

How to Polish Silver Objects

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Materials:

- Precipitated Calcium Carbonate
- Ethanol
- Glass Bowl
- Nitrile Gloves
- Soft brush - Sable or Hake (Sheep's Hair)
- Cotton Swabs
- Cotton Balls/Rolled Cotton

Method:

1. Work in a well ventilated area and away from collections material.
2. Lightly dust the surface of your object with a soft brush.
3. Protect areas that are not silver, such as painted, enamel or wood surfaces with polyethylene such as Tyvek.
4. Mix a small amount of calcium carbonate with a small amount of ethanol to create a creamy paste.
5. Dip a piece of cotton into the mixture and apply a small amount to the surface in a gentle circular motion. For hard to reach areas, use cotton swabs to apply the mixture to your object.
6. When the mixture is dry on the object's surface, remove the polish mixture from the object's surface with clean, dry cotton in a gentle circular motion.
7. Remove any calcium carbonate residue with clean cotton or cotton swabs dipped in ethanol and applied in a gentle circular motion to the surface of your object.

Recommendations:

- ✓ Determine whether your tarnished object can be cleaned using only ethanol **OR** calcium carbonate before you polish.
- ✓ Change your cotton supplies and gloves often as you work to avoid redepositing dirt onto your object.
- ✓ Consider placing corrosion intercept materials with your clean, dry object to prolong additional tarnish.