



Choose the
jewellery
to suit your
looks, for
an amazing
image, always

Does this look good on me?

By Karen Faulkner-Dunkley

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Karen Faulkner-Dunkley



Hand-crafted Jewellery
by Karen Faulkner-Dunkley

Published 2012
Wordsmith Press
72 Oxford Street
Woodstock
OX20 1TX

THE WORDSMITH PRESS

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ISBN 978-0-9560795-1-0

Typeset in Palatino and printed in Great Britain by
LDI Print, New Yatt, Witney OX29 6SZ

Cover and interior design by Clockwork Graphic Design
www.clockworkgraphicdesign.co.uk



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*18ct gold orchid on
faceted rubies by
KFD Jewellery*



I graduated from Manchester Metropolitan University in 1987 with a BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences. Following my marriage to Bruce in the summer of the same year, I started lecturing in biology on further and higher education courses in Manchester and Salford colleges. I continued teaching whilst raising our two children, Michael and Danielle. In 1999 I decided that I wanted to follow my passion for handmade jewellery so I enrolled on a short evening course to study jewellery making and silversmithing. After re-locating to rural Cambridgeshire I started my second career path as a designer and maker of jewellery. Over the next few years I developed my skills on a series of short courses and master classes at the School of Jewellery at Birmingham University.

My interest in biology still prevails, as flowers and leaves inspire many of my jewellery collections. I work mainly in silver, but also use 9ct and 18ct gold. The jewellery exists in collections, with every collection having a statement necklace or torque as well as smaller pendants, earrings, bracelets and sometimes rings. The collections are designed to take the wearer through the day into the evening. I sell my work through a series of prestigious galleries and at shows around the UK.

I am a first-time author. My ten years' experience designing, making, fitting and selling jewellery has given me a unique insight into the process of selecting the ideal piece of jewellery for the wearer. I have condensed this knowledge into an easy-to-read, easy reference format to guide you through the styles of jewellery to ensure that you always select the right collection for you, so that you look good, always.



About the Author



*Evelyn is wearing
a silver orchid on
labradorite beads by
KFD Jewellery*

Wherever you are, whatever you're doing, you're judged on how you look. Image is important in both social and business environments. It is said that you have less than 7 seconds to make a first impression, so it is essential that in these first few seconds you project a positive self image which is then maintained over subsequent meetings. The jewellery you wear is an important part of your persona – it can indicate your status, suggest your personality and hint at your occupation.

Throughout the ages, jewellery has been used to adorn the body. The oldest known jewellery, made from shell beads, is over 75,000 years old. Red ochre pigment was found on a necklace discovered in Blombos cave in South Africa. Is this evidence of early bead decoration or had the beads rubbed against the wearers' skin and picked up bits of early make-up?

Jewellery has served all sorts of different functions over time, from being simply practical – buckles, pins, clasps - through being a very convenient way of carrying your wealth around (and showing it off, of course), to magical or religious protection (amulets and magical symbols), and, finally, being a way of stating your membership of a particular group or organization.

Nowadays jewellery is used to signify love, as in an engagement ring or a wedding band, to celebrate an occasion such as a notable wedding anniversary, as a symbol of religion, to indicate wealth or as a fashion statement. Your choice of jewellery helps convey an impression of who you are.

Jewellery is made from a vast range of materials. Both inorganic materials such as metals, stone, glass, acrylics, plastics, and organic materials such as, bone, wood, textiles, leather and feathers – the list is limited only by the imagination of the maker.

Jewellery is very personal, but there are a few guidelines that, if followed, can make you look good, always. This book aims to lead you through the process of choosing the jewellery to suit your physical characteristics, age, personality and the occasion for which you are wearing the jewellery. During your journey you will also be introduced to a selection of designer/maker jewellers from the UK, whose work has been used as examples throughout this book.

Introduction





*Sarah is wearing an
ivy leaf necklace by
KFD Jewellery*



CHAPTER ONE

Colour Test

Colour Test

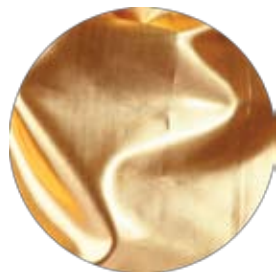
Skin tone, hair and eye colour are all important considerations when determining the colour palette that suits you. To look your best it is essential that you know your colours and wear those that harmonize with your natural colouring. There are a variety of companies and books on the market that guide you through this process. I have picked out a few that I think are particularly useful. They are listed on page 107. Wearing jewellery which is compatible with your colouring is vital to compliment your look.

When considering what jewellery to wear it is useful to first determine whether you are predominantly a silver or a gold person. This can be achieved by holding a series of metallic scarves close to the face and observing which looks best. Ideally this test should be carried out wearing no make-up. People who look better in silver tend to look sallow in gold tones. Those who suit gold tones look drained and pale next to silver.

To demonstrate this process a selection of scarves in silver, pewter, gold, copper and bronze were used with a group of models in order to determine their ideal metal colour.



Soft gold



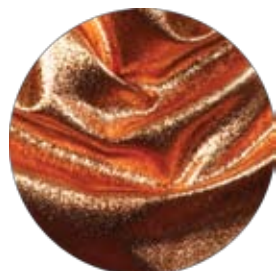
Clear gold



Dark gold



Bronze



Copper



Silver



Pewter



Bronze



Clear gold



Soft gold



Silver

Danielle

The red hair of Danielle looks fabulous with the copper coloured scarf. Danielle also looks good in gold, but look how she becomes drained of colour when wrapped in the silver scarf. Danielle suits all gold, copper and bronze metals.



Clear gold



Dark gold



Soft gold



Copper



Silver



Pewter

Evelyn

Evelyn's black hair, warm brown eyes and yellowish skin tone look good with a clear gold colour. She can carry other shades of gold, but the copper scarf is not flattering with Evelyn's skin tone. The silver and pewter scarf drains her skin.

Helena



Silver



Pewter

Sarah



Silver



Pewter

Jade



Clear gold



Soft gold



Dark gold



Clear gold



Soft gold



Clear gold



Soft gold

Jade's golden brown hair, hazel eyes and freckled skin came alive with the bronze and gold scarves. The copper scarf was not as good as the gold, but considerably better than the silver scarves which drained her face and made her look pale.



Bronze



Copper



Copper

Both Sarah and Helena's skin show shadows and look sallow with the gold, bronze and copper scarves, but look brighter with the silver scarf. The pewter scarf is not ideal for Helena or Sarah; they are both clear silver people.



Copper



Dark gold



Silver



Pewter

Beverley



Silver



Pewter

Beverley's white hair, bright blue eyes and pale skin might have suggested that she suits silver rather than gold, however the scarf test produced some surprising results. Whilst the bronze and dark gold scarves were not flattering to Beverley's skin tone, she did look good in the clear gold as well as in the silver scarves. This will be discussed further in the following chapters.



Clear gold



Dark gold



Bronze

It can therefore be seen that although you will have a dominance of either silver or gold in your colouring, you will not necessarily suit all shades of gold or silver. There are a variety of silver and gold coloured metals on the jewellery market and so it should be relatively easy to find the ideal metal for both your colouring and your budget



Beverley is wearing 18ct gold tanzanite and diamond necklace. Models own.