

About 14 Karat Gold Filled & Sterling Silver Jewelry

Gold Filled

We all know that gold is not inexpensive, and these days the spot price is going upwards of \$500 an ounce. So I offer an economical alternative that keeps a solid layer of 14 karat gold in contact with your eyes and skin! 14 karat gold filled is the affordable solution. By law, it has 1/20th by weight layer of 14 karat gold permanently bonded over a core of base metal. It has far more gold than the few microns coating of gold in gold plate, a hundred or more times the amount of gold, actually. Under normal wear with reasonable care that you would give any precious metal jewelry, 14KGF jewelry will not peel or flake and can be treasured as heirloom pieces. It is tarnish-resistant like solid 14 karat gold and is safe for most people with sensitive skin who can wear solid 14 karat gold jewelry. Caring for 14 Karat Gold Filled Jewelry is as easy as caring for other precious metal jewelry, too. So all in all, 14K gold filled jewelry is a long lasting, economical way to enjoy the luster of gold without the big price tag.

Caring for your handmade jewelry is as easy as caring for any other fine jewelry. Keep jewelry away from scratching, banging, and chemicals of all kinds, swimming pools, hot tubs, extreme temps, strenuous activity, and intense sunlight. The chlorine and bromine in pools and hot tubs is particularly damaging to stones and metal, and will even damage solid gold. Wipe your jewelry off with a soft cloth after you wear it. Clean it regularly with mildly sudsy water, rinse really well, and pat dry with a soft cloth. Polish metals gently with a jewelry polishing cloth. Store most jewelry in a resealable plastic bag or cloth with anti-tarnish paper.

Sterling Silver Jewelry

Silver has been coveted over centuries for its lustrous decorative beauty, versatile utility, and intrinsic value. Long used for coin and bullion, systems of assay with hallmarks have been developed by many countries over centuries to assure the purity of the alloy. Silver is a very soft metal by itself, thus it is often combined with copper or other metals for strength. In England in 1300, the standard for sterling was decreed to be 925 parts per thousand pure silver to 75 parts copper; today in many countries, including the US and UK, this is still the sterling standard.

Basic facts about caring for your silver: Do not over-polish your fine silver. This can destroy the patina, and polishing actually wears away microns of silver over time. Both polish and cloth should be non-abrasive. Chemical dips should be avoided. Silver should be washed by hand and not in the dishwasher; the heat and detergent are too harsh. Also, close proximity to stainless in the dishwasher can cause a chemical reaction of pitting and staining. Newspaper, rubber bands and plastic wrap can cause discoloration and should not be used to store silver. Silver scratches easily, thus it should be handled carefully.