



Treasure Bay Designs®

## Caring for your pearls

Pearls are porous and can damage easily if not cared for properly. Remember the golden rule – Put your pearls on last before you are ready to leave and wipe them after every use.

Oils, perfume, cosmetics, hair products, soap and chemicals are all products that can cause damage to pearls, apply them before you put on your pearls. Wearing your pearls in the bath/shower or in a pool will damage them as well. Wipe your pearls with a clean soft dry cloth after wearing to help preserve their luster. If a heavier cleaning is needed use a soft damp cloth and dry each pearl carefully, or have them professionally cleaned by a jeweler. Do not use jewelry cleaner on pearls.

On the other hand wearing your pearls often will increase the life of your pearls as well. Your natural body oils will be absorbed by the pearls and keep them from becoming brittle. Still you should wipe them after every use.

You should store your pearls in a cloth pouch or in your jewelry box. Do not store your pearls in plastic bags for long periods of time. Pearls need to be exposed to air and moisture to maintain their beauty. If you are storing your pearls in a safe for long periods of time – even a safe deposit box – put a small container of water in the safe with them to protect them from the very dry air.

Restring your pearls every 3 to 5 years. With everyday use they may need to be restrung every 1 – 2 years. Look to see if the string is frayed or fuzzy, gaps in knotting (pearls move between knots) or dirty string. If you notice any of these issues take your pearls for restringing.

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