

WOVEN ART JEWELLERY

Woven and crocheted silver jewellery with a Celtic twist ... handmade in the UK

Caring for Your Pearl and Sterling Silver Jewellery

- Pearls are much softer than other gemstones and if their surface becomes damaged they cannot be polished or reshaped.
- Pearls can also be damaged by exposure to chemicals, water and perspiration as well as personal care products such as perfume and hairspray.
- Sterling silver is also susceptible to these same products and may tarnish over time.

However your item of jewellery is very durable and will retain its natural beauty if you follow these simple guidelines:-

- Remove jewellery before swimming and showering, and put jewellery on after makeup, perfume and hairspray have been applied.
- Store jewellery in its own separate pouch or box, away from other gemstones and jewellery which could scratch the surface of the pearls or the sterling silver. Pearls need to "breathe" so avoid storing them in air-tight plastic bags but try to store jewellery in a dark, dry place to minimise tarnishing of the sterling silver.
- Buff the sterling silver with a soft, polishing cloth after each use to keep it shinier longer.

How to Clean Your Pearl and Sterling Silver Jewellery

Ideally take your item to a jeweller to ensure the safest and most professional cleaning job

However, if you would like to clean your jewellery yourself please read the following recommendations:-

- Rub the pearls gently with a soft cloth or use a soft brush (such as a makeup brush) which has been dipped in a mild warm water and baby shampoo/hand soap solution (nothing abrasive) and gently brush over the pearls. As pearls are porous submersion in water is not recommended.
- Use a clean, damp cloth to remove any shampoo/soap residues then allow the pearls to air dry fully before you wear them again.
- Never use bleach, abrasive cleaners, silver dips or an ultrasonic jewellery cleaner for pearl jewellery. Even jewellery dips which are marketed as safe for pearls should be avoided as they could damage the pearls' beautiful lustre.
- If the sterling silver becomes tarnished the safest and gentlest way to clean it without damaging the pearls is to use a silver polishing cloth. Usually this is a two part procedure - firstly using a cloth impregnated with tarnish removing compound (such as rouge) and then giving a final polish with a non impregnated, natural cloth, ensuring all compound is also gently removed from the pearls.