

JEWELRY

Adorning our bodies with sparkling gems and precious metals is nothing new. In primitive times, people wore beads made from seeds, berries, and shells. It's also been documented that, in 30,000 BC, simple pendant necklaces made from bones and animal teeth were popular. And in ancient Egypt, Nubia, and Arabia, pharaohs and queens began wearing gold jewelry in the form of earrings, necklaces, and bracelets. Today we continue the rich tradition—after all, donning a little sparkle is sure to help any girl shine.

CAMEO

Cameos are often made from gemstones that have two layers, like agate and onyx. A carving, typically of a person's head and shoulders, is etched in one layer of the stone so the contrasting color of the other layer is revealed in the background.

Cameos have quite a history. They date as far back as 3100 BC and remained popular throughout the Renaissance and neoclassical periods. When Napoleon gave his wife Joséphine more than 80 cameos at the turn of the 18th century, a fashion trend was born.

Cameos hit their peak in popularity in the Victorian era, appearing on belts, brooches, and bracelets—Queen Victoria and Prince

Albert even gave cameo rings carved with the queen's portrait to their wedding guests. Cameron Diaz gave the traditionally serious cameo a cheeky edge when she wore a Hello Kitty cameo necklace to the 2003 Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards.



Cameo

CHANDELIER EARRINGS

These long, dangly beauties are the queens of drop earrings, typically loaded with sparkling jewels and structured in a garland or triangular tiered fashion, like a chandelier. They became in vogue in the 1920s, when many women wore their hair in short bobs and enjoyed the stunning look of the elaborate jewels against their bare necks. The style has remained popular for formal events throughout the decades. Red carpet superstars like Kate Moss and Nicole Kidman regularly choose chandelier earrings to accent outfits when attending movie premieres and the Academy Awards.

CHOKER

This necklace has also been known as the dog collar because it sits right on the throat. Popular in the 19th century for evening wear—and in the '60s, '70s, and '90s with more casual attire—the

SHOULDER DUSTERS

These extra-long drop earrings draw attention to the neck and shoulders. Edie Sedgwick made her own shoulder-grazing earrings in the '60s, creating a unique style that helped establish her as a fashion icon. In the late '80s, designer Romeo Gigli revived the style when he included it in one of his collections. In the early '90s, supermodel Linda Evangelista pushed the look, appearing in fashion spreads rocking shoulder dusters with her cropped hair.

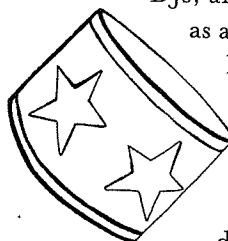


Sweatbands

SWEATBANDS

While not technically jewelry, sweatbands are frequently worn as such. Usually made of elastic and terry cloth, these circular, stretchable cuffs fit snugly over the wrists. Though tennis players originally wore them in the '70s (think Luke Wilson as Richie Tenenbaum in the 2001 film *The Royal Tenenbaums*), sweatbands stopped being an athletes-only accessory by the next decade, as the pioneers of hip-hop culture—break dancers,

DJs, and MCs—wore sweatbands as a style statement. The trend has continued—clubbers like Lindsay Lohan and DJ Samantha Ronson have been known to rock sweatbands behind the decks and on the street.



STUDS

Short, simple earrings that sit on the earlobe, studs have been worn as far back as 1559–1085 BC. Back then, they were shaped like mushrooms and the “stem” part would be pushed through the ear hole. The stud has evolved (we now have backs for them), but the style is still—and will always be—a favorite. Proper preppy princesses wear pearl or diamond studs; little girls wear heart- and star-shaped studs when first getting their ears pierced; and hip-hop moguls like Sean “Diddy” Combs and Jay-Z wear huge diamond studs on their lobes. Lady-like dressers Kate Bosworth, Reese Witherspoon, Sharon Stone, and Mandy Moore are also known to rock studs in style.

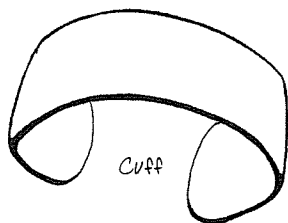
TENNIS BRACELET

In the 1920s and '30s, this type of bracelet—a row of diamonds strung together in a straight line—was a popular style, originally known as the “straight line” bracelet. When tennis ace Chris Evert wore one in a televised match in 1987, she caught the attention of tens of thousands of at-home viewers and the style surged in popularity under a new name: the tennis bracelet.

Today's most famous tennis players, such as Anna Kournikova and Serena Williams, keep the tradition alive. Williams even went so far as to borrow a \$29,000 tennis bracelet from luxury jeweler Harry Winston for the US Open in 2002. If you think it's too extravagant to wear diamonds with casual tennis duds or everyday jeans and flats (or if you simply can't afford the steep price tag) snag a tennis bracelet made with the more casual and wallet-friendly cubic zirconium.

CUFF

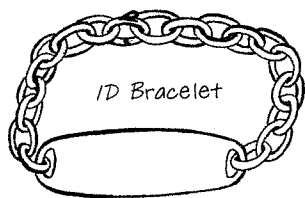
This stiff, almost-a-circle bracelet keeps its shape (unless stepped on) and is slipped onto the wrist through an opening on the underside. King Tut wore several cuff-style bracelets at one time around 1300 BC. Wonder Woman, however, must be one of the most famous cuff wearers of all time. With a gold, star-embazoned cuff on each arm, she stops bullets with her indestructible bracelets and looks fabulous while doing it. But one doesn't need super powers to feel powerful in cuffs—big bracelets are like shields of armor, giving a sense of indestructibility to the wearer.



ID BRACELET

This chain bracelet features a small metal plaque, which is personalized with the wearer's name.

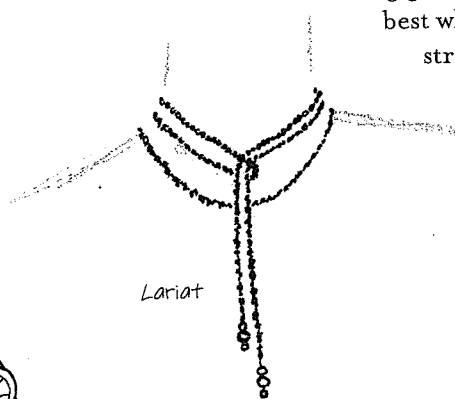
Servicemen wore ID bracelets fighting in WWII inscribed with their names, ranks, and serial numbers. These men wore the bracelets after they returned home to signify their participation in the war. In 1956, Medic-Alert produced its first batch of medical ID bracelets to help quickly identify those people with diabetes, epilepsy, allergies, and other ailments. While medical IDs are marked with the caduceus symbol (a snake wrapped around a staff), ID bracelets typically bear the wearer's name and may have also been inscribed with a personal message or thought. Jewelry-loving rappers helped bring ID bracelets into fashion in the '90s. Now along with other customized jewelry, like **nameplate necklaces**, consumers can have ID bracelets engraved at most malls.



LARIAT

Similar to a cowboy's lasso, this open-ended long-strand necklace is fastened by looping it into a knot in the front or by stringing it through an O-ring to form a Y shape at the neck. Salma Hayek gave the lariat a boho look in the 2002 film *Frida* by pairing the accessory with rings on every finger and wildly colorful **peasant blouses**. As Reese Witherspoon showed in her 2004 film *Vanity Fair*, lariats can also be elegant. Hers were created by Chanel and made of sparkling gems. Lariats look

best when worn with strapless dresses or anything with a plunging neckline, which provides enough open space to showcase the long style.



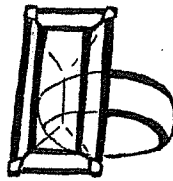
NAMEPLATE NECKLACE

This chain necklace with scripted text in the center achieved cult status in the late '90s. Though it has been a strong part of street style for decades (New York city kids helped set the trend in the mid-'80s), *Sex and the City* stylist Patricia Field made it a mainstream must-have after dressing the show's leading lady, Sarah Jessica Parker, in a "Carrie" necklace. The piece was so important to Parker's character that she took it with her to Paris in the final episodes of the season, proving to be the one fashion piece that lasted several seasons (and outlasted many, many boyfriends). Never one to miss out on a trend, Madonna's people sent out nameplate necklace invitations to the songstress's "Music" record release party in 2001.

choker can be either elegant or tough, depending on its materials. In the '80s and '90s, Princess Diana made quite a statement wearing a multistrand choker of pearls with evening gowns, while punks in the '70s wore chain chokers with padlocks around their necks. Of course, Donna Martin, Brenda Walsh, and Kelly Taylor turned ribbon chokers (especially simple black ribbon ones) into a huge sensation in the early '90s on TV's *Beverly Hills, 90210*.

COCKTAIL RING

As its name implies, this over-size ring with semiprecious or precious stones became popular in the '20s, the era of the cocktail party. Streamlined silhouettes—like those offered by the **little black dress**—called for more dazzling jewelry, and the cocktail ring was the perfect candidate. In the 1941 film *Blood and Sand*, Rita Hayworth was the picture-perfect image of a '40s woman bedazzled in bold cocktail rings, bracelets, and necklaces. Today, red carpet walkers like Gate Blanchett and Sienna Miller wear jaw-dropping cocktail rings although otherwise dressed simply to create an extravagant but not over-the-top look. The cocktail ring was especially prominent at the 2005 Academy Awards; Maggie Gyllenhaal wore one while walking the red carpet and Beyoncé wore one while performing on stage.



Cocktail Ring

Case History

Want to know more about what's behind that glass case at the jeweler's? Here's a rundown of a few more perennial favorites.

bangle bracelet ● a firm, thin round bracelet that jangles on the wrist, the bangle has been popular since the 1900s.

charm bracelet ● a chain bracelet adorned with different thematic charms of the wearer's choice; for example, a beach fanatic may have a volleyball, surfboard, bikini, and sunscreen on her bracelet.

hoop earrings ● this is the oldest type of earring—records indicate they were worn by Sumerian women around 2500 BCE. Nowadays, round-the-way girls cum superstars like Jennifer Lopez are famous for rocking their hoops.

locket necklace ● a popular keepsake for centuries, this pendant-style necklace has a locket that opens to reveal pictures of loved ones.

pendant earrings ● these drop earrings usually have a single strand of chain and are not as elaborate as chandelier earrings.

pendant necklace ● this no-frills necklace features a single charm or gemstone that hangs from the center of a thin chain.