

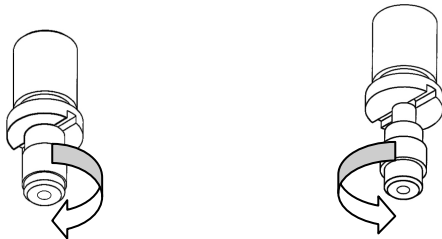


Proper Care and Maintenance of Your Cascade Crystal Chandelier

You have purchased one of interior design's most valuable, durable and rewarding elements.... a crystal chandelier. If maintained and respected it will continue to enhance your environment for years to come.

- Always remove any furniture and breakables from beneath the installation location and cover all surfaces and floor with heavy clean packing blankets before attempting, installation, changing lamps, maintaining or removing the chandelier. This will protect your other pieces and help prevent any damage potentially caused by falling elements of the chandelier or tools during installation.
- Before installation of crystal support plates check the condition of hanger hook, locking clip and grip-locks. (See Figure 1)
- One should be certain that all are inserted properly and that the grip-lock is locked tight. The grip-lock is locked by turning the knurled grip in a clock-wise direction. Check each grip-lock without disturbing the neighboring grip-lock and crystal chain. Close open hooks by squeezing the wire gently with fine tapered or needle nose pliers. (See Figure 2)

Figure 2



CLOCK-WISE TO TIGHTEN COUNTER CLOCK-WISE TO LOOSEN

- Chandelier parts are delicate and valuable and will not take mishandling, tugging, pulling or over cleaning. If tangled they must be gently unknotted; **NEVER** pulled apart. Any abuse will shorten the chandelier's life and the integrity of the piece.
- Care should be taken when loosening the grip-lock as the crystal bead strand may fall out and can cause damage to the crystal or items or persons below the chandelier. Loosen the grip-lock by turning the knurled grip in a counter clock-wise direction. (See Figure 2) Once loose, the grip is spring loaded and can be compressed to release the crystal strand.

REPLACING 40mm CRYSTAL DECORATIVE BALL

- Replace the decorative crystal ball at the end of the crystal strand by carefully unhooking the locking clip. Use a pair of needle nose pliers to carefully unclasp the locking clip and spring open the clip wire to allow for removal of the ball.
- Inspect the condition of the locking clip and make sure that there is no corrosion or damage to the metal clip before installing the 40mm crystal ball at the end of the strand. (See Figure 1)

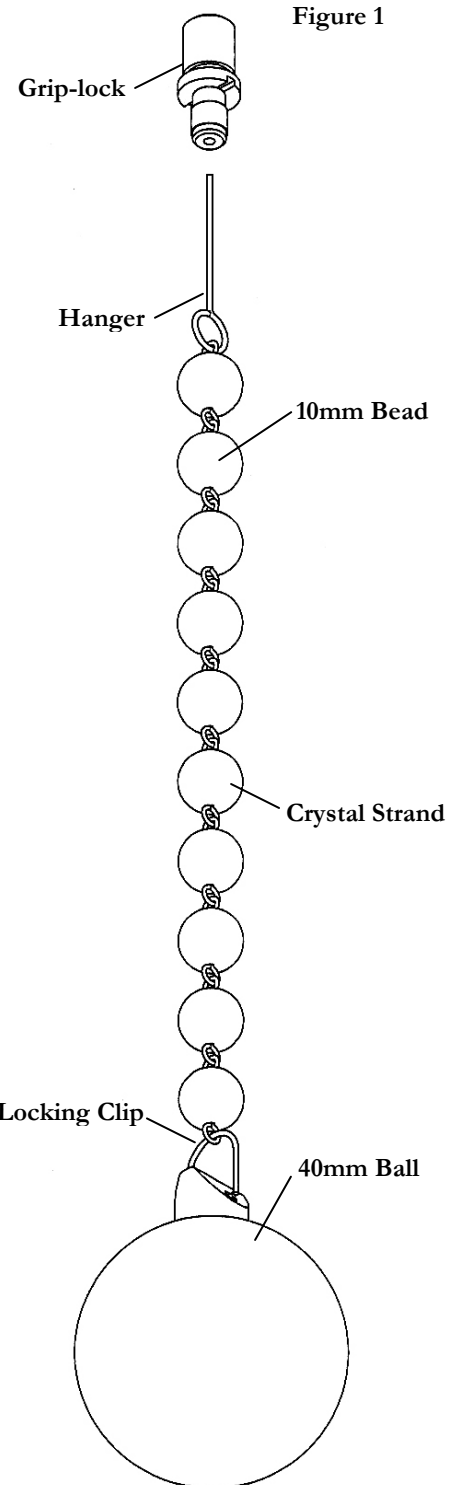


Figure 1

REPLACING/RESTRINGING CRYSTAL BEAD STRAND

- To replace a hanger hook, begin by using needle nose pliers to hold the hanger into a position so as to allow the loop of the crystal bead to slide over and through. (See Figure 3)
- Grasp the crystal bead strand and carefully feed the wire from the hook through the loop of the bead. Be careful not to drop the crystal strands as they are delicate. (See Figure 4)
- Gently pry the ring loop open to allow clearance for the bead loop wire to clear and properly hang in place. (See Figure 5)
- Make sure that the crystal bead assembly hangs freely with no kinks or binding in the crystal length. (See Figure 6)

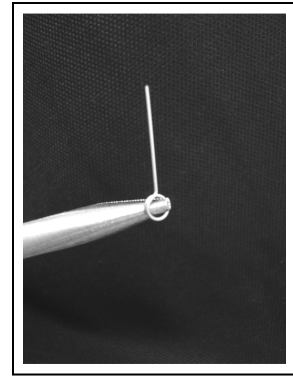


Figure 3

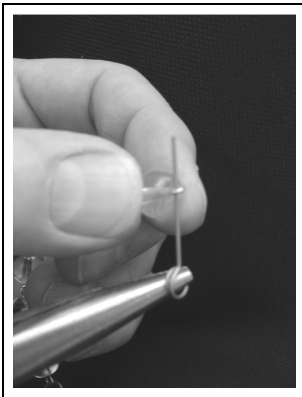


Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

Housekeeping and maintenance

- Simple dusting can be carried out on a ladder or scaffolding. Scaffolding should be erected by a professional. DO NOT bat at the chandelier from a distance. First check to see if the crystal chain is properly inserted and tightened into grip without disturbing the neighbor grip and crystal chain.
- Use a large soft pony hair brush to remove dust. Never use a feather duster for cleaning. Feathers catch on elements and may pull pieces apart and scratch metal surfaces. Hold the crystal strands steady and support them from underneath. Polish with a dry or damp micro-fiber cloth. Polish one crystal strand at a time and when finished do not let it swing free into its adjoining crystal strands.

Cleaning

Turn the power off at the electrical breaker before performing a routine or a comprehensive cleaning of the chandelier.

- On a large chandelier it is always a good idea to identify each crystal strand with a “tie on” label written in water proof ink and a corresponding label for the grip it was detached from. Lay each part flat and untangled in shallow trays lined with acid free paper for padding after they are marked.
- Wash the crystal strand in warm water and a few drops of conservation-grade detergent. A little isopropyl alcohol in the washing mixture may help to put back the sparkle of the glass. Rinse in warm water and drain on tea-towels or paper towels. Avoid terrycloth towels as fasteners and wires will catch on loops and destroy the integrity of chain. Make sure crystal strands are completely dry, particularly all metal wires and fasteners, as they will corrode easily. If necessary use a hairdryer on Cool setting to dry pieces. Polish glass with soft, lint free cloth. DO NOT place in an automatic dishwasher.
- Never use abrasives or alkaline based solutions when cleaning structural elements and external metal parts. They promote corrosion. Use a damp not wet solution of warm water and a few drops of conservation grade-detergent with cotton swabs to lightly clean surface. Rinse surface with clean water and a clean cotton swab and then dry thoroughly with soft, clean cloth.
- Every time the chandelier is cleaned, check the safety of fittings and electrical wiring. Also, inspect glass elements and metal pins for damage or weakness.

Repair

- There are conservators and specialty firms who are experienced at cleaning and repairing chandeliers. Your chandelier is a valuable investment. If it becomes damaged or needs an extensive cleaning or restoration you should turn to a local specialist for professional advice.
- The metal parts of the chandelier are lacquered to prevent them from tarnishing. If the lacquer coating becomes damaged or is worn thin, the metal will corrode. So ask a professional metal work conservator to reapply the appropriate lacquer.