



# ARGENTIUM<sup>®</sup>

## THE FINEST SILVER

### *Frequently asked questions*

#### **Why does Argentium Silver stay brighter and whiter for longer than traditional Sterling silver?**

For centuries, Sterling silver has been made by combining silver and copper. In addition to these elements, Argentium's patented formulation contains another ingredient called germanium - this creates a self-healing, protective layer on the surface that slows the onset of tarnishing. Germanium also gives a brighter, whiter colour to Argentium Silver.

#### **Will Argentium Silver turn black like traditional Sterling silver?**

While there is no such thing as completely tarnish-free silver, Argentium has been formulated to be highly resistant to the effects of tarnishing agents (including pollution, perspiration and UV light).

#### **Why doesn't Argentium Silver require plating?**

Traditional Sterling silver jewellery is often plated to hide firestain - a dark coloured, penetrating oxide that is formed when the metal is heated. Argentium Silver is firestain-free and therefore does not require plating.

#### **What is the best way to care for Argentium Silver pieces?**

Simply wipe them with a clean soft cloth or, for more intricate pieces, wash them in warm soapy water, then rinse and dry immediately. An occasional wipe with a clean silver polishing cloth will help maintain Argentium's shine and lustre (Argentium Silver Care Cloths are available). Please do NOT use 'dip' polishes with Argentium Silver.

As recommended for other precious metals, it is advisable to remove Argentium Silver jewellery before entering swimming pools/jacuzzis and before carrying out activities where jewellery could come into contact with chemicals.

#### **Does Argentium have the same 92.5% silver purity as traditional Sterling silver?**

Argentium 935 Silver is always purer than traditional Sterling, with a minimum silver content of 93.5%. Argentium 960 Silver surpasses the UK's Britannia hallmarking standard, with a silver content of 96%.

#### **Can Argentium Silver be hallmarked and is there an Argentium mark?**

Argentium Silver can be hallmarked and the unique Winged Unicorn mark is used to identify pieces made in Argentium.

#### **Can Argentium Silver pieces be resized and repaired?**

Yes. Unlike traditional Sterling silver, Argentium does not require plating - it is therefore easier to resize and repair Argentium pieces.

#### **Is Argentium Silver responsible?**

Yes. Argentium's unique and superior properties reduce manufacturing time, labour and resources and Argentium is always made from ethically sourced silver.

#### **Does Argentium Silver contain nickel and is it hypoallergenic?**

Argentium is 100% nickel-free, hypoallergenic and antibacterial.



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