
Finding Your Ideal Pearl Bracelet

Contributed by Webmaster
Sunday, 03 May 2009
Last Updated Sunday, 03 May 2009

By Roberto Garabell

A woman's wrist is considered dainty. It is usually noticed easily when you meet her for the first time. Most likely, it is waved up in the air as she speaks to emphasize a point. Surely, the wrist is most open to public attention and scrutiny next to the face and hands.

Think about this. To improve the face, you can put on some make-up. To add finesse to your hands, you can put on a touch of manicure. But what can you do to add glamour to your wrist? One of the things you could do accessorize your bare wrist is to slide on some pretty pearl bracelets.

Different Designs

Pearls today are considered stylish jewels. You will be surprised at the variety of colors, shapes, and designs that manufacturers have created with them. There are earrings, necklaces, bracelets, pendants and rings made from pearls. Aside from the usual white and cream, different colors have emerged such as black, gray, red, green, gold, yellow, and blue. The pearl bracelets also vary from round, potato, button, pear, or egg-shaped ones.

There are a lot of fake or imitation pearls out there in the market, but it is best to purchase natural or cultured pearls. They are worth the investment you will make. These pieces are timeless and elegant. In fact, it can even be handed down to your children for generations to come.

Some of the designers would mix the pearl jewels with other stones and gems as well. For example, you might see crystals and small balls of gold or silver alternately strung together with the pearl pieces. Others might have some chain, charm or hanging bangle to accentuate it. Furthermore, some would put together 2 or 3 strands of these pearl bracelets to form a unique and trendy accessory.

Suitable to all colors of the skin

If you ask fashion experts, they would say that dark-skinned people should not wear bright colored clothes and fashion accessories. This may be true for some jewelry, but pearls can be worn by everyone.

These traditional white-colored pearls can flatter all colors of the wrist. For people with pale skin, these pearl bracelets will blend to your skin tone, depicting a sense of ivory hue. For those with brown or tan skin, the pearls will create an illusion for your skin to show off as gold. While for those with dark skin, these pearls will magnify a striking, gorgeous contrast. Isn't that amazing?

Finding the ideal fit

People are different. What's beautiful for you might not be good for another. And what's comfortable for you might be awkward for another. So it's up to you to decide if you want a bracelet that has a snug fit or a loose fit against your wrist. Just be careful not to choose one that is so loose - it can fall off your hands.

With regards to size, the general norm is that young girls would wear delicate and small pearl bracelets while older women would wear bracelets with larger pearls.

There is really no strict rule to choose your pearl bracelets as long as you achieve the goal of adding grace and glamour to your every move. For more info about pearl jewelry, please visit YouPearl Jewelry at www.YouPearl.com. Visit [Finding Your Ideal Pearl Bracelet](#).

What Exactly are Pearls... and, Why are They so Special?

By Michael Landonson Price

Pearls are one of nature's most wonderful gifts. They are formed by mollusks and, unlike other precious gems, come from nature perfect and without further need of shaping by man.

The color of the mollusk's shell determines the color of the pearls. Not all mollusks create beautiful pearls, but those that do can create the kind of spectacular gleaming gems that have captivated mankind for centuries.

Pearls have been so highly prized throughout history that their value once surpassed virtually all other gemstones. The sacred books of most of the world's religions compare heaven to pearls and have used pearls to describe the sublime happiness that comes with discovering God. Pearls have come to symbolize purity and innocence. Some people have even ascribed supernatural powers to pearls.

Pearls that occur naturally without human intervention or encouragement are rare. To find a single natural pearl, it might be necessary to open 10,000 oysters. An even then, only a small percentage of the natural pearls one might find would have the size, shape and quality to make them useful as jewelry. Today virtually all pearls sold commercially are cultured pearls.

Since pearls are formed by mollusks in response to small irritants that find their way inside the animal's shell, it was only a matter of time before humans discovered that they could introduce small irritants into the oyster or mussel to induce it to create a pearl. The cultured pearl was born and now nearly everyone has a chance to appreciate the beauty of pearls.

In the case of saltwater pearls that are formed by oysters, a tiny piece of tissue from another oyster is implanted into the host oyster along with a shell bead (generally round) created from the shell of a certain kind of freshwater mussel. Over time the host oyster will lay down layer upon layer of nacre coating the shell bead until a pearl is formed. Nacre is composed of a calcium carbonate material that is basically the same thing as the Mother-of-Pearl coating found inside the shells of the mollusks that make pearls.

Although pearls can be found in a variety of mollusks including; abalone, nautilus, conch, clams, cowries and others; only certain varieties of oysters and mussels are utilized for commercial pearl production. Differences in pearls derive from the different species of mollusks used to form the pearls (oysters or mussels) as well as different varieties within those species as well as the environmental conditions in which the mollusk lives including water temperature, surrounding minerals, etc. Most pearl producers understand how to manipulate these variables to achieve the most beautiful results possible.

To create a saltwater pearl, an oyster must be birthed, collected, nurtured until maturity, then carefully implanted with a small piece of mantle tissue and a shell nucleus which is surgically placed in the oysters gonad. The oyster is then returned to the sea where, hopefully, the pearl begins forming. In some cases the oyster ejects the nucleus or otherwise fails to produce a pearl from the implant. In those cases where the implant is successful, the oyster may be left to coat the nucleus with nacre for up to two years. During this time the pearl farmer carefully maintains the health and safety of the pearls. Once harvested, in some cases the oyster may be able to support 2-3 successive implantations until it reaches the end of its life.

Of the pearls harvested, only a small percentage, are of exceptional quality. Pearl harvests follow a pretty typical bell-shaped distribution curve. The majority of pearls are of average quality (grade C) somewhat fewer are of B or D quality and only relative few are of truly exceptional A quality or better. The Fs never see market.

So although the cultured pearl industry has put pearl ownership within the reach of many people, truly outstanding pearls of great beauty are still rare and require significant effort, risk and time by those who produce them. You can find a great selection of pearl jewelry offered at affordable prices at www.MermaidPearls.com .

87-PEARLS-4-U

www.MermaidPearls.com

Dave Battles is the founder and owner of www.MermaidPearls.com and is a graduate of the Gemological Institute of Americas Pearl Certificate program.

{mos_sb_discuss:2}