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Caring for your Fairy Garden Products

Our product care guide is here to help you maintain your products. Keeping your products in great condition is easy and will ensure that they make you smile for a very long time. Your fairy garden products are precious - they are part of your enchanted landscape and magical journey! With care and maintenance, the fairies will enjoy the same home across generations.

1. Exposure to light & UV radiation
2. Polyurethane spray
3. Weather conditions
4. Cleaning & Maintenance
5. Handling & Breakage

Exposure to light & UV radiation

Discolouration (sun-fade) can occur from prolonged exposure to ultra violet radiation. This is especially relevant in Australia where we experience higher UV levels than the rest of the world. Remember that UV radiation exists year round, not only during the summer months.

Our resin and polystone products are hand painted. UV radiation has the energy to initiate chemical reactions in paint which effects pigment and adhesive mediums. The results of prolonged exposure may include chalking – where the adhesive deteriorates and washes away, leaving loose pigment on the surface. Light may also affect pigments. Pigment particles absorb light and convert it into heat which results in a chemical change which may cause colour to fade, darken or yellow.

Resin is especially vulnerable to UV and results of prolonged exposure can result in cracking and brittleness. Low quality resin found in cheap fairy garden ornaments is especially susceptible to this.



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- 💡 You can minimise or eliminate the effects of UV by taking a mindful approach to product positioning. While it may be tempting to position ornaments in highly exposed areas, the decision should be made with the knowledge that you are shortening the lifespan of your products. Outdoor areas with filtered sunlight or afternoon shade are the best choice for fairy garden location. Well chosen locations include the eastern side of your house, under a tree or pergola and garden beds with well established, tall plants.

Protective Spray

Protective sprays are available to purchase at hardware stores which can increase the durability of your products and lengthen their lifespan.

UV Resistant Acrylic Coatings - These type of products create a "filter", blocking UV but still letting through light. This will prevent chalking. It will not prevent long term damage to pigments.

Polyurethane Coating - These type of products provide an extra level of protection by increasing surface hardness, resisting algal and fungal growth and increasing exterior durability.

I've found both Cabots Cabothane Clear and Bondalls Pot & Ornament Sealer perform well.

- 💡 Cheap, inferior quality sprays may yellow or flake, so stick with a high quality brand and ensure that the protective spray you choose is UV stabilized. Use gloves during application and ensure products are free of debris. I recommend treating your products every 6-12 months.



Weather Conditions

Your products will withstand ordinary weather and are frost resistant. However, they won't withstand hail, torrential rain and high wind.

- 💡 Bring your ornaments indoors during extreme weather events. Be aware of the forecast and plan ahead. Keep a basket big enough to hold all your ornaments nearby so you can grab and go when needed.

Cleaning & Maintenance

Dust and other particles will build up on the surface of your products over time. Metal products will rust over time, resulting in a “shabby chic” appearance.

- 💡 Regularly clean your products to maintain their overall appearance. Use a soft dry cloth to remove dust. Heavier soiling can be removed with light pressure using a soft, damp cloth. Rust is easily removed by gently sanding with a nail file.

Handling & Breakage

Breaks are often seen as the end of a products usefulness. It is time for a change to this attitude. Beauty is found within broken things too! A break can often add to its character and charm. Please consider repair before replacement.

- 💡 Small cracks and breaks are easily repaired with a strong adhesive. I recommend Loctite. It's super strong, suitable for outdoor use, have a precision applicator and is readily available at most hardware stores. A drop of Loctite, toothpick, tweezers and a steady hand will fix most small breakages. Larger breakages may need their pieces supported as they dry. Position your products on a stable surface for display and maintenance. Use two hands when moving your products and ensure they are well protected if storing. Consider giving your ornaments a fresh coat of paint every few years.