

Coloured Gemstone Care and Enhancement Guide

- To meet Costco's high quality standards, every piece of jewellery with diamonds, gemstones or pearls has been inspected by one of our GIA Graduate Gemologists prior to shipping
- Coloured Gemstones are often enhanced in the production process.
- Coloured Gemstones offered by Costco have been enhanced unless otherwise stated.
- Avoid using any harsh chemicals, like bleach or ammonia, on any gemstone or metal as these can cause extreme damage to your jewellery.
- Most jewellery can be cleaned with warm soapy water and a soft brush or cloth.

Gemstone Type	Common Treatments / Enhancements	Recommended Special Care
Amazonite 	Impregnated with a colourless wax, paraffin, plastic or oil to improve appearance.	Avoid chemicals and ultrasonic. Extreme heat can cause colour fading. Amazonite scratches easily.
Amethyst 	Heated to improve / enhance colour. Irradiated and heated to darken colour.	The colour may fade in long exposure to direct sunlight or intense heat.
Aquamarine 	Heated to improve / enhance colour.	
Beryl - Morganite 	Heated to improve the colour.	Avoid high temperatures, steam cleaning, chemicals and ultrasonic.
Chalcedony - Dyed Various Colours 	Dyed and or heated to improve or change the colour.	Certain stones may fade in light or heat.
Chalcedony - Black Onyx 	Dyed	
Citrine 	Heated to improve/enhance colour.	Avoid direct sunlight and exposure to heat.
Coral 	Bleached, impregnated with colourless wax, stabilized with plastic to improve colour and durability.	Avoid chemicals and solvents.
Diamond 	None	Avoid hitting diamonds on anything hard, or wearing next to another diamond, as diamonds can chip.
Lab Created Emerald 	None	Avoid high heat.
Garnet - All Types 	None	Avoid sudden temperature changes.
Hematite 	None	
Jade - Jadeite Dyed 	Dyed. Coated with colourless wax, two-step bleaching and polymer impregnation.	Avoid heat, chemicals, and ultrasonic.
Jade - Jadeite (Natural) 	Coated with colourless wax.	Avoid ultrasonic.

Gemstone Type	Common Treatments / Enhancements	Recommended Special Care
Jade - Nephrite 	None	Avoid heat, chemicals, and ultrasonic.
Lapis Lazuli 	Coated with colourless wax or oil to improve appearance. Dyed to provide colour and/or uniformity.	Avoid chemicals and ultrasonic.
Moonstone 	Oiled	Avoid ultrasonic.
Opal 	Impregnated with colourless oil, wax or resins to increase durability & improve appearance.	Avoid ultrasonic, heat and solvents.
Cultured Pearls 	Bleached to improve colour and appearance.	Avoid chemicals, cosmetics and ultrasonic. Hair spray, perfume, and lotions can damage pearls.
Cultured Freshwater Pearls 	Bleached and/or dyed colours.	Avoid chemicals, cosmetics and ultrasonic. Hair spray, perfume, and lotions can damage pearls.
Peridot 	None	Avoid exposure to heat and sudden changes in temperature. These may cause the peridot to fracture or break.
Ruby 	Heated to improve the colour. Surface infilling is the glass residue associated with heat as a byproduct of the process. Fracture filling - when cavities are intentionally filled with glass. We do not accept composite rubies.	Avoid household chemicals and ultrasonic. Fracture filling in Rubies may be fragile and could fall out under extreme pressure. Avoid heat and ultrasonic.
Sapphire - Various Colours 	Heated to improve/enhance colour. Diffusion treatment.	Avoid repolishing or recutting diffusion treated sapphires.
Sapphire - Yellow 	Diffusion treatment or heat.	Avoid repolishing or recutting diffusion treated sapphires.
Spinel 	None	
Tanzanite 	Heated to produce violet-blue colour.	Avoid sudden temperature changes and abrasives. Tanzanite scratches easily.
Topaz - Sky and Swiss Blue 	Irradiated and heated to intensify colour.	Avoid heat and strong light - colour may fade in exposure to sunlight.
Topaz - London Blue 	Irradiated and heated to intensify colour.	Avoid heat and strong light - colour may fade in exposure to sunlight.
Tourmaline - Green 	Heated to improve colour.	
Tourmaline - Pink 	Heated or irradiated to improve colour.	
Turquoise 	Impregnated with plastic, colourless oil, or wax to enhance or create colour or increase durability.	Avoid hot water and household chemicals.
Zircon 	Heated to improve colour.	Avoid harsh abrasives.