

Metals Explained

So, what does it all mean!? In my own words for an easy read, please see below.

9ct Gold

Gold does not rust, tarnish or corrode, and it won't lose its colour over time. It's prized for its lasting beauty that improves with age. But because gold is soft, it can become scratched, especially when worn on a daily basis. It needs looking after.

It's not as popular as it once was. It's often known as 'dated' as white gold took over. However, personally I love 9ct gold!

White Gold

White gold is in fact yellow gold with a Rhodium plating.

Why is it coated in rhodium? Rhodium comes from the same metal family as platinum. It adds further strength and durability, and importantly, a really lustrous white surface sheen – making it the ideal metal to coat and protect jewellery.

Eventually, all white gold jewellery begins to show yellow gold colour as the Rhodium plating wears off. It's not expensive. You can get it done at a jewellers for around £25 and it's as good as new. (I have had mine done once since I've been married 9 years)

Sterling Silver Rhodium Plated

Rhodium adds shine, luster, and durability to Sterling Silver Jewellery. It gives it a bright, reflective quality and protects against scratches and tarnish. Rhodium is naturally nickel-free so any jewellery that is plated with rhodium is hypoallergenic.

But as above the same as white gold, over time the Rhodium wears down and you may need it re plating. However, because Rhodium and Silver are the same colour... you might not notice a difference!

925 Sterling Silver

Sterling silver is 92.5% silver with 7.5% of another metal, typically copper to add strength. It is the copper in the sterling silver that makes it prone to tarnish, as copper reacts to moisture, sulfur, and other chemicals in the air. While pure silver does not tarnish, it is much too soft to withstand jewellery wear, that is why copper must be added. Tarnish can be easily wiped away with a soft polishing cloth and it shines back up to its original beautiful state. To minimize tarnish, clean your silver jewellery often and store it in sealed air tight bag when you are not wearing it.

Silver has a beautiful white-gray appearance. While not as reflective as rhodium, silver can be polished to a beautiful shine. Sterling silver is considered to be hypoallergenic as there is no nickel in its composition.

So, what are my thoughts?

Bottom line from yours truly personally, I like Rhodium plated Sterling Silver. Simply because it takes less looking after, its shinier and more durable.

I have made myself numerous items and will always prefer this Silver.

In my shop, I deal in Sterling Silver, Sterling Silver Rhodium Plated, 9ct gold & Rose Gold Sterling Silver. Each are unique and equally as beautiful.

For more info on a particular item & its metal, please message me and I'll be happy to assist.

Sam x