

# 4 Tips to keep your silver sparkling like new!

## 1. Store your silver jewelry in cool, dark conditions away from air.

Use an air-sealing box or bag such as a tarnish-resistant or zip top plastic bag (make sure the jewelry is dry before putting it in plastic). You know those little desiccant packets that come in pill bottles, etc? Add one of those or a piece of chalk, and it will help absorb any moisture.

Sulfur in humid air is the main culprit when it comes to tarnish, so keeping your jewelry sealed against moisture is especially important in humid climates. And that leads me to another one...

### 2. Keep it away from the steamy shower.

As I just said, sulfur causes silver to tarnish, and it happens more quickly in humid air. So keep your jewelry in your bedroom rather than in the bathroom, especially if you don't have a bathroom fan.

#### 3. Wear it!

The oils in your skin help protect the silver and keep it from tarnishing. However, the same can't be said for beauty products - lotions, hairspray, and perfumes will speed up the tarnishing process. So put your jewelry on last, after your hair and beauty products have dried.

### 4. DON'T wear it when cleaning, showering or swimming.

Chlorine and other cleaning products will also cause tarnishing. And don't think your DIY vinegar and lemon juice solutions are safe - while non-toxic to us, the acids will cause discoloration even more stubborn than typical tarnish.

Sadly, tarnish usually happens eventually, no matter how careful you are. It happens to me as well - mostly because I'm not as careful as I should be in storing my jewelry when I'm not wearing it (that pile of tarnished jewelry on the dresser? That's me).