



Jewelry Close-Ups

Latest Trends In Pearl Jewelry

This season, colorful new styles of fashion pearl jewelry are making news everywhere. The newest designs feature beautiful multi-color pearl combinations, interesting shapes such as baroques and keshis, large, glowing Tahitians and South Sea pearls and a rainbow of pastel freshwater pearls. There are also new blends of pearls and links of gold and silver, as well as pearls mixed with diamonds and colored gemstones of all kinds.

With so many shapes, sizes, colors, and varieties available, pearls are adding tremendous excitement to all types of high-fashion jewelry including necklaces, bracelets, rings, brooches, earrings, and pendants. Here is a

quick review of some of the more unusual and attractive types now available.

Keshi Pearls is a term derived from the Japanese word for “poppy seed” and traditionally describes small akoya seed pearls. Colors range from white to cream and gold. Shapes include baroque, rice, oval, flat, and semi-round.

Petal or Coin Pearls are baroque freshwater pearls from China. They are thick, silvery, disk-like pearls which are also called keshi but are not the traditional kind. They have a beautiful luster and come in white, champagne, silver, peach, and pink.

Blue Eyris Pearls are rare, natural color, brilliant blue iridescent abalone mabe and

blister pearls found only in New Zealand. They are gathered by free diving and take 18 months to two years to create each pearl. Sizes range from 7mm to 15mm.

Tahitian Pearls are dramatic, high-gloss saltwater pearls noted for their distinctive iridescent dark colors such as black, grey, green, purple, peacock blue, pistachio, eggplant, and bronze. They come in large sizes up to 18mm.

South Sea Pearls are large, rare, and lustrous saltwater pearls available in glowing white or glamorous golden colors. They range in size from 9mm to 16mm. South Sea Pearls are cultured in the Pacific Ocean in an area from Australia to French Polynesia.

Focus On Fashion

Colorful Charms - Perfect Way To Personalize Jewelry

Regardless of whether it's a bracelet, necklace, earrings, pin, pendant, or ring, there is nothing like today's beautifully designed charms to give your jewelry a personal look that tells the story of your life.

Far from being the limited plain metal charm-bracelet styles of yesteryear, 21st century charms are fabulous ornaments crafted in karat gold, sterling silver, colorful jewel-like enamels, and set with diamonds, pearls, and all manner of glittering colored gemstones including personal birthstones.

And because of their individuality and personal meaning, charms have a unique



appeal for people of all ages. They represent life's milestones, personal interests, or special occasions that have sentimental importance such as an engagement, wedding, birthday, anniversary, vacation, hobby, or personal achievement.

Other charm themes that are always popular include music, gardening, professional activities, sailing, pets, nature, sea life, and sports as well as religious and patriotic designs.

Adding charms to your favorite jewelry is an easy and relatively inexpensive way to add a distinctive custom look that is highly personal, too.