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**CIBJO/PRECIOUS METALS**

**CIBJO/Precious Metals Commission**

# **THE PRECIOUS METALS BOOK**

**Precious Metals – Terminology & Classification**

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## Foreword

CIBJO is the French acronym for the **C**onfédération **I**nternationale de la **B**ijouterie, **J**oaillerie, **O**rfèvrerie, des **D**iamants, **P**erles et **P**ierres, which translates as the International Confederation of Jewellery, Silverware, Diamonds, Pearls and Stones (normally shortened to the International Jewellery Confederation). Founded in 1926 as BIBOAH, a European organisation whose mission was to represent and advance the interests of the jewellery trade in Europe, it was reorganised in 1961 and renamed CIBJO, in 2009 it was once again reorganized and officially named “CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation”. Today CIBJO, which is domiciled in Switzerland, is a non-profit confederation of national and international trade associations including commercial organisations involved in the jewellery supply chain. It now has members from countries representing all five continents of the world. CIBJO printed its first deliberations on terminology and trade practices in 1968.

It is the task of CIBJO to record the accepted trade practices and nomenclature for the industry throughout the world. The records of the trade practices complement existing fair trade legislation of a nation or in the absence of relevant national laws they can be considered as trading standards. In countries where laws or norms exist, which conflict with the laws, norms or trade practices in other countries, CIBJO will support the national trade organizations to prevent trade barriers developing. The purpose of CIBJO is to encourage harmonization, promote international co-operation within the jewellery industry, consider issues which are of concern to the trade worldwide and to communicate proactively with members. Foremost amongst these the aim is to protect consumer confidence in the industry. CIBJO pursues all of these objectives through informed deliberation and by reaching decisions in accordance with its Statutes. CIBJO relies upon the initiative of its members to support and implement its standards, and to protect the trust of the public in the industry.

The work of CIBJO is accomplished through Committees, Commissions and Sectors. Committees and Commissions consider standards for use in the jewellery supply chain. Sectors represent levels of trade in the jewellery industry. Sectors and commissions advise the Executive Committee on current trade practices and issues that affect the jewellery industry.

Three independent sectors exist within the confederation:

Sector A - The Products Sector  
Sector B - The Supply chain Sector  
Sector C - The Service Sector

The Executive Committee may appoint Commissions that consider detailed issues. At present these are:

Coloured Stone

Diamond

Ethics

Gemmological

Pearl

Marketing & Education

Precious Metals

World Jewellers Vigilance

The Commissions for Diamonds, Gemstones, Pearls and Precious Metals have collated the guidelines, which present the accepted trade practices for applying descriptions to these materials. It is in the best interest of all those concerned to be aware of them.

The Sectors and Commissions will propose changes in the standards, also known as the Blue Books, to the Executive Committee. After review the Executive Committee will submit the accepted proposals for adoption to the Board of Directors and if approved they will notify the assembly of delegates of the changes at the annual congress. Furthermore it is our mutual responsibility to support these recommendations, which concern all professional people connected with diamonds, gemstones, pearls and precious metals. CIBJO Standards are subject to government regulations in the respective jurisdictions of CIBJO members.

The national umbrella organization for each country represents, in principle, all the national trade organizations involved in the sectors mentioned above. This democratic structure, which has contributed to CIBJO's world-wide recognition also includes international trade and commercial organizations, it provides an international forum for the trade to collectively draw attention to issues and implement resulting decisions.

CIBJO Secretariat:

CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation  
Piazzale Carlo Magno, 1  
20149 Milano, Italy

Tel: +39-02-4997-7098 / 7097 / 6187 Fax: + 39 02- 4997-7059

E-mail: [cibjo@cibjo.org](mailto:cibjo@cibjo.org)

Web site: [www.cibjo.org](http://www.cibjo.org)

## Introduction

This CIBJO Precious Metal Standard is designed to assist all those involved in the purchase or sale of **platinum, gold, palladium and silver jewellery, flatware and hollow-ware**. The standard is non-judgmental and the definitions and clauses contained herein are formatted and worded only to ensure that each precious metal item bought or sold is done so with clarity and honesty. The stability of the market place depends upon the use of the proper nomenclature and the declaration of all known facts which ensure a fully informed purchase or sale.

In the case of precious metals it is important that those involved in sales or purchases know the fineness in parts per thousand by weight of the precious metal in the alloy being traded.

The Scope (1) of the Standard/rules is set out, as are the Normative References (2). The Terms and Definitions (5) are expansive and are extensively cross referenced throughout the Normative Clauses (4), Annex and Tables. It is important that the reader refers to the relevant Terms and Definitions when consulting each Normative Clause.

President the CIBJO Precious Metal Commission

May 2010

## PRECIOUS METALS – TERMINOLOGY AND CLASSIFICATION

### 1. Scope

The terminology and classification of precious metals are established with reference to commercial usage, in conformity with the classifications and practices of the international precious metals and jewellery trades. The terminology and classifications of precious metals as set out herein shall be used by all traders participating as members of CIBJO member organisations within all member nations.

**Note: Exceptions may be made if the National Law of a particular member nation conflicts with the clauses herein. National Law always supersedes this CIBJO standard.**

### 2. Normative references

The Gemstone Book, CIBJO (International Confederation of Jewellery, Silverware, Diamonds, Pearls and Stones), the World Jewellery Confederation, Piazzale Carlo Magno, 1, 20149 Milano, Italy. [cibjo@cibjo.org](mailto:cibjo@cibjo.org)

The Diamond Book, CIBJO (International Confederation of Jewellery, Silverware, Diamonds, Pearls and Stones), the World Jewellery Confederation, Piazzale Carlo Magno, 1, 20149 Milano, Italy. [cibjo@cibjo.org](mailto:cibjo@cibjo.org).

The Pearl Book, CIBJO (International Confederation of Jewellery, Silverware, Diamonds, Pearls and Stones), the World Jewellery Confederation, Piazzale Carlo Magno, 1, 20149 Milano, Italy. [cibjo@cibjo.org](mailto:cibjo@cibjo.org).

### 3. Classification of materials.

### 4. Normative Clauses.

### 5. Terms and definitions.

For the purposes of these CIBJO standard/rules, the following terms and definitions apply;

#### 5.1. Precious metals

Precious Metals are platinum (Pt), gold (Au), palladium (Pd) and silver (Ag) in their pure state.

#### 5.2. Precious metal alloy

A precious metal alloy is a solid solution containing at least one precious metal; refer to 5.10.

#### 5.3. Precious metal article

A precious metal article is any item of jewellery, or goldsmith's or silversmith's flatware or hollow-ware, made entirely or in part from precious metals and their alloys.

#### 5.4. Fineness

The fineness is the content of the named precious metals measured in terms of parts per thousand by weight of alloy.

#### 5.5. Standard of fineness

The standard of fineness is the minimum content of the named precious metals measured in terms of parts per thousand by weight of alloy.

#### 5.6. Precious metal coating/plating

A precious metal coating or plating is a layer of precious metal or of precious metal alloy applied to all, or part of a precious metal article e.g. by chemical, electrochemical, mechanical or physical process. See also 5.16.

#### 5.7. Base metals

Base metals are all metals except platinum, gold, palladium, and silver.

#### 5.8. Weight of Precious Metal

The weight of a precious metal item is always expressed in grams to two decimal places.

#### 5.9. Colour of Precious Metals

Gold – Yellow, Red, Rose, Green and White  
Platinum – White  
Palladium – White  
Silver - White

#### 5.10. This CIBJO standard does not apply to:-

Articles made of alloys of fineness less than 850 for platinum, 333 for gold, 500 for palladium and 800 for silver. Unless alloys meet these minimum finenesses, articles cannot be described as platinum, gold, palladium or silver.

#### 5.11. Fineness' applied under this CIBJO standard

For platinum:	999, 950, 900, 850
For gold	999, 986, 916, 750, 585, 416, 375, 333
For palladium	999, 950, 500
For silver	999, 925, 835, 830, 800

Note: Other standards of fineness may be recognised by the Precious Metals Commission depending on international developments.

(Some countries still refer to the fineness of gold in terms of karats or carats. A karat is 1/24<sup>th</sup> part of pure gold e.g. 18 karat gold is 18/24ths = 750 parts per thousand by weight).



## 5.12. Tolerance

No negative tolerance is permitted in relation to the standard of fineness indicated on the article.

Separate rules for special manufacturing techniques are established by the Precious Metals Commission.

## 5.13. Use of solder

Adhesives may be used instead of the permitted solders.

In solder-filled wire, both the solder and the wire must be of the permitted fineness. Where a lower solder fineness is permitted; the whole of the wire must be to a permitted fineness.

Precious Metals must be soldered with precious metal solders of the same fineness.

Practical exceptions:

### Precious metal

The following exceptions are permitted:

#### Gold

The following exceptions are defined:

Gold alloy articles with a fineness of 750/1000 or more shall be soldered with solder of a minimum fineness of 750/1000 gold.

In the case of gold articles of filigree work and watch cases of the 750 standard the solder shall contain not less than 740 parts of gold per 1,000. For white gold articles of the 750 standard the solder shall contain not less than 585 parts of gold per 1,000.

#### Silver

For silver articles of all finenesses, the solder used shall contain not less than 550 parts of silver per 1,000.

#### Platinum

Solder for platinum articles shall contain at least 800 parts per 1,000 of gold, silver, platinum or palladium,

#### Palladium

Solder for palladium articles of all standards shall contain at least 700 parts per 1,000 of palladium.

Mixed precious metal:

The solder can be the permitted solder for the least precious metal fineness.

Precious metal with base metal:

Any suitable solder, including base metal, can be used.

**5.14. Use of working base metal parts**

Other exceptions:

Base metal parts are permitted as a mechanical function for which precious metals are unsuitable either for strength or durability. Such base metal parts shall not be treated to give the appearance of a precious metal.

For all precious metals (examples)

Steel wires used for the assembling of necklaces (the steel wires must not be used as decoration);

Magnets for clasps;

Security retainers for tie tacks or badge buttons;

Screws;

Threads.

Springs in clasps.

For silver articles only

Clasps - only the tongue in a box snap;

Pins for silver brooches;

Pins for silver badge buttons;

Clips for hair clasps, tie clasps, etc.

**5.15. Use of non-metallic substances for filling flatware and hollow-ware**

Permitted fillings of non-metallic substances:

Filling the base with non metallic material is permitted for better stability (e.g. candle holders, flowerpots and similar silver articles).

The word "filled" shall be engraved / embossed on the base to indicate that the gross weight of the item is not all precious metal.

Filling the handles with mastic is allowed (e.g. cutlery, salad servers, carving knives and forks, dessert knives, manicure sets, toilet sets and similar articles. This is a non-exhaustive list).

## 5.16. Coating of precious metal articles

### 5.16.1 Permissible coatings

Subject to the provisions of paragraph 5.17.9 concerning the differentiation of colours on mixed articles, the following metallic coatings are permitted:

Metallic coating (for example: galvanic) in accordance with the tables below:

On - Metal	Permitted surface coatings – <b>COMPLETE COVERAGE</b>
Platinum	Rhodium, Platinum, Ruthenium  Titanium based coloured coatings (applied using PVD/CVD technique only)
Gold	Rhodium, Platinum, Gold, Ruthenium  Titanium based coloured coatings (applied using PVD/CVD technique only)
Palladium	Rhodium, Platinum, Gold, Palladium, Ruthenium  Titanium based coloured coatings (applied using PVD/CVD technique only)
Silver	Rhodium, Platinum, Gold, Palladium, Ruthenium, Silver  Titanium based coloured coatings (applied using PVD/CVD technique only)  All greyish-white base metals [e.g. a greyish-white version of Cu/Sn, Cu/Zn/Sn alloy coating, greyish-white PCP (Pd/Co) alloy coating or coating with similar properties etc. as a migration barrier between precious metal coatings and silver items] – <b>As an interlayer only</b>  Inorganic and organic coatings – <b>Applied as anti-tarnish treatment in the form of a thin film and should only show negligible change in the basic colour of silver metal underneath when examined by the unaided eye</b>
All subject to –	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coatings should meet all health and safety regulations and should not lead to other undesirable properties in the finished jewellery or silverware articles</li> <li>b. If a sample from the non-soldered portion is tested by the reference method specified in local law without removing the coating, then it must not fail legal fineness standard specified in the local law</li> </ul>	

On - Metal	Permitted surface coatings – <b>PARTIAL COVERAGE</b>
Platinum	Rhodium, Platinum, Gold, Palladium, Ruthenium
Gold	Coloured inorganic and organic coating (applied using any technique) To be applied as a decorative application in the form of a very thin film to enhance the beauty of object and not for the purpose of increasing weight. Most of the surface should be the underlying precious metal clearly visible to the consumer
Palladium	
Silver	Rhodium, Platinum, Gold, Palladium, Ruthenium, Silver  Coloured inorganic and organic coatings (applied using any technique). To be applied as a decorative application in the form of a very thin film to enhance the beauty of the object and not for the purpose of increasing weight. Most of the surface should be the underlying precious metal clearly visible to the consumer
<p>All subject to –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coatings should meet all the countries' health and safety regulations and do not lead to other undesirable properties in the finished jewellery or silverware articles</li> <li>b. If a sample from the non-soldered portion is tested by the reference method specified in local law without removing the coating, then it must not fail to comply with legal fineness standards specified in the local law</li> <li>c. Sampling from coloured organic coatings to be avoided if they are applied as a decorative application in the form of a very thin film to enhance the beauty of the object and not for the purpose of increasing weight, and the colour of the majority base precious metal is visible to the consumer. When a sample from the non-soldered non-coated portion is tested by the reference method specified in local law then it must not fail to comply with legal fineness standards specified in the local law</li> <li>d. Any article with excessive coatings particularly when applied for the purpose of increasing weight should be rejected. While taking such a decision consumer interest should be paramount</li> </ol>	

**Note:** Although palladium is currently permitted both as a plating on palladium itself and on silver, recent concerns point to the possibility that palladium may be an allergen, similar to nickel. If this is proven to be the case, then it may lead to removal from the permitted coatings list, subject to national laws.

Chemical or long-lasting thermal treatments (i.e. sulphured silver, Physical Vapour Deposition (PVD), Chemical Vapour Deposition (CVD)).

The colouring of the surface of articles of precious metal by means of chemical transformation of the alloy or its components may be permitted under the terms of this CIBJO standard as long as the standard of fineness is not altered by the process.

Non-metallic coatings (i.e. enamel, niello).

## 5.16.2 Declaration of coatings

5.16.2.1 Rhodium coating on yellow gold jewellery is not allowed.

5.16.2.2 When a coating is applied which **changes the colour** of the precious metal alloy used to make of the article of jewellery, then the coating **must be declared**, e.g. when using gold coatings on silver; ruthenium coatings on any precious metal; titanium based colour coatings (applied by PVD/CVD technique only) on any precious metal.

5.16.2.3 When a coating is applied that is the **same colour** as the alloy used to make of the article of jewellery, then it is **recommended** that the coating be declared, e.g. when using rhodium coatings on white gold or silver.

## 5.17 Marking of precious metal articles

5.17.1 The following minimum marks shall be applied on articles which satisfy the criteria in Section 5 of this CIBJO standard:

A registered responsibility mark as described in paragraph 5.17.3 and the corresponding fineness mark in Arabic numerals in parts per thousand.

These marks can be applied by punching, lasering, casting or engraving on the article. Whenever possible, all marks shall be placed in immediate proximity to each other.

Other marks which are not to be confused with the marks mentioned above are allowed as additional marks.

5.17.2 The Precious Metals Commission can decide on other methods of marking articles.

5.17.3 The responsibility mark referred to in paragraph 5.17.1, shall be registered in an official register of the State and/or trade organisations and/or one of its assay offices, in whose territory the article in question is controlled.

5.17.4 All different standards of fineness listed in this CIBJO standard can be represented.

5.17.5 Articles consisting of more than one fineness of the same precious metals:

Where an article consists of different alloys of the same precious metal, the fineness mark applied shall be that of the lowest fineness present in the article.

5.17.6 Exception: Gold nuggets

Native gold in the shape of nuggets is allowed – unmarked – on precious metal articles, irrespective of the standard of fineness and of criteria for the determination of colours.

5.17.7 Articles consisting of parts:

If an article consists of parts which are hinged or readily separable, the above marks shall be applied to the main part. Where practicable, the mark shall be applied also the lesser parts.

5.17.8 A pendant incorporating a gold or silver ingot fitted with a frame shall be considered as two separate articles, provided the ingot is loosely fitted and not permanently fixed. The frame may be accepted as a separate and complete article and marked separately.

5.17.9 Articles consisting of different precious metal alloys.

If an article consists of different precious metal alloys, and if the colour and extent of each alloy are clearly visible, the marks referred to in paragraph 5.17.1 shall be applied on the appropriate precious metal.

If an article consists of different precious metal alloys and if the colour and extent of each alloy is not visible; the marks referred to in paragraph 5.17.1 shall be that of the least precious metal and shall be applied on the least precious metal, currently in order of platinum, gold, palladium, silver.

Exceptions:

White gold parts permitted on platinum articles for technical reasons:

On platinum articles, the following parts may be in white gold (750/1000):

Tongues for bracelets and necklets;  
Moving parts of clips for earrings and brooches;  
Pins for brooches;  
Joints and catches for brooches.

Appendix 1

CIBJO

Precious Metals Commission Questionnaire - February 2010

Country	Australia							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	750	585	416	375	
	Silver	999	925	835	800			
	Platinum	999	950	900	850			
	Palladium	999	950	500				
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	Austria							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	986	900	750	585		
	Silver	925	900	835	800			
	Platinum	950						
	Palladium							
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium							

Country	Denmark	
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	All finenesses in the range 333 - 999
	Silver	All finenesses in the range 800 - 999
	Platinum	All finenesses in the range 850 - 999
	Palladium	All finenesses in the range 500 - 999
		Note - The concept of <b>standard</b> of fineness is not legally applied in Denmark - only minimum finenesses are regulated.
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed

Country	Germany	
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	Jewellery may be stamped in all finenesses (mark has to be in thousand parts) customary are 750, 585, 375, 333 (for utensils such as tableware the law states a minimum fineness of 585)
	Silver	Jewellery may be stamped in all finenesses (mark has to be in thousand parts) customary are 925, 835 (for utensils such as tableware the law states a minimum fineness of 800)
	Platinum	The German law only provides for gold and silver, not for platinum, customary however are : 950
	Palladium	The German law only provides for gold and silver, not for palladium, customary however are : 950 and 500
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	10/1000*
	Silver	10/1000*
	Platinum	
	Palladium	
		* The negative tolerance must not exceed 10/1000, when the object is melted down on the whole



Country	Israel							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	875	750	585	375	
	Silver	999	925	835	800			
	Platinum	999	950	900	850			
	Palladium							
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	Italy							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	750	585	375				
	Silver	925	800					
	Platinum	950	900	850				
	Palladium	950	500					
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	Kingdom Of Bahrain							
<b>Recognised Standards of Fineness</b>	<b>Gold</b>	916	875	750	585			
	<b>Silver</b>	925	830					
	<b>Platinum</b>	950						
	<b>Palladium</b>							
<b>Tolerances Permitted</b>	<b>Gold</b>	915	874	748	583			
	<b>Silver</b>	923	828					
	<b>Platinum</b>	950						
	<b>Palladium</b>							

Country	Lithuania							
<b>Recognised Standards of Fineness</b>	<b>Gold</b>	999	916	750	585	375		
	<b>Silver</b>	999	925	830	800			
	<b>Platinum</b>	999	950	900	850			
	<b>Palladium</b>	999	950	850	500			
<b>Tolerances Permitted</b>	<b>Gold</b>	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	<b>Silver</b>	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	<b>Platinum</b>	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	<b>Palladium</b>	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	New Zealand							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	750	585	417	375	
	Silver	999	925					
	Platinum	999	950					
	Palladium	999	950	400				
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	Norway							
Current Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	750	585					
	Silver	925	830					
	Platinum	950						
	Palladium							
New Proposed Standards, Permitted From 2011	Gold	999	916	750	585	375		
	Silver	999	925	830	800			
	Platinum	999	950	900	850			
	Palladium							
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium							

Country	Saudi Arabia							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999.9	916.6	875	750	Less than 18K is not allowed		
	Silver	999.9	925	900	800			
	Platinum	999.9	950	850				
	Palladium							
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	4 Per Thousand is Allowed by Law						
	Silver	4 Per Thousand is Allowed by Law						
	Platinum	4 Per Thousand is Allowed by Law						
	Palladium							

Country	Switzerland							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	750	585	375		
	Silver	999	925	800				
	Platinum	999	950	900	850			
	Palladium	999	950	500				
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	Thailand							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	965	750	585			
	Silver	999	950					
	Platinum	999	950	900				
	Palladium	999	650					
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	United Kingdom							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	990	916.6	750	585	375	
	Silver	999	958	925	800			
	Platinum	999	950	900	850			
	Palladium	999	950	500				
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Silver	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Platinum	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						
	Palladium	No Negative Tolerance Allowed						

Country	USA							
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	750	583	417			
	Silver	925	900					
	Platinum	999	950	850				
	Palladium							
Tolerances Permitted	Gold	3	3	3	3			
	Silver	4	4					
	Platinum	50*	50*	50*				
	Palladium							
		*Includes Solder						

**CIBJO**

**Countries who have not responded to Questionnaire - Information taken From IAAO 9**

Country	Belgium												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	833	750	585									
	Silver	925	835										
	Platinum	950											
	Palladium												

Country	Bulgaria												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	916	833	750	585	500	333						
	Silver	950	925	800	750	500							
	Platinum												
	Palladium												

Country	Czech Republic												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	986	900	750	585							
	Silver	999	959	925	900	835	800						
	Platinum	999	950	900	850	800							
	Palladium												

Country	Estonia												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	375											Minimum Standard
	Silver	800											Minimum Standard
	Platinum	850											Minimum Standard
	Palladium	500											Minimum Standard

Country	Finland												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	750	585	375							
	Silver	999	925	830	800								
	Platinum	999	950	900	850								
	Palladium												

Country	Hungary												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	916	750	585	375								
	Silver	925	900	835	800								
	Platinum	950	900										
	Palladium												

Country	Ireland												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	990	916	833	750	585	417	375				
	Silver	999	958	925	800								
	Platinum	999	950	900	850								
	Palladium												

Country	Latvia												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	958	916	900	750	585	583	500	375	333			
	Silver	960	925	916	875	830	800	750					
	Platinum	950	850										
	Palladium	850	500										

Country	Malta												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	916	750	585	375								
	Silver	959	925	830	800								
	Platinum												
	Palladium												

Country	Poland												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	960	750	585	500	375	333						
	Silver	925	875	830	800								
	Platinum	950											
	Palladium												

Country	Portugal												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	800	750	585	375						
	Silver	999	925	835	830	800							
	Platinum	999	950	900	850								
	Palladium												

Country	Republic of Cyprus												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	916	750	585	375								
	Silver	925	830	800									
	Platinum												
	Palladium												

Country	Romania												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	900	833	750	585	500	375				
	Silver	999	925	916	875	800	750						
	Platinum	950											
	Palladium	950											

Country	Slovakia												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	986	900	750	585							
	Silver	999	959	925	900	835	800						
	Platinum	999	950	900	850	800							
	Palladium												



Country	Slovenia												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	990	916	900	840	800	750	585	500	417	375	333
	Silver	999	925	835	800								
	Platinum	999	950	900	850								
	Palladium	999	950	500									

Country	Spain												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	999	916	750	585	375							
	Silver	999	925	800									
	Platinum	999	950	900	850								
	Palladium												

	Sweden												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	375											Minimum Standard
	Silver	800											Minimum Standard
	Platinum	850											Minimum Standard
	Palladium												Minimum Standard

Country	The Netherlands												
Recognised Standards of Fineness	Gold	916	833	750	585								
	Silver	925	835	800									
	Platinum	950											
	Palladium												

## Appendix 2

### Supporting Standards

#### Internationally Recognised Precious Metal Standards in relation to the Jewellery, Watch and Silverware Industries (non-exhaustive).

#### GOLD

Standard Number	Title
ISO 14647:2000	Metallic coatings. Determination of porosity on gold coatings on metallic substrates. Nitric acid vapour test
ISO 3160-1:1998	Watch-cases and accessories. Gold alloy coverings. General requirements
ISO 27874:2008	Metallic coatings. Electrodeposited gold and gold alloy coatings. Specification and test methods
ISO 10713:1992	Jewellery. Gold alloy coatings
ISO 11426:1999	Determination of gold in gold jewellery alloys. Cupellation method (fire assay)
ISO 4524-3:1995	Metallic coatings. Test methods for electrodeposited gold and gold alloy coatings. Electrographic tests for porosity
ISO 4524-6:1995	Metallic coatings. Test methods for electrodeposited gold and gold alloy coatings. Determination of the presence of residual salts
ISO 4524-2:2000	Metallic coatings. Test methods for electrodeposited gold and gold alloy coatings. Mixed flowing gas (MFG) environmental tests
ISO 8654:1987	Colours of gold alloys. Definition, range of colours and designation
ISO 3160-2:2003	Watch-cases and accessories. Gold alloy coverings. Determination of fineness, thickness, corrosion resistance and adhesion
ISO 15721:2001	Metallic coatings. Porosity tests. Porosity in gold or palladium coatings by sulfurous acid/sulfur dioxide vapour
ISO 15720:2001	Metallic coatings. Porosity tests. Porosity in gold or palladium coatings on metal substrates by gel-bulk electrography
ISO 10378:2005	Copper, lead and zinc sulfide concentrates. Determination of gold and silver. Fire assay gravimetric and flame atomic absorption spectrometric method
ISO 9202:1991	Jewellery. Fineness of precious metal alloys
ISO 4538:1995	Metallic coatings. Thioacetamide corrosion test (TAA test)
ISO 8442-4:1998	Materials and articles in contact with foodstuffs. Cutlery and table hollow ware. Requirements for gold-plated cutlery

## SILVER

Standard Number	Title
ISO 4521:2008	Electrodeposited silver and silver alloy coatings. Specification and test methods
ISO 11427:1993	Determination of silver in silver jewellery alloys. Volumetric (potentiometric) method using potassium bromide
ISO 13756:1997	Determination of silver in silver jewellery alloys. Volumetric (potentiometric) method using sodium chloride or potassium chloride
ISO 8442-8:2001	Materials and articles in contact with foodstuffs. Cutlery and table hollow ware. Requirements for silver table and decorative hollow ware
ISO 8442-7:2001	Materials and articles in contact with foodstuffs. Cutlery and table hollow ware. Requirements for table cutlery made of silver, other precious metals and their alloys
ISO 8442-6:2001	Materials and articles in contact with foodstuffs. Cutlery and table hollow ware. Lightly silver plated table hollow ware protected by lacquer
ISO 4538:1995	Metallic coatings. Thioacetamide corrosion test (TAA test)
ISO 10378:2005	Copper, lead and zinc sulfide concentrates. Determination of gold and silver. Fire assay gravimetric and flame atomic absorption spectrometric method
ISO 9202:1991	Jewellery. Fineness of precious metal alloys
ISO 2819:1995	Metallic coatings on metallic substrates. Electrodeposited and chemically deposited coatings. Review of methods available for testing adhesion
ISO 8442-3:1998	Materials and articles in contact with foodstuffs. Cutlery and table hollow ware. Requirements for silver-plated table and decorative hollow ware

## PLATINUM

Standard Number	Title
ISO 11210:1995	Determination of platinum in platinum jewellery alloys. Gravimetric method after precipitation of diammonium hexachloroplatinate
ISO 11489:1995	Determination of platinum in platinum jewellery alloys. Gravimetric method after reduction with mercury(I) chloride
ISO 14647:2000	Metallic coatings. Determination of porosity on gold coatings on metallic substrates. Nitric acid vapour test

## PLATINUM - continued

Standard Number	Title
ISO 9202:1991	Jewellery. Fineness of precious metal alloys
ISO 8442-2:1998	Materials and articles in contact with foodstuffs. Cutlery and table hollow ware. Requirements for stainless steel and silver-plated cutlery
ISO 11494:2008	Determination of platinum in platinum jewellery alloys - ICP-solution-spectrometric method using Yttrium as internal standard element

## PALLADIUM

Standard Number	Title
ISO 11490:1995	Determination of palladium in palladium jewellery alloys. Gravimetric method with dimethyl glyoxime
ISO 15720:2001	Metallic coatings. Porosity tests. Porosity in gold or palladium coatings on metal substrates by gel-bulk electrography
ISO 15721:2001	Metallic coatings. Porosity tests. Porosity in gold or palladium coatings by sulfurous acid/sulfur dioxide vapour
ISO 14647:2000	Metallic coatings. Determination of porosity on gold coatings on metallic substrates. Nitric acid vapour test
ISO 13756:1997	Determination of silver in silver jewellery alloys. Volumetric (potentiometric) method using sodium chloride or potassium chloride
ISO 11495:2008	Determination of palladium in palladium jewellery alloys - ICP-solution-spectrometric method using Yttrium as internal standard element

## MISCELLANEOUS

Standard Number	Title
ISO 15093:2008	Determination of precious metals in 999 gold, platinum and palladium jewellery alloys by difference method using ICP-OES
ISO 15096:2008	Determination of silver in 999/1000 silver jewellery alloys by difference method using ICP-OES

### Work in progress to change existing jewellery standards:

At the present time the focus is on 1811:1999 – ‘Reference test method for release of nickel from products intended to come into direct and prolonged contact with the skin’.

**Proposals for new standards at the draft stage are as follows:**

ISO/CD 11596 - Sampling of the precious metal alloys in jewellery and associated products’.

**Resolutions in progress to withdraw existing standards are as follows:**

1810:1998 – ‘Body-piercing post assemblies – Reference test method for determination of nickel content by flame atomic absorption spectrometry’.

Some of the standards for testing precious metals (non-exhaustive):

**ISO Standards**

- 1463:2004 Metallic and oxide coatings. Measurement of coating thickness. Microscopical method.
- 11210:1995 Determination of platinum in jewellery alloys – Gravimetric method after precipitation of diammonium hexachloroplatinate.
- 11426:1999 Determination of gold in gold jewellery alloys – Cupellation method (fire assay).
- 11489:1995 Determination of platinum in platinum jewellery alloys – Gravimetric method after reduction with mercury (I) chloride.
- 11490:1995 Determination of palladium in palladium jewellery alloys – Gravimetric method with dimethyl glyoxime.
- 1904:2000 Precious metals. The finenesses of solders used with precious metal jewellery alloys.
- 3160-2:2003 Watch-cases and accessories. Gold alloy coverings. Determination of fineness, thickness, corrosion resistance and adhesion.
- 4524-3:1995 Metallic coatings. Test methods for electrodeposited gold and gold alloy coatings. Electrographic tests for porosity.
- 3882:2003 Metallic and other inorganic coatings. Review of measurement of thickness.

## References

Convention on the Control and Marking of articles of precious metal, Geneva 1994.

Annexes I and II to the Convention on the Control and Marking of articles of precious metal, entered into force on 10 March 2000.

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