

General Information About Jewelry

Jewelry has been an essential part of human culture for thousands of years, serving as a form of personal adornment, a symbol of status, and a means of self-expression. This guide provides an overview of primary jewelry categories, common materials, and essential care tips.

1. Primary Jewelry Categories

- Rings:** Worn on fingers, rings often symbolize commitment, milestones, or fashion preferences. They range from minimal bands to statement cocktail pieces.
- Necklaces & Pendants:** Worn around the neck, these can be delicate chains, multi-layered sets, or locket pendants meant to keep memories close.
- Earrings:** Available as studs, huggies, hoops, or drop earrings, they frame the face and are a versatile accessory for both daily wear and special occasions.
- Bracelets:** From rigid bangles to flexible chain link pieces, bracelets add elegance to the wrist and can easily be stacked.

2. Standard Materials & Gemstones

Understanding materials helps in choosing jewelry that matches both your style and durability needs.

Material / Stone	Description & Characteristics
925 Sterling Silver	An alloy made of 92.5% pure silver and 7.5% other metals (usually copper) to improve strength and durability.
18K Gold Plating	A process where a thin layer of real 18-karat gold is mechanically bonded to a base metal like silver or brass.
Freshwater Pearls	Organic gemstones grown in freshwater mussels, known for their unique shapes, luster, and timeless appeal.
Cubic Zirconia (CZ)	A synthetic, affordable gemstone that mimics the brilliance and clarity of a diamond.

3. Care and Maintenance Instructions

- Avoid Moisture:** Remove your jewelry before swimming, showering, or washing dishes to protect it from harsh chemicals and tarnishing.
- Apply Products First:** Put on perfumes, lotions, and hairsprays before wearing your jewelry to avoid chemical buildup and discoloration.
- Safe Storage:** Store individual pieces in soft pouches or separate compartments of a lined jewelry box to prevent scratching.

- **Gentle Cleaning:** Wipe your jewelry regularly with a soft, lint-free cloth. Avoid abrasive cleaners or stiff brushes that can scratch the finish.