

	Silver	9ct white gold	18ct white gold	Palladium	Platinum
Colour	Blue-white	Non-rhodium plated: pale yellow-white (warm)	Non-rhodium plated: warm gunmetal grey	Icy grey-white	Icy grey-white
		Rhodium plated: Icy, grey white	Rhodium plated: Icy, grey-white		
Price (in a stable market)	The least expensive of the precious metals.	The most economically priced gold as it has just 9 parts out of 24 of pure gold.	Considerably more expensive than 9ct gold due to the larger quantity of pure gold (18 out of 24 parts) and the pricey metals that makeup this alloy.	Priced similarly to 18ct white gold, partly because it is not mined for specifically, but is a by-product of platinum mining.	The most expensive precious metal due to its scarcity and because it is so desirable.
Durability	2.5-3 on Moh's scale of hardness, which demonstrates that it is a fairly soft metal. It will dent and bend with wear.	9 parts out of 24 pure gold which is very soft but it is mixed with other alloys to try and toughen it up a bit.	18ct white gold has a higher amount of gold in it, making it potentially softer than 9ct but it is mixed with harder alloys, so this balances out the difference in wear.	4.75 on the Moh's scale of hardness making it the toughest of the precious metals. It will wear over time, developing a patina which is rather appealing.	4-4.5 on the Moh's scale of hardness, so less hardwearing than its sibling Palladium, but still harder than gold. Platinum will develop a patina over time.
Hypoallergenic?	Silver is 92.5% pure but the remaining 7.5% can be made up from copper, germanium, zinc or platinum. Traces of nickel can be found in some sterling silver.	When white gold is rhodium plated, it is often first plated with nickel. Once the rhodium wears away, the nickel is exposed which may cause some wearers some issues. 24ct gold is pure and therefore hypoallergenic but 9ct and 18ct are alloyed with a range of other metals some people may have reactions to.	Both palladium and platinum are almost completely pure (95%) and so are considered hypoallergenic. Palladium is mixed with Ruthenium and Gallium, which make up the remaining 4.5%. Platinum is 95% pure with 4.5% iridium.		