

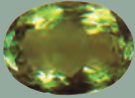
Jewelry Calendar

Birthstone Jewelry: The Best Happy Birthday Gift Of All

Precious birthstone gems have a long history of identifying personal virtues and character traits of those born in one particular month of the year. That's why beautiful birthstone jewelry is a gift prized above all others. In addition, it's always attractive, never goes out of style, and is surprisingly affordable, too. Come in soon and see our wide selection of designs for both men and women.

MAY – Emerald

Love and success are the traditional gifts promised to those born in May by the beautiful grass-green emerald. Personally treasured in ancient times by both Queen Cleopatra and Alexander The Great, no other gem can match emerald's fresh, velvety, springtime color.



JUNE – Pearl/Alexandrite

Romance and a happy marriage are promises offered by the pure white pearl to those of June birth. Because of its glowing luster, pearl has long been known as "The Queen of Gems." June's alternate gemstone, sparkling alexandrite, is famous for its color change ability. It looks green by day and red by night. It is said to bring good luck and is named for Russia's Czar Alexander II.



JULY – Ruby

Passion and power are the legendary personal properties thought to be bestowed on those of July birth by the vivid and fiery-red ruby. Prized for centuries as "The King of Gems" this bright, glittering form of the mineral corundum is hard and durable. Only diamond is harder.



Trends To Watch

Bold Circle Jewelry: It's Hot For Spring

In the world of Jewelry, the circle has long been the symbol for eternity, especially in the form of wedding and engagement rings where it represents eternal love. But this season, glamorous new circle designs in both larger size hoop earrings and stylish pendants are soaring in must-have popularity.

Today's stunning new styles of **hoop earrings** are an unbeatable combination of the classic and trendy. Among the leaders are large two-inch inside-outside diamond hoops in 14K white gold set with sparkling white diamonds on both inner and outer surfaces.

Other fashion-forward hoop designs include braided and bamboo textured styles set with dia-



monds in either yellow or white karat gold as well as a spray of colorful gemstones set inside the circle of the hoop.

A wide variety of **circular pendants** are also available in stylish designs using colored gems centered inside the circle or a series of smaller circles within a large circle of pavé diamonds. Other imaginative designs display a series of circles composed of a range of brightly colored gems or a solitaire pearl centered inside a pavé diamond circle.

Large **circular medallions** are another exciting variation of the gold or silver circle pendant. Many popular versions fill the circle with openwork details, different colors of gold, pavé diamonds or brightly colored gems.

Famous Diamonds of the World

The Dresden Green - World's Largest Green Diamond

This beautiful apple green, pear-shaped diamond is named after the capital of Saxony, Germany and has a historical record dating to 1722 when it was found in Golconda, India. Its unique green color is due to natural exposure to radioactive materials.

The Dresden Green is to green diamonds what the Hope diamond is to blue diamonds. Both are large, rare, natural colored diamonds of similar weight. The Dresden Green weighs 40.70 carats and the Hope weighs 45.52 carats. Both were originally set in badges for the ancient Order of the Golden Fleece. The Dresden Green in 1742 by Friedrich Augustus

II ruler of Saxony and the Hope in 1748 by King Louis XV of France.

In 1768, the Dresden Green was removed from the Golden Fleece badge and set into a hat ornament. It remains in this setting to this day and has been on display in the Dresden Palace Green Vaults for over 200 years. These three treasury rooms were called the Green Vaults simply because the walls were painted green.

In 1945, the Dresden Green diamond and other treasures of the Green Vaults were removed to the Soviet Union. In 1958, the jewels were returned to Dresden and placed in two of the original Green Vaults where they are on display today.

