



PEARLS

CARE & CLEANING

The surface of a pearl is soft and is easily damaged. Pearls set in rings and bracelets are more subject to scuffing and scratching than pearls set in brooches, earrings, necklaces or strands.

NEVER

- Wear pearls while working with your hands
- Apply perfume or hairspray when you are wearing pearl jewelry, especially a strand
- Store pearls in a plastic bag
- Store pearls in a safe or safety deposit box for long periods
- Use detergents, household cleaners, commercial jewelry cleaners or tarnish removers on pearl jewelry



Pearl strands should be stored separately. They should be stored flat rather than hanging so the thread won't stretch out prematurely. A silk bag, velvet-lined box or pearl folder are good places for storing pearls.

STRINGING: Pearl strands should be restrung every one to two years or more often if the thread begins to bag or fray.

CLEANING: At Hayes Jewelers, our professional staff can restring, clean and share tips for properly protecting your pearls. An easy, "do-it-yourself" method:

- Lay flat on clean soft cloth or towel
- Apply a mild solution of soap flakes with a new pure natural bristle complexion or manicure brush. (Do not use your pearl cleaning brush for anything else. Store it where it will not become dusty or soiled)
- Scrub gently
- Submerge in cool tap water and flush for at least five minutes
- Carefully remove from water and lay it on a fresh towel until completely dry

Pearls will naturally darken slightly with age and wear. The golden or creamy tones that come with age cannot be removed.

Source: nature.berkeley.edu