



Allen Brown
Jewellery

OUR MATERIALS

Platinum

Platinum is a natural white metal that has increased in popularity over the last few years. Although it is not as reflective as silver or white gold, it does not fade or tarnish, making it an ideal setting to complement the beauty of diamonds and gem stones.

Its density and weight means that it looks beautiful as well as being durable. It is also very pliable and means experienced jewellery designer makers can transform it into amazing and intricate designs that are impossible in other metals.

Platinum does not wear away and holds diamonds and precious stones firmly and securely. Like all metals, platinum will scratch, but this is only a displacement of the metal on its surface (none of its volume is lost) and Allen Brown Jewellery can easily restore its brilliance by a specialist polishing technique.

Platinum is also 95% pure (unlike gold which varies between 37.5% and 75% in purity) meaning that it is also hypoallergenic and ideal for those with sensitive skin.

Suitable for both male and female jewellery, platinum is an ideal setting for wedding rings, rings of commitment, pendants, earrings and bracelets.

Titanium

Titanium is a silvery to dark grey, lustrous metal, traditionally not associated with jewellery. It is stronger than steel and much lighter than gold and silver. Whilst this makes it extremely durable, it is also hypoallergenic and will not leave marks on your skin.

Although it is not easy to fashion, Allen Brown Jewellery has a growing range, some incorporating diamonds, silver, gold and platinum.

Coloured Diamonds

Whilst coloured diamonds have recently gained popularity across the industry, they have always fascinated Allen Brown and he has always used them in his work.

Coloured diamonds are rare and renowned for their dazzling beauty and are found in pinks, greens, browns, champagnes, cognacs, yellows and a full spectrum of blues. Their unique brilliance, combined with warmth and depth of colour gives them a sparkle unlike other coloured gems.

Diamonds were formed millions of years ago, by immense heat and pressure deep within the earth's surface. When diamonds formed with traces of other elements present, natural coloured diamonds were created. For every coloured diamond, there are 10,000 colourless ones.

The presence of nitrogen created yellow and orange shades to diamonds. Boron traces created blue diamonds, ranging from sky blue to deep navy. Hydrogen traces produced unique violet hues and naturally occurring radiation reacting with diamonds over millions of years created green diamonds.

Whilst clarity is important when colourless diamonds are valued, the rarity of colour, it is depth and variation of colour that is important when valuing coloured diamonds.

Gems

Gemstones are minerals and stones that are cut and polished to enhance their beauty. They include amethyst, emerald, ruby, opal, topaz, sapphire, diamond and many more. There is also a birthstone associated with each month of the calendar.

Our bespoke work and the latest Allen Brown collection uses many different precious and semi-precious stones.

Birthstones

January	Garnet
February	Amethyst
March	Aquamarine
April	Diamond
May	Emerald
June	Pearl
July	Ruby
August	Peridot
September	Sapphire
October	Opal
November	Topaz
December	Turquoise

White Gold

Gold is naturally yellow. White gold is the term used for an alloy of gold with a white metal, such as palladium.

The highest quality of white gold is a gold and palladium alloy of at least 17 carats, sometimes with traces of platinum to increase its weight and durability.

To give a shine more comparable to platinum or silver, white gold is sometimes rhodium plated. However, if a rhodium-plated item is regularly used, this process may need to be repeated over time.

See examples of creative use of white gold in Allen Brown's jewellery collections.

Carats - Gold

Gold in jewellery is alloyed with other metals to increase its hardness and durability. The purity of gold in proportion to these other metals is measured in Carats (written as ct or K) with the purist gold being 24ct. All other gold are measured as a proportion of 24, so 9ct gold is 9 parts gold out of 24, whilst 18ct gold is 18 parts gold out of 24.

Carats & Points – Diamonds

Rather confusingly, the word Carat is also used as the scale to measure the weight of a diamond. One carat is 0.2 grams of a diamond's actual weight. Smaller diamonds are sometimes expressed as points rather than carats, and 100 points equals one carat. As larger diamonds are more rare than smaller ones, they are more expensive, so often a one carat solitaire ring is more expensive than one made up with several smaller diamonds, even if their combined weight equals more than one carat.

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