



**Blakrose Accessories – Est. – 2007**

Professionally hand-crafted wire art & heirloom jewellery

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Tutorial instruction's for jewellery care

**LEVEL : EASY**

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## Natural & environmentally friendly jewellery cleaning recipes....

Whatever type of jewellery you own, gentle cleaning and maintenance is necessary to keep its shine.

Unless already oxidized or treated, Air and water oxidize metals and can make them dull.

Keep them looking new with periodic cleaning and you will keep your jewellery looking better and longer.

Save time, money and the environment by making your own inexpensive jewellery cleaner's, using items from your pantry/laundry cupboard.

Here are a few great ones to get you started ☺ –

However –

Some important things to remember before you start are

### NEVER

- Use vinegar with pearls, as the pearls will dissolve.
- *Be careful if the jewellery contains gemstones. The mixture may discolour or harm gemstones other than diamonds*

## Recipe #1

### Ingredients / materials:

1 tablespoon salt

1 tablespoon baking soda

1 tablespoon dish detergent

1 cup water

1 piece aluminium foil

### Directions:

1.

Heat water in the microwave for 1 or 2 minutes.–

This removes any additives to the water–

(E.g. chlorine, which will affect the metals colour over time  
and make it tarnish quicker,)

2.

Cut a piece of aluminium foil that roughly covers the bottom of a small bowl (like a cereal bowl).

3.

Pour hot water into bowl. Place salt, soda, and dishwashing liquid into bowl. Place jewellery on top of foil and let it sit for 5 to 10 minutes.

Rinse jewellery in cool water and dry jewellery completely with soft cloth. Discard solution after use and make a new batch next time.

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According to wire-sculpture.com, "this works well for gold-filled, brass, German (nickel) silver, and sterling silver.

### [Recipe #2 - for un-oxidized metals only](#)

#### [Ingredients / materials](#)

6 tablespoons salt

6 tablespoons flour

5 table spoons of white vinegar – approx

### Directions:

1. Dissolve 2 tsp. of salt in a cup of white distilled vinegar.
2. Place a few tablespoons of flour (any kind) into a shallow container.
3. Add some of the vinegar mixture to the flour until it forms a paste.
4. Spread a thick layer of the paste on the metal that needs to be cleaned.

E.g.: Apply to your favourite brass or copper jewellery pieces, candlesticks, bowls ECT with a soft cloth and Let stand for 15 minutes.

4. Rinse with water, dry and rub clean with a soft, clean cloth

### Recipe #3

#### Ingredients / materials:

- \* 1 tbsp dishwashing detergent
- \* 1 tbsp baking soda
- \* 3 cups warm water
- \*1/2 cup tomato sauce

Combine ingredients in a bowl and mix well.

To use, soak jewellery in the solution for 1–10 minutes

(Depending on how tarnished it is).

Swish intricate pieces in the solution to get into the cracks/crevices.

Use a toothbrush or a well-washed mascara brush for hard to reach places.

Rinse thoroughly dry & rub with a blakrose polish cloth.

#### Recipe #4

##### CLEANING GOLD JEWELLERY

- 1 cup water
- 3/4 cup cider vinegar

Pour cider vinegar in a shallow glass container.

Place gold jewellery in the vinegar so that it is covered completely.

Don't overlap any different pieces or parts of chains.

Let the jewellery sit in the vinegar for 15 minutes.

Remove the jewellery and wipe clean with a soft, clean cloth. The gold should be completely clean.

#### Recipe #5

##### CLEANING PLATINUM JEWELLERY

A recommended natural way to clean platinum is to make a mixture of half ammonia and half water.

Let the platinum soak in the mixture for at least 5 mins,

Rinse thoroughly, dry then polish with a blakrose cloth.

*Be careful if the jewellery contains gemstones other than diamonds. The mixture may discolour or harm gemstones other than diamonds*

#### Recipe #6

#### CLEANING SILVER JEWELLERY

1. Line a glass bowl with aluminium foil, shiny side facing outward.
2. Place the jewellery you want to clean in the bowl making sure it's touching the foil
3. Cover the jewellery with baking soda – just enough so that you can't see it.
4. Add boiling water – enough to immerse the jewellery.
5. Let soak for 3 to 5 minutes (or less if it's not really dirty).
6. Use tongs or a fork to lift out the jewellery (you don't want to get burned) and rinse under cold water, dry and polish.
7. Voila ..... you have sparkling jewellery.

If the jewellery is very dirty or very tarnished – like silver or

gold – then you may need to repeat the process so just add a little more baking soda and more boiling water – but make sure it's boiling, that's key.

This method works great on sterling, silver, gold, costume jewellery metals, even [Technibond Jewellery](#) .

But do be careful if you're got a lot of crystals glued into a setting and limit soaking to no more than 90 seconds – or you might melt the glue.

Also, **don't immerse natural pearls in this solution** – it's too caustic.

It is however, fine for most gemstones and works wonders on cubic zirconium and in case you're wondering ....i

Although silver can be cleaned very easily with a bath of baking soda and water with a piece of aluminium,

If you don't have aluminium on hand, you can use white distilled vinegar.

Mix 2 tbsp. baking soda in 3.4 fluid oz. or almost 1/2 cup (100 ml) of vinegar.

Soak silver items in the mixture for 10 minutes. Rinse thoroughly with water and dry the items with a soft, clean cloth, then polish Repeat if necessary. 😊

Hope this helps you in you jewellery care and maintenance,

Any questions??

Please don't hesitate to contact me, I'm always happy to help 😊

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