

Spring Gift Reminder

Jewelry Ideas for Dads, Grads, and Patriots



Receiving a gift is an important part of all celebrations. And if you find it hard to decide what to give on these upcoming special days, the following ideas may help you.

Father's Day. This important occasion falls on Sunday, June 21 this year. And many attractive gifts feature new jewelry metals such as titanium, tungsten carbide, and stainless steel which add a masculine look to favorites such as rings, money clips, ID bracelets, cuff links, and dog tags. Also popular are pocket accessories decorated with sports, hobby, or professional designs.

Graduation Day. A fashionable dress watch or sport watch is the most popular gift for both male and female graduates. Also, for female grads, pearl jewelry, gold charm bracelets, and photo lockets are always prized. For male grads, engraved signet rings, sterling silver ID bracelets, and key rings are favorites.

Independence Day. Whether you are in active duty, a retired veteran, or simply a proud citizen, wearing patriotic jewelry is an appropriate way to express your pride. Today, there is a wide selection of designs to choose from including flag pins, dog tags, bracelets, and more.

History's Great Diamonds

The Wittelsbach Blue - The World's Costliest Diamond

Deep blue diamonds are among the rarest of gems. And although the blue Hope diamond, now in the Smithsonian, is more famous, the Wittelsbach blue which was recently purchased for \$24,311,190 holds the world record as the most expensive diamond ever sold.



Originally discovered in India, this historic dark blue, 35.56 carat, cushion-shaped diamond has a recorded history going back to 1664 when it was given by King Philip IV of Spain to his daughter as part of her bridal treasure when she married the Emperor Leopold I of Austria.

In 1720 it was bequeathed to the Crown Prince of Bavaria, whose family name was Wittelsbach, and it then became the family diamond of the House of Bavaria. When the country became a republic in 1931 the Wittelsbach blue disappeared briefly. It reappeared in 1964 when it was sold to a private collector. And then last year, it was sold at auction at Christie's in London for the highest price ever paid for a diamond!

Focus On Fashion



Graceful Station Necklaces - Light And Airy For Spring 2009

This fresh and fashionable chain necklace style has decorative stations or stops at regular intervals around the neck with either long or short distances between them.

Popular stations include bezel-set diamonds, colorful gemstones, pearls of all kinds and sizes, gold and gemstone flowers, tiny hearts or stars, and beads of every description. Chain links of different sizes are also used as stations. And even inexpensive

chains can be updated with stations to add texture and character.

Many new styles feature long lengths of 36 inches or even more. And chains of white and yellow gold, sterling silver, or platinum have even been replaced with strands of silk cord for a softer look.

Most station necklaces are perfect for layering and can be worn in multiples to give an individual look or add a personalized statement.