



Material Alternatives

Due to the dramatic rise in the world precious metals market, we are pleased to offer additional material choices for your John Carroll School ring. While there remains one traditional design, we felt these additional options would provide you with more alternatives in terms of look and budget.

Yellow or White?

The first question to ask is, do I want my ring to be made out of a yellow or white metal. Either choice has two options.

Yellow:

10 Karat Yellow Gold and Auralite both contain pure 24 Karat gold which produces a rich yellow hue.

White:

Both 10 Karat White Gold and Duralite produce a bright white metal, very similar in appearance.

What are my specific choices?

The second question to ask is what are the specific properties of each of my choices.

10 Karat Yellow Gold: pure gold is 24 karat. 10 Karat gold means that the material is 10 parts (approximately 41.6%) pure gold and 14 parts alloy. Pure gold is extremely tarnish resistant and very valuable/costly. Pure gold is also a very soft metal, which along with the cost, makes it entirely unsuitable for class rings. However, when alloyed with metals chosen for their strength and durability, it produces a product which is both wearable and still valuable intrinsically. Unfortunately, the recent record setting rise in the world gold market has made this an increasingly costly alternative.

Auralite: the principles behind Auralite and 10 Karat Yellow Gold are basically the same, the main difference being that Auralite contains less pure gold than 10 Karat Yellow Gold (approximately 19% pure gold vs. 41.6% pure gold). While this produces a material less intrinsically valuable (and therefore less costly), the additional alloy, if anything, increases its durability. Auralite is a yellow metal like 10 Karat Yellow Gold, however, side by side there is a slight difference in yellow hue. By law, any material containing less than 10 karats of pure gold cannot be portrayed as gold; hence the name Auralite.

10 Karat White Gold: Same pure gold content as 10 Karat Yellow Gold. However, the non-gold, or alloy portion of the material, is slightly altered to produce a white metal. The pure gold content and other properties are the same as 10 Karat Yellow Gold. Only the appearance (i.e. White vs. Yellow) is different.

Duralite: primarily a nickel and chrome alloy, Duralite has been used for many years as a jeweler's white metal alternative. Duralite contains no precious metal, but it is unmatched for durability and tarnish resistance. Brand new, there is very little visual difference between Duralite and 10 Karat White Gold.



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