

PLATINUM WEDDING RINGS:

If you are looking for a more exclusive wedding ring then why not make it a platinum wedding ring. This metal is rarer harder and more precious than gold, and it doesn't need any kind of rhodium plating like white gold does.

Here at Wedding Rings UK, we have an extensive collection of platinum wedding rings in a variety of designs and styles available in every size. As well as traditional platinum wedding bands we also have a range of platinum diamond set wedding rings.

What is Platinum?

Platinum is a chemical element in the periodic table with the symbol Pt. Platinum is a precious, rare, heavy, malleable, grey-white metal, which is resistant to corrosion. Its name is derived from the Spanish term platina del Pinto, which is literally translated into "little silver of the Pinto River". Platinum is used a lot in jewellery such as Platinum rings and pendants. It is also used in laboratory equipment, electrical contacts and electrodes, dentistry and catalytic converters. Platinum appears silvery-white when pure, and firm, its wear and tarnish resistance characteristics are well suited for making jewellery especially Platinum rings.

Why choose Platinum?

Platinum is more precious than gold. The price of platinum changes along with its availability, so because it is rarer it usually costs slightly less than twice the price of gold. All precious metals can scratch, and platinum is no exception. However, the scratch on platinum is merely a displacement of the metal and none of its volume is lost. Over time platinum develops a natural patina, which many people find just as attractive as a polished finish.

Due to its purity platinum jewellery is hypoallergenic, therefore ideal for sensitive skin. Platinum possesses remarkable resistance to chemical attack, excellent high-temperature characteristics, and stable electrical properties. Platinum does not oxidise in the air at any temperature. These characteristics make Platinum ideal for Engagement Rings, Wedding Rings and Eternity Rings which are generally worn constantly.

The history of Platinum

Naturally-occurring platinum and platinum-rich alloys were first discovered in Central American mines between Panama and Mexico. When the Spaniards first encountered platinum in Colombia they regarded the metal as an unwanted impurity in the silver they were mining, and often discarded it. In the mid 1700's British privateers intercepted a ship on its return voyage and discovered the 'unworkable' metal. In 1741 Charles Wood, a British Scientist independently isolated the element and platinum began to be widely recognised as a valuable metal in its own right.

Caring for your platinum ring

These simple instructions will help you maintain your platinum ring's finish:

- * Take off your platinum ring when doing manual work.
- * Don't handle bleach or harsh chemicals when wearing your platinum ring. They won't hurt the platinum but chemicals may discolour any gemstones.
- * Clean your platinum ring periodically using a jewellery cleaner or by soaking it in a mild solution of soap and warm water then gently rubbing it with a soft cloth.
- * Store pieces separately in a jewellery box so they don't get scratched by other items of jewellery.