



## A Guide to EMERALDS

The emerald is a gemstone known for its bright **green** colour, is the birthstone for the month of **May** and also marks a **35th wedding** anniversary. Emeralds are made from a chromium-rich variety of beryl, mined in three separate areas of Colombia.

### Buying Considerations

It may be wise to look for settings which will protect the gemstone best from accidental damage; bezel-setting is a good example. You should always insure your jewellery!

Diamonds or white sapphires can be excellent “accent” ( surrounding ) stones for emerald, greatly enhancing its natural beauty while protecting it against side impacts.

### Cleaning Emeralds

As a general rule, you should clean your emeralds a few times a year. We recommend that you take your jewellery to a professional to have it cleaned, but some people will take care of their emeralds themselves as follows :

1. Use a soft micro-fiber cloth to remove accumulated oil and dirt.
2. Fill a bowl with lukewarm water and put some mild soap in it. Place the jewellery into the soap and water mixture.
3. Use a soft toothbrush or a jewellery brush to clean off the jewellery. Be sure to use the brush to get into those hard-to-reach areas and clean them thoroughly.
4. Fill a second bowl with lukewarm rinse water. Submerge the jewellery fully in it and check to make sure that no soapy residue is left on the emeralds.
5. Dry the jewellery with a soft, clean micro-fiber towel. Once the jewellery is dry, it is ready to be stored or worn again.

Do not use an ultrasonic cleaner on emerald jewellery. Also, avoid using commercial jewellery cleaner on your emeralds. Ultrasonic devices and commercial jewellery cleaners will remove the oils that the emeralds have been treated with and may cause damage to the gemstones.

### Wearing and Storing Your Emeralds

Never wear your emeralds while showering, swimming or sleeping. Always put your jewellery on after you've applied make-up, hairspray or perfume, or the chemicals may damage the emeralds.

Emeralds can be easily scratched, so store them separately from other jewellery.

Emeralds may need to be re-oiled after several years, and this procedure should only be done by a professional. It is a good idea to talk with a jeweller and find out whether your emeralds need re-oiling and how much the service will cost.