

How to Buy Jewelry made of Precious Metals –

Buying a silver necklace, gold bracelet or platinum wedding band sounds pretty straight forward but you'll want to understand how to choose between various precious metals. There's yellow, white and rose gold; 10-, 14-, 18- and 24-karat (pure gold). Here's how to make an informed decision.

1. When buying gold determine what colors best suit the look you are trying to achieve.
2. The higher the karat rating, the more pure gold is in a piece and the richer the color. On the other hand, the higher the karat rating the softer the metal so it's more likely to get damaged if not cared for properly.
 - 24-karat gold being 100% pure gold is so soft that it is not often used for jewelry.
 - 18-karat gold is 75% gold. It is mixed with copper or silver, more "lemony" in tone and strong enough to make into rings.
 - 14-karat gold is 58.3% gold. It's lightly reddish hue comes from added copper alloys which also increases it's durability.
 - 10-karat gold is 41.6% gold. This is the most durable of all the gold types sold in the United States.
3. Explore the intricate designs that are available when purchasing silver jewelry. is often crafted Ask for an independent grading report which is your diamond's detailed genealogy. Don't buy a costly stone without one, since it's your guarantee that you're getting what you paid for.
4. Step up to platinum jewelry for the rarest, purest and heaviest precious metal. Almost double the weight of 14-karat gold. Platinum is very dense but also very soft. Why buy platinum? Think of it this way. If you have a large diamond, would you rather have it secured by gold prongs or platinum ones that are twice as dense.



Tips –

The misleading term "solid gold" merely signifies that a piece isn't hollow. Don't confuse solid gold with pure gold.

Gold filled jewelry is 10-karat or higher gold that has been mechanically bonded to a base material while gold plated jewelry has been applied electrolytically to a base material such as copper.

Where to buy jewelry made of precious metals –

There are hundreds of thousands of reputable jewelry stores and dealers that will provide the utmost customer consideration and an iron clad guarantee. Our favorites are:

[Zales](#)

[Walmart](#)

[Target](#)

This info is provided courtesy of [Foxy Kitty Shopping Mall – Jewelry Source](#).