

WEDDING RING GUIDE

Wedding rings are not complicated pieces of jewellery. They are a simple band, intended to symbolise the never-ending circle of love for your partner. Having said this, there are still a huge number of options when designing your wedding ring, allowing you to create something that is totally unique and personal.



When designing your wedding rings, there are a number of factors to consider, including the shape, metal, weight, width, the finish and whether you want to have any engraving or embellishments, such as diamonds set into the ring.



In designing your wedding ring, you are creating a piece of jewellery that will be with you for the rest of your life, so it's important to create something that you love...



PROFILE

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The various profiles of wedding ring available are listed below.



Court Wedding Rings

The most popular and most traditional shape of wedding ring. They are curved on both the outside & inside, providing a comfortable fit and classic look.



D Shape Wedding Rings

Flat on the inside and curved on the outside.

This is another classic style of wedding ring which tends to be slightly lighter than the Court, and sits well with many engagement rings.

To see how each of these profiles looks on your own hand, why not download our [augmented reality app](#)?

Flat Wedding Rings



Flat on both the outside and the inside. Flat wedding rings tend to be a more popular choice for men than women and offer a contemporary look.



Flat Court Wedding Rings

Flat on the outside, giving the same contemporary look as the flat profile, but are curved on the inside for a more comfortable fit. The curved inside also tends to give the ring a little more thickness and weight, which can be useful if you wish to set stones in the ring.



Cushion Court Rings

Slightly more modern take on the traditional court ring. They are still curved on both the inside & outside, but are slightly flatter than the traditional court, giving a more contemporary look, lower profile and very comfortable feel.



ETAL

When choosing the metal for your wedding ring, there are several factors to consider, including cost, durability, weight and colour.



Platinum

Platinum is the rarest of the major precious metals and platinum rings are consequently the most expensive. Unlike gold, which is very malleable in its pure form and is therefore alloyed with other metals to make it hard, platinum is naturally durable, so platinum rings are 95% pure. Although expensive, if you have the budget, platinum's qualities make it an excellent choice for a wedding ring.

It is an extremely durable metal, meaning that a platinum wedding ring will last a lifetime. It is also the heaviest of the precious metals used in jewellery manufacture, endowing wedding rings with a real sense of substance. Platinum's grey/white colour works especially well with diamonds, which also makes it a popular choice of metal for engagement rings.

Please note the metal colours shown are for illustrative purposes and as such are approximations only.

22 Carat Gold

Pure gold (24 carat gold) is too soft to use for wedding rings, as the ring would very quickly become misshapen. 22 carat gold is the purest, and consequently the most expensive, form of gold which can be used for manufacturing wedding rings.



A very popular alloy for Asian jewellery, 22 Carat Gold has a wonderful deep and rich gold colour, but is not often used in the UK, as it is still a relatively soft alloy, meaning that 22 carat gold wedding rings are not very hard wearing, so not an ideal choice for anyone with an active lifestyle.

18 Carat Yellow Gold

18 carat yellow gold is the most traditional choice for a wedding ring. This alloy is 75% gold, meaning that the rings retain a rich gold colour. The gold is alloyed with copper and silver to improve the physical properties of the metal and make it more hard wearing. 18 carat gold is heavier than 9 carat gold, but lighter than platinum.





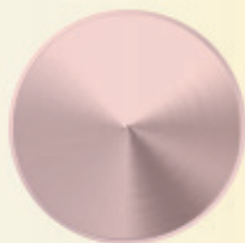
18 Carat White Gold

18 carat white gold is one of the most popular choices of metal for wedding rings and is also a traditional choice for wedding rings. This alloy is 75% gold, combined with palladium and silver to give it its white colour. 18 carat white gold is slightly whiter and warmer in appearance than platinum, which is slightly greyer. This alloy, like the other 18 carat gold alloys, is lighter than platinum, but still weighty and hard wearing enough for everyday use. 18 carat white gold is usually plated with rhodium, a very tough, white and extremely expensive metal, to improve the lustre and whiteness of the finish.

18 Carat Red Gold

Also known as rose gold, 18 carat red gold is still 75% gold, but it alloyed with more copper than the yellow gold alloy. This gives the metal its distinctive rich, reddish hue.

18 carat red gold is often considered a romantic choice for wedding rings, and is slightly more unusual than yellow and white alloys, making your rings stand out from the crowd. Like other 18 carat alloys, this has a pleasing weight and rich colour, thanks to its high gold content, but remains practical for everyday wear.



Palladium

Palladium is a platinum group metal and shares many of the properties of platinum. It has become increasingly popular for wedding rings in the past few years and gained its own hallmark in 2010. Palladium is particularly popular with gents. Palladium is more hard-wearing than white gold and is a very low maintenance choice for a wedding ring. Palladium is lighter than platinum, but also considerably cheaper, making it a great value alternative.



9 Carat Yellow Gold

9 carat yellow gold is 37.5% gold, alloyed with copper and silver. These other metals mean that 9 carat gold is both cheaper and harder wearing than 18 carat. 9 carat gold is slightly lighter and less substantial feeling than 18 carat, and is not quite such a rich gold colour. This is a very traditional choice of metal for wedding rings and an excellent choice for anyone on a tighter budget.

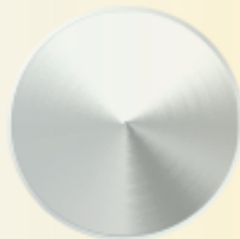


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9 Carat White Gold

9 carat white gold combines 37.5% gold with a high percentage of silver to achieve its white colour. In its natural form, 9 carat white gold is slightly yellower than its 18 carat equivalent, but these rings are plated with rhodium to give a whiter finish. This is lighter and less costly than its 18 carat equivalent due to the lower gold content, making it a good choice for anyone on a tighter budget.



9 Carat Red Gold

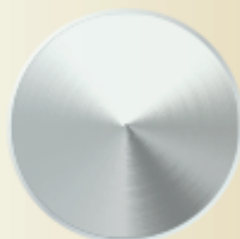
Also known as rose gold, the pinkish red hue of this metal is courtesy of the increased quantity of copper in the alloy and makes it a romantic choice of metal for a wedding ring. As with 9 carat yellow, this is lighter and slightly paler in comparison to 18 carat red gold, but is also considerably cheaper and more hard-wearing, making it a great choice for someone seeking a slightly unusual ring which doesn't cost the earth.



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Silver

The single greatest advantage of silver over the other precious metals is its price. As a raw material, silver is not nearly as scarce as either gold or platinum, and is consequently over 50 times cheaper than both in its natural state. Choosing a silver ring will therefore substantially reduce the cost of your wedding ring, as the majority of the cost will be in the manufacturing, rather than the metal.



There are, however, a few downsides of choosing silver. Silver was historically a popular choice for wedding rings, but is less often chosen today. Silver is also substantially lighter than the other precious metals and over time will react with sulphur or hydrogen sulphide in the air and tarnish, meaning it will require polishing.

TRY OUR FANTASTIC NEW APP

Why not download our augmented reality app to see which metal is best suited to your finger?

[Find out more](#)



WIDTH & EIGHT

The width of a wedding ring refers to the amount of space along your finger that the ring covers. As with almost every element of your wedding ring, the width you choose is really a matter of personal preference and there are no hard and fast rules.

At Beloved Bespoke, you can design a ring from 2mm to 8mm in width. Generally speaking, a man's ring should be slightly wider than a woman's to suit a more masculine hand shape. The most popular and traditional widths for wedding rings are 3mm for ladies and 5-6mm for gents.

2mm 2.5mm 3mm 4mm 5mm 6mm 7mm 8mm



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When choosing the width of your wedding ring, it is also worth considering the shape of your hand. Narrow bands tend to work better on a narrow hand and conversely, a wider band will look better on broader hands.

If you will be wearing your wedding ring alongside an engagement ring, consider how the two rings will look together and how wide they will be in total. Most women prefer to have a wedding ring of the same or similar width to their engagement ring.

As well as the width of your ring, you should also consider the weight. The weight of the ring is determined by the depth of the profile and ranges from ultra-light to heavy. Heavier rings feel more substantial thanks to their weightiness, but are also more expensive, and whilst an ultra-light ring, for example, will be too delicate for most men, many people will find a heavy weight ring a little obtrusive.

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F INISHES

Once you have decided the metal, profile, width and weight of your wedding ring, you can decide how you would like your ring to be finished. The most common finish for wedding rings is a simple polished

finish; however, there are a huge range of finishes that can be applied to your wedding rings to make them unique to you. The various finishing options are detailed below:

Polishing

The simplest and most traditional of finishes is simply to polish the rings to a highly reflective polished finish, showing off the metal at its glistening best.



Rhodium Plating

Rhodium is a hard, white metal. Rhodium plating is recommended for white gold wedding rings to give them an optimal finish.



Bevelled Edge

With this finish, the edges of the ring are chamfered to remove the right angles with the side of the ring. This gives the ring a contemporary look and works especially well with flat and flat court rings



Beaded Edge

Also known as a millgrain edge, a decorative bead is machined into the edges of the ring to create a more ornate looking finish to the ring. Again, this finish tends to look best on flat and flat court rings.

Tramlines

One or multiple tramlines can be cut into the ring in your choice of position to personalise the ring to your own design.



Satin Finish

A satin finish gives the ring a smooth, non-reflective look, without any visible texturing of the metal.



Matt Finish

Like the satin finish, the surface of the ring is finely scratched to create a non-reflective surface. The matt finish is more obviously textured and less smooth looking than the satin finish.



Diamond Cut Stars

Stars, or other patterns, can be cut into the surface of a finished ring to create a more unusual and interesting finish.



Sandblast Finish

This is a highly textured effect, created by blasting the surface of the ring with sand at very high pressure.



Stardust Finish

Very similar to the sandblast finish, but with an increased element of polishing which makes the surface of the ring extremely sparkly.



Hammered Finish

With this finish, the surface of the ring undergoes a tiny hammering effect, denting the surface of the ring, creating a more faceted metal surface, which interacts interestingly with the light.





FINISHING TOUCHES

Once you have selected the style of wedding ring you want, the metal, width and finish, you will already have created a wonderful

piece of bespoke jewellery. There are, however, a few ways to make your rings completely unique:

Engraving

Engraving the inside of your wedding ring is a simple, inexpensive way to truly personalise your ring. This engraving cannot be seen when the ring is being worn, but adds significance for the wearer and makes any wedding ring truly unique.

Most couples like to engrave the date of their wedding and/or their names or initials inside their rings, but you can choose any engraving you like.



Internal Diamond Setting

Having a diamond (or other gemstone) set on the inside of your wedding ring is a subtle and interesting addition to your wedding ring. A 'secret stone' is set on the inside of the ring, and cannot be seen when the ring is being worn, but can provide uniqueness and added significance to the wearer.



External Diamond Setting

Diamonds (or other gemstones) can be set in the outside of wedding rings to add extra glamour and sparkle. Diamond-set wedding rings provide an increasingly popular contemporary look. Wedding rings can be set with one or multiple diamonds in a variety of patterns. Diamond-set wedding rings are a more popular choice for ladies, but can be worn by men as well.



Final Thoughts

Despite the wealth of advice available on the subject and huge number of choices, there are no hard and fast rules about wedding rings. The most important thing is that you choose a ring that you and your partner love, and we hope that our design software makes that process easier and more rewarding.

At Beloved Bespoke, we keep our costs down by operating online rather than maintaining lavish premises on the high street, which allows us to keep the cost of our rings highly competitive whilst still offering a truly bespoke product.

We do not ever compromise on the quality of our rings. We use the best materials and British workmanship available to ensure all our products are of an exceptionally high standard. When purchasing a wedding ring from us, you will also receive:

- **Cast iron guarantee that your ring will be in perfect condition**
- **Free size adjustment if your ring does not fit perfectly**
- **Free ring polishing & servicing on your first anniversary**
- **Any other alterations to your design completed 'at cost'**
- **Stylish box & suede pouch to use on the day itself**

