



THE GEMSTONE CARE GUIDE

A practical guide to keeping your natural gemstones beautiful—at home, at work, and for years to come.



A simple rule: when you are unsure about a gemstone's treatment or history, choose gentle cleaning with a soft cloth and ask a qualified jeweller before using any machine cleaner.

Prepared by Khyati Precious Gems Private Limited • [KhyatiGems.com](https://www.KhyatiGems.com)

01 Everyday care essentials

Most gemstone damage is preventable. Small habits—removing jewellery before strenuous tasks, avoiding chemicals, and storing pieces separately—make a meaningful difference.

The safest at-home cleaning routine

1. Prepare

Use a clean bowl of lukewarm water with a few drops of mild, plain soap. Avoid hot water.

2. Clean gently

For suitable gemstones, use a very soft brush or lint-free cloth. Never scrub a fragile, porous, coated or visibly fractured stone.

3. Rinse safely

Rinse in a second bowl of clean water—not over an open sink where a loose stone or jewellery piece could be lost.

4. Dry fully

Pat dry with a soft, lint-free cloth and allow the piece to dry completely before storing.

Before cleaning: check the product details and any gem-lab report for treatment information. Oil, resin, glass filling, dye, coating or impregnation can change what is safe.

Everyday do's and don'ts

DO	AVOID
Remove jewellery before exercise, gardening, heavy lifting and household chores.	Impacts, knocks, abrasive surfaces and wearing rings during manual work.
Apply perfume, hairspray, lotion and sunscreen first; let them dry before wearing gems.	Direct contact with bleach, chlorine, acids, harsh cleaners and unknown solvents.
Store each piece separately in a soft pouch or a divided jewellery box.	Loose gems rubbing together—hard stones can scratch softer gems and metal.
Have settings, prongs and strands checked periodically by a jeweller.	Ultrasonic or steam cleaning unless a professional has confirmed it is suitable.

02 Special care by gemstone

Gemstones differ in hardness, toughness, stability and treatment. A hard stone can still chip, and a visually similar pair of gems may need different care depending on how each was treated.

GEM	MOHS*	SAFER ROUTINE	TAKE EXTRA CARE
DIAMOND	10	Clean with lukewarm water, mild soap and a soft brush; dry with a lint-free cloth. Keep separate from other jewellery because diamond can scratch gems and metal.	Avoid hard blows and sudden extreme temperature changes. Ultrasonic/steam cleaning can loosen a setting; use only after a professional checks the stone and mounting.
RUBY & SAPPHIRE	9	Usually durable; lukewarm soapy water and a soft brush are a good default.	Glass-filled, fracture-filled, dyed or otherwise treated stones may be more vulnerable. Avoid machine cleaning unless the exact treatment is known.
EMERALD	7.5–8	Use lukewarm water, mild soap and very gentle cleaning; dry carefully.	Avoid ultrasonic and steam cleaners. Many emeralds have fracture-filling oils/resins that heat, vibration or chemicals can affect.
OPAL	Varies	Wipe gently with a soft, slightly damp cloth; dry promptly.	Avoid ultrasonic/steam, harsh chemicals, prolonged heat and rapid temperature changes. Avoid soaking assembled jewellery.
PEARL	2.5–4.5	Wipe after each wear with a soft, clean cloth. If needed, use a barely damp soft cloth and dry flat.	Avoid perfume, hairspray, detergents, heat and abrasive contact. Do not use ultrasonic/steam cleaners. Let pearl strands dry fully before storage.
TANZANITE	6–7	Use a soft cloth or lukewarm soapy water with minimal handling.	Avoid ultrasonic/steam cleaners, hard knocks and sudden temperature changes; it can be vulnerable to cleavage.
TURQUOISE & LAPIS	Variable	Use a dry or slightly damp soft cloth; dry immediately.	Often porous or treated. Avoid soaking, oils, chemicals, heat, ultrasonic and steam cleaners.
TOPAZ	8	Use lukewarm soapy water and a soft cloth; handle carefully.	Despite its hardness, topaz has cleavage and can split from a sharp blow. Avoid machine cleaning, especially if coated or treated.
AMETHYST & CITRINE	7	Gentle lukewarm soapy water and a soft brush are generally appropriate.	Avoid prolonged strong sunlight or intense heat, which may alter colour in some stones. Avoid machine cleaning if treated, fractured or mounted insecurely.
AQUAMARINE	7.5–8	Use lukewarm soapy water and a soft brush if the stone is not fracture-filled.	Avoid prolonged heat and sudden temperature changes. If inclusions, fractures or treatments are present, seek jeweller guidance.

*Mohs hardness is scratch resistance—not a guarantee against chipping or breakage. Values are typical ranges and may vary by gem variety. Treatment and setting can override general guidance.

03 More gems & loose-stone handling

Other popular gemstones

Moonstone & other feldspars

Use a soft cloth or mild soapy water only if suitable. Avoid ultrasonic/steam cleaning and impacts; these stones may cleave or fracture.

Peridot

Clean gently with lukewarm soapy water and a soft brush. Avoid harsh temperature changes, strong impacts and unapproved machine cleaning.

Garnet

Usually suitable for gentle soapy-water cleaning. Avoid hard blows and machine cleaning when fractures, treatments or insecure settings are present.

Zircon (natural)

Use gentle soapy water and a soft brush. Zircon can abrade and may be brittle; avoid knocks and do not assume it is safe for ultrasonic cleaning.

Turquoise, malachite, amber & coral

These softer or porous/organic materials need extra caution. Use a soft dry cloth or barely damp cloth; keep away from chemicals, heat, soaking and machine cleaners.

Jade

Wipe with a soft cloth and mild soapy water if needed. Avoid chemicals, heat and machine cleaning where treatments or impregnation are unknown.

If you own loose gemstones

- Handle over a soft, clean tray or folded cloth so a stone cannot bounce or roll away.
- Pick up faceted stones by the edges where practical; fingerprints and skin oils can reduce brilliance.
- Keep each stone in its own labelled pouch or compartment. Do not store diamonds beside softer gems.
- Keep any lab report with the matching stone and record the SKU or reference number.
- Do not attempt home polishing, re-oiling, re-coating or treatment removal.

If a stone looks cloudy, loose, cracked or newly discoloured, stop cleaning it and consult a qualified jeweller or gemmologist.

A note on certified gemstones

A laboratory report supports identification and may disclose detectable treatments; it is not a guarantee that every cleaning method is safe. Always use the report together with the seller's product information and professional advice.

04 Quick reference: choose the gentle option

Use this chart as a first check—not as permission to use a machine cleaner. When a stone is treated, mounted with other materials, or of unknown history, follow the most cautious option.

GEM / MATERIAL	GENTLE CLOTH	LUKEWARM SOAPY WATER	ULTRASONIC / STEAM
Diamond	Yes	Usually suitable	Professional assessment first
Ruby / Sapphire	Yes	Usually suitable	Only if treatment & setting are confirmed
Emerald	Yes	Preferred method	Avoid
Opal / Pearl	Yes	Minimal moisture; extra care	Avoid
Tanzanite / Topaz	Yes	Gentle, if suitable	Avoid unless expert confirms
Turquoise / Lapis / Malachite	Yes	Prefer cloth; avoid soaking	Avoid
Amethyst / Citrine / Garnet	Yes	Usually suitable	Only after professional assessment

Your gemstone, your care plan

The best care advice depends on the exact gemstone, its treatment, whether it is loose or mounted, and the condition of its setting. If you have a question about a gemstone purchased from Khyati Gems, contact us with the product link or SKU and, where available, the laboratory report.

Khyati Gems

Natural gemstones, thoughtfully selected.

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Sources & further reading

Gemological Institute of America (GIA): Diamond Care and Cleaning Guide — <https://www.gia.edu/diamond-care-cleaning>
 GIA: Emerald Care and Cleaning Guide — <https://my.gia.edu/emerald-care-cleaning>
 GIA: Ruby Care and Cleaning Guide — <https://origin.prod.gia.edu/articles/ruby-care-cleaning>
 GIA: Sapphire Care and Cleaning Guide — <https://origin.dev.author.gia.edu/sapphire-care-cleaning>
 GIA: Ultrasonic Cleaners for Gems — <https://4cs.gia.edu/en-us/blog/gems-ultrasonic-cleaners/>
 GIA: Tips on Caring for Jewelry — <https://www.gia.edu/articles/gia-news-research-tips-caring-jewelry>

Customer education only. This guide is general information, not a substitute for a gemmologist or jeweller's assessment. Gemstone treatments and jewellery settings vary; Khyati Gems cannot guarantee a cleaning method will be suitable for every individual stone.