

# Sterling silver care tips by Andy Kashtan Jewellery

Sterling silver jewellery will tarnish with time and wear. Therefore it requires proper yet quick and easy care and cleaning. Following the recommended tips will help maintain initial shine of the metal and prevent undesirable effects such as scratches and oxidation.

## Take your silver off:

- when contacting with water (e.g. shower, bath, swimming pool, hot springs, sauna),
- when using cleaning supplies (e.g. laundry, dishes),
- when exercising (e.g. at the gym),
- when using moisturisers, perfumes, makeup, hair products,
- in very hot places or with the direct sunlight (e.g. hot tubs, beach),
- when carrying out outside tasks (e.g. gardening),
- when cooking and eating food that contains sulfur (e.g. eggs and mayonnaise).

## Storing:

- Store each jewellery piece individually in its own case, pouch, or compartment.
- Keep it in a dry, dark and cool place.
- For storing silver jewellery for a long period of time, perform a thorough cleaning and then seal it in an air-tight bag (e.g. plastic) to protect it from humidity. Put 1 Silica gel packet to each bag or jewellery box for extra anti-tarnish protection. Or replace it with a silver storage strip bought in a jewellery and supplies shop.

## Cleaning:

- Clean silver pieces regularly (as often as you wish).
- Wipe them gently with a soft cloth or specially designed silver polishing cloths with long up-and-down strokes.
- To remove undesired silver tarnish, add a bit of mild detergent to the silver piece, and further use a damp cloth or fingers to rub it into the surface of the metal.

## Avoid:

- coarse fibers or fabrics (e.g. paper, polyester),
- chemical liquid jewellery cleaners causing eventual discoloration of the metal,
- any type of brushes for scrubbing silver pieces,
- polish and cleansers for black oxidation (patina) that tends to wear away and become lighter with time and continuous wear.