

Gold

North Star Jewelry Supply carries a diverse range of gold fill, vermeil, and custom high karat gold findings, sheet, wire, and beads. Come and see! We have the perfect pieces for your gold vision!

- We offer a wide range of 14kt goldfill wire, sheet, and findings that are both high quality and beautifully unique. We are happy to custom order hard to find pieces for you as well!

- We carry a select group of high karat gold findings, wire, and chains. We are happy to order any karat or style of findings you might need for your special projects.

Vermeil (IPA v[•]m[j], and also vûr'mYy), sometimes called silver gilt, is a combination of sterling silver, gold, and other precious metals. It is commonly used as a component in jewelry. A typical example is sterling silver coated with 14 carat (58 %) gold. To be considered vermeil, the gold must also be at least 10 carat (42 %) and be at least 1.5 micrometres thick. Sterling silver covered with another metal cannot be called vermeil.

Gold-filled jewelry

(also called Gold Overlay) is composed of a solid layer of gold bonded with heat and pressure, to a base metal such as brass.

Some high quality gold-filled pieces have the look, luster, and beauty of 14 karat (58%) gold. By definition, the minimum layer of karat gold in an item stamped GF must equal at least 1/20 the weight of the total item. 1/20 12kt GF is the most common stamp you will find on gold-filled jewelry. 10kt and 14kt are also common karatages. Gold filled items, even with daily wear, can last five to 30 years but will eventually wear through. The gold layer on gold plated jewelry varies greatly depending on manufacturer, so there is no single, simple comparison. Gold-filled items are 50 to 100,000 times thicker than regular gold plating, and 17 to 25,000 times thicker than heavy gold electroplate (sometimes stamped HGE or HGP -- usually found on flashy cubic zirconia "cocktail rings").