

Treasure Your Treasures

Advice on protecting your jewellery from La Playa

**Have you checked the small print on your insurance policy recently?
Your jewellery may not be as safe as you thought...**

Why do I need a specialist High Net Worth home insurance policy?

If your home contents include jewellery, paintings or antiques, it's worth talking to a specialist insurance broker. Standard policies often contain warranties that mean your jewellery is not covered if it's left on your dressing table. A specialist policy offers...

- 1. Lower rates:** with individual risk assessments, the insurer gets a more accurate picture and you don't pay for others' carelessness.
- 2. No restrictive small print:** jewellery on your dressing table may be uninsured on a standard home policy - many carry small print clauses that nullify the cover for jewellery not being worn or in a safe.
- 3. Choice of jeweller** for repair/replacement – many insurers insist on providing you with vouchers or sending you to jewellers not known to you. Any replacement is guaranteed with Cellini.
- 4. Valuation advice:** gold and gem prices change with the movements in metal and stone prices – without good advice you could be paying too much or be under-insured. After a theft, the last thing you need is a tussle over the value of each lost piece. Insurers therefore advise that you have arts and jewellery valued regularly – at least every 2-3 years.
- 5. Extra covers:** “pairs and sets” cover so if you lose one ear-ring the insurer will replace both. And the insurer pays the pre-agreed value - regardless of subsequent wear and tear or depreciation. You'll also have cover for personal liability (for domestic staff, non-exec and trustee positions held), kidnap and ransom and aggravated burglary.
- 6. Hassle-free cash claims settlement:** valuable pieces can't easily be replaced – or it may take time. Specialist policies pay out claims in cash, so you can replace with your preferred source.

Make sure your home insurance allows you to enjoy your jewellery in your everyday life – rather than keeping it under lock and key.

La Playa is an award-winning independent insurance broker based in London, Cambridge and New York. We'll take an intelligent approach to structuring your insurance arrangements after a detailed and confidential review of your needs.

Tips for Protecting Your Jewellery

- **Storage:** keep diamonds and pearls apart to avoid scratching
- **Cleaning:** use warm soapy water and soft natural-bristle brush on open-set jewellery but never wash pearls, opals or turquoises, which are porous and susceptible to scratching.
- **Day-to-day:** keep jewellery away from unsuitable materials such as household cleaners which can damage the surface and clog up the back of rings, dulling the “patina” and shine.

- **Going out:** put jewellery on last – perfumes and sprays leave a film on the surface, which may dull the sparkle.
- **Maintenance:** day-to-day wear and tear can loosen settings - have settings checked every 12 months. Claw settings are particularly vulnerable especially with pear or square shaped diamonds.
- **Security:** fit an additional 'decoy' safe containing lower value items that may be opened under duress if necessary.
- **Marking:** have your jewellery invisibly marked and registered on a database (eg: E-register or Identidot). This will help police recovery and speed up insurance claims. Take a digital photograph of higher value pieces.

For more advice, contact Mike Taylor-West, Private Client & Marine Director

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