just takes a little care and understanding to keep them that way. Here are several ways to clean diamonds.

1. In a Detergent Bath Prepare a small bowl of warm suds with any of the mild liquid detergents (Sunlight Liquid) used in the home. Brush the pieces with an eyebrow brush while they are in the suds. Then transfer them to a wire tea strainer and rinse under warm running water. Pat dry with soft, lintless cloth. Don't touch your clean diamonds with your fingers. Handle your jewellery by its edges.

CARE OF PLATINUM:

Platinum is one of the most durable metals. It is resistant to tarnishing and discolouration caused by chlorine and other chemicals. However, despite its durability, platinum jewellery needs to be properly cared for. Platinum jewellery can be cleaned the same way as other fine jewellery and there are many jewellery cleaners which clean platinum. Over time platinum develops a natural patina, which many people find just as attractive as a polished finished, but this does not represent any material loss and platinum rings will not thin with age. Store your jewellery separately, as even platinum can be scratched. However, if visible scratches appear, a professional polish will restore its natural beauty.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

***A diamond from your ring or jewellery which is Loose, Chipped, Damaged or Shattered is an insurance claim and not the responsibility of the jeweller who sold you the piece**

***When your rings or jewellery become scratched, it is normal wear and tear and simple maintenance is necessary to have them cleaned and refinished by a professional**