



KOMBOLOGIA  
H A N D M A D E

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KOMBOLOGIA HANDMADE  
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## HOW TO CLEAN AND CARE FOR YOUR AMBER KOMBOLOI



Amber Komboloi beads are true and honest natural beauty. But beauty requires some work, every now and then. Many factors can influence the condition of amber, therefore it's important to ensure that your amber beads are properly cleaned, repaired and stored. Follow these tried and tested steps to ensure your amber komboloi lasts a lifetime.

## HOW TO LOOK AFTER MY AMBER KOMBOLOI



Amber is sensitive to direct sunlight, try to keep it away from the direct heat.

Similarly, your amber komboloi should also be kept away from climatic extremities, as this can also affect the look of the amber. Taking special care to avoid extreme humidity or heat can also help prevent tarnishing.

Amber should be kept out of contact with metals, stones and other jewellery. Amber is very delicate and can be scratched easily. Suitably your amber komboloi should be kept in separate cloth bag. Keeping you amber komboloi stored safely, will protect your piece from such harsh contact.

If you use hand sanitizer and perfume, apply it before taking your komboloi. This will limit the presence of chemical residue on your amber beads.

It has been found that these sorts of chemicals can leave a potentially permanent, white coating a top of your komboloi, or can dull the polish of the amber.

The same also applies with work and cleaning, it is best to try to avoid harsh chemical and harsh physical contact with your amber komboloi.

Don't attempt to clean your amber komboloi using an "Ultrasonic Machine" or steam cleaner. They can cause the amber to crack as well as destroying the polish of the stone.

You should clean your amber komboloi regularly, this will maintain its shine and polish. Use a polishing cloth to clean your amber komboloi.

## HOW TO CLEAN MY AMBER KOMBOLOI



Find a soft, clean cloth and lightly dampen it with warm (not hot) water.

Use the cloth to clean your amber beads, removing any oil or debris.

Immediately after, dry the amber piece thoroughly using a dry cloth.

If you would like to restore shine to an old amber piece, use a drop of olive oil to polish the amber, then again, wipe immediately clean with a dry cloth.

## THE CARE TRICK OF AMBER

### KOMBOLOI



Amber is one of the few precious minerals that it is good to handle. The oils from one's skin help to prevent oxidation. Over the years, amber does age. Often the outer surface will react with oxygen and form what is called a "crazing". This is a series of small surface cracks. It appears rather like someone has dropped the amber and surface and because of this is honeycombed with shallow numerous cracks.

Yes, the cracks can be polished away (along with 3 or 4 millimeters of the surface.) In addition, amber can darken with age. Old amber generally will take on a reddish tint. This is also thought to have something to do with oxidation of the amber. Many people favor the reddish tint to the amber! The reddish tint tends to increase the value of the amber.

You can I stop or slow down this process. Don't just keep the amber in a drawer! The natural oils from your skin (you have more oils on your skin than you



think) will coat the amber and slow the oxidation process.

There is a trick that many amber dealers use - Turtle Wax. The car wax called Turtle Wax (or really any similar soft silicon car wax) does a great job.

Once or twice a year, a thin layer of Turtle Wax and a quick buff (yep, like your car) does wonders! This puts a coat of silicon on the amber that does a super job of stopping the surface from slowly reacting with the air. You know how water beads up on a newly waxed car?

This is analogous to how oxygen behaves with a newly waxed piece of amber. A piece of amber treated this way will outlive you in brightness and durability.

