



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

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**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 21, 2022**

**TIME: 7:00 p.m.**  
**LOCATION: Helen Hall Library**  
**100 W Walker St.**  
**League City, TX 77573**

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Gemstone Facets: Terminology and Functions	3-6	<p>Please bring something for a 5 minutes show and tell</p> <p>Please come and join us.</p> <p><a href="http://www.clgms.org/">http://www.clgms.org/</a></p>
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### MINUTES OF THE May CLGMS GENERAL MEETING

We had a good presentation on Faceting 101 by James Brittenham and Charles Shupe. We cannot wait for the Faceting 102 or 202(?) in the near future.

Good information from Christina Rankin on Emerald – we will find out what is on the next one at the meeting.

We also need to establish a “buddy” system for a few officers.

### MINUTES OF THE June CLGMS BOARD MEETING.

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society Board Meeting at Panera Bread on 6/7/2022.

We had 4 complete applications for the scholarship and awaiting a few more. Hopefully will be completed soon by the due date July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Once we receive all the complete applications we will start selecting the winners during July BOD meeting and will be announced ASAP so the winners can attend the July general meeting and receive their awards.

Still searching for the vest.

Had the treasurer's report.

**Our next show will be March 18-19, 2023.**

Please check out our Facebook page: **Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society.**

### **Field Trips Announcement**

Currently – no field trips are scheduled.

If you have a good location for our club field trip – please contact:  
[annabel.brownfield@gmail.com](mailto:annabel.brownfield@gmail.com) or call/text: 281-486-1866.

Upcoming events - We are looking forward to the following program(s).

Donna Nelson will do a quick introduction to wire wrapping.

Please come and join us, this might be a good choice to start developing a good hobby.

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## Frequently Asked Questions About Karat Gold

It all begins with an idea. Maybe you want to launch a business. Maybe you want to turn a hobby into something more. Or maybe you have a creative project to share with the world. Whatever it is, the way you tell your story online can make all the difference.

Don't worry about sounding professional. Sound like you. There are over 1.5 billion websites out there, but your story is what's going to separate this one from the rest. If you read the words back and don't hear your own voice in your head, that's a good sign you still have more work to do.

Be clear, be confident and don't overthink it. The beauty of your story is that it's going to continue to evolve and your site can evolve with it. Your goal should be to make it feel right for right now. Later will take care of itself. It always does.

## Why Choose Gold Jewelry?



What do you really know about your gold jewelry? Have you thought about where it comes from or why you like the look and feel of gold? Gold jewelry is always in high demand, but few understand why it is valuable. Creating beautiful gold chains, bangles, necklaces or earrings is a balance of art and science. In this gold jewelry buying guide we aim to help you understand what goes into creating the perfect piece of gold jewelry. Gold combines the four characteristics of lustrous beauty, virtual indestructibility, extreme rarity, and ease of workability, making it the ideal metal for jewelry. Being the most malleable of all metals, a one-ounce piece of gold can be worked down to 5 micrometers thick – that is 1/10 the diameter of a human hair – and laid out into 50 miles of wire. Gold can also be made so thin that it becomes a translucent sheet; in fact, astronaut's visors are covered in a thin gold film to protect their eyes from glare. Gold is, and always has been, recycled. Pure gold is indestructible; it will not corrode, rust or tarnish and cannot be destroyed by fire. All the gold taken from the earth during

all of recorded history is still being melted and re-melted and used again and again. With a rich history that dates back over 6,000 years, gold jewelry continues to evoke feelings of value and desire. The gold you own and wear today may once have adorned King Solomon's Temple or been worn by Cleopatra.

Gold is hypoallergenic, will never rust, and maintains its color and shine through the years. Its malleable nature allows craftsmen to create a near-infinite array of classic and contemporary designs. The lasting nature and creative potential of gold has made it the most widely sourced and coveted material for jewelry. Gold jewelry is a wonderful ornament. It is a romantic gift for someone you love, or you can use it to decorate yourself. If you want a beautiful gift that keeps its value, gold jewelry is the right choice.

### **What is Gold Alloy?**

As we mentioned earlier, pure gold is always mixed with alloys to create karat gold.

Alloys are created when at least two different metals are combined.

All karat gold jewelry uses alloys to help enhance the pure gold, but it is important to note that not all alloys are created equal. Alloys provide hardness and durability, as well as color variations in gold, depending on the type of alloy metals added.

Alloys can impact other factors such as weight, strength, shine, and in certain cases, factors such as the hypoallergenic nature of gold. For example, titanium alloy combined with gold is a strong source material for designers. It is important to inquire into the nature of the alloy used in a gold product to understand how it enhances the character of your gold jewelry.

### **What is Karat Gold?**

Gold in its purest state is referred to as 24-karat gold. This level of gold is rarely used in gold jewelry because it is too soft. Gold jewelry is usually alloyed or combined with other metals for increased strength and workability, a practice that is thousands of years old. Karatage tells you the purity of your gold jewelry.

Much of what people think of when they think of gold jewelry is known as karat gold.

Most American gold jewelry is made of 14-karat gold. It is marked with either 14k or 585. The 14k marking means it is made of 14 parts gold combined or alloyed with 10 parts of other metals to add strength and color. The 585 marking means it is 58.0% to 58.5% pure gold. Eighteen-karat gold, marked 18k or 750, is 18 parts gold and 6 parts other metals and is 75% pure gold.

Ten-karat gold, marked 10k or 416, is 10 parts gold and 14 parts other metals, and is only 41% pure gold. Nothing less than 10k gold can legally be sold as gold jewelry in the United States. Here are the most commonly used varieties of karat gold. Please note that the United States requires a minimum of 10 karats to be used in jewelry (although 9-karat jewelry is very popular in the United Kingdom).

## **How Do Alloys Affect Color in Gold Jewelry?**

Even though alloys often account for a minority of the metal used, they have a significant impact on the overall color of karat gold jewelry.

For example, adding nickel and palladium or nickel, silver and zinc creates white gold.

Adding copper creates pink or rose gold. Adding equal parts of silver and copper creates yellow gold.

Different colors of gold allow jewelers to appeal to a variety of tastes and help designers create an array of styles.

## **How is Gold Jewelry Priced?**

Several factors affect the cost of gold jewelry. One factor is, naturally, changes in the price of gold. Another key factor is karatage, the amount of pure gold vs. the amount of less expensive alloys. The higher the karatage, the more expensive the gold jewelry piece will be due to the amount of pure gold that it contains. Without a doubt, the price of gold jewelry is much higher than the price of gold.

We all know manufactured gold jewelry has costs associated with it, such as design, labor, factory costs, sales and marketing, transportation, and so on. Several factors affect the cost of your gold jewelry. The weight of the gold in the jewelry is also a significant factor in its price. When determining the right karatage for a piece of gold jewelry, it is essential to consider how it will be worn. A substantial amount of gold is recommended for everyday pieces (such as wedding bands) or pieces with a higher possibility for abrupt contact (such as bangles). On the other hand, lighter pieces work well when dealing with earrings or pendants, where the risk of contact is lower and comfort trumps weight and durability.

The process used to create your gold jewelry also plays a role in its cost. The creation of gold jewelry usually starts with one of two processes, casting or stamping. Castings are made by pouring molten karat gold into a mold. Stampings are created using a press. Custom and more substantial jewelry pieces tend to be casted, while stamping is used for crafting commonly used parts, such as earring backings. The majority of jewelry sold in stores is created using a combination of casted metal and stamped metal components, which are then finished by jewelry artisans. The extent to which artisans are needed to craft the final piece can also play a significant role in the final price. For example, a straightforward assembly would require less time and incur less added cost than substantial hand engraving. Last but not least, it's important to consider any other materials used in the creation of a design. Gold is often combined with an array of diamonds, and other precious and semi-precious stones, all of which must be factored into the final price.

## **What Are Gold Jewelry Finishes?**

The various techniques used to transform the surface on your gold jewelry are known as finishes. Possible gold jewelry finishes range from bright polish, to matte sandblasting, to hammered textures. The finish on your gold jewelry significantly impacts its final look and style. Bright polish allows the true nature of gold to shine through, while an array of brushed, satin, matte, engraved and hammered finishes allow designers to expand upon on what is traditionally expected from gold jewelry.

Designers often combine multiple complementary, or even contrasting, finishes to create new and exciting gold jewelry styles. Jewelry craftsmen continually experiment with new hand and machine techniques to push the boundaries of gold finishes and their impact on the latest jewelry designs.

## **What Are Some Karat Gold Alternatives?**

Part of what makes karat gold so appealing is the fact that pure gold and gold alloy are combined to create a metal that has gold throughout. From the surface to the center, the amount of pure gold throughout your jewelry is consistent.

On the other hand, techniques like vermeil, plated gold, gold-filled, and bonded gold offer cost-conscious alternatives to karat gold. Unlike karat gold, these alternatives are not gold throughout. The techniques vary, but they all begin with a core of base metal (such as brass, nickel or steel) or silver (in the case of vermeil and bonded) and add thin layers of gold over the top of the base. The total amount of gold used can vary, but gold-filled traditionally offers the greatest gold thickness, with a minimum of 10% of the total weight being gold. It is important to keep longevity and care in mind when purchasing vermeil or plated gold jewelry.

## **How Do You Care For Gold Jewelry?**

Between everyday wear and contact with undetectable chemicals, gold jewelry requires periodic cleaning. Regularly checking your gold jewelry for noticeable scratches or changes to the gold surface will let you know when it is time for a cleaning. To properly clean your jewelry, use a soft bristled toothbrush and a bowl with a mixture of light soap and water. Dry your gold with a soft cloth. If you prefer, there are a number of gold-specific jewelry polishes to choose from that perform nicely. Be careful if you decide to buy a cleaning polish, as not all of them contain ingredients safe for your gold.

Broken chains, noticeable dents, and deep scratches require the services of a jeweler or repairman. Although there are many ways to care for your gold jewelry in the comfort of your home, an occasional check-up with your jeweler is recommended to preserve your gold.

**SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS**

<b>April:</b> Central TX (Abilene, TX)  Chihuahuan Desert (Alpine, TX)	<b>May:</b> Waco (Waco, TX)  *Tyler Gem & Mineral  Ft. Worth (Ft Worth, TX).	<b>June:</b>  Arlington (Arlington, TX)	<b>July:</b>  None.
<b>Aug:</b> Baton Rouge (Baton Rouge, LA)  Ark-La-Tex (Bossier City, LA)  Pine Country (Jasper, TX)	<b>Sept:</b>  Lubbock (Lubbock, TX)	<b>Oct:</b> Tri-City (Temple, TX)  G&MS of LA (New Orleans, LA)  Austin (Austin, TX) 10/22-24/21  Cowtown-CERA (Ft Worth, TX)	<b>Nov</b> Golden Spread (Amarillo, TX)  Paleontological Society (Austin, TX)  Midland (Midland, TX)  Houston (Houston, TX)  Dallas (Dallas, TX)
<b>Dec:</b>  DeRidder (Leeville, LA)			

STONEY STATEMENTS  
 Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc  
  
 PO BOX 891533  
 Houston, Texas 77289

Meeting 3rd Tuesday of the Month  
**7:00 P.M.**  
 League City Library  
 100 W Walker St, League City, Tx 77573



Member of

**Next Annual Show**  
 March 18-19, 2023  
 Pasadena Convention Center

CLGMS is on the Web:  
<http://www.clgms.org>  
**FACEBOOK: CLEAR LAKE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY.**



American Federation of Mineral Societies

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

<b>Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc</b>			
MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and South Central Federation of Mineral Societies			
PURPOSE: To promote education and popular interest in the various earth sciences; in particular in those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the earth sciences of minerals, fossils and their associated fields.			
2022 OFFICERS:	President	Cynthia McGowan	281-546-2662
	Vice President	David Tjiok	832-423-4802
	Secretary	Christina Rankin	281-723-5408
	Treasurer	Morgan Davies	281-224-2444
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Annual Show 2023 ..... Sandra Christiansen Constitution & Bylaws.....Jim Hawkins Community Benefits.....Charlie Timme Historian.....David Tjiok Publicity..... Annabel Brownfield Facebook.....Cynthia McGowan Membership.....Mike Flannigan WWW System Admin.. .....Mike Flannigan Refreshments.....James Brittenham Education/Field Trips.....Annabel Brownfield/ James Brittenham			
Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2022: Adult \$15:00, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289			