

Wedding Rings with Meaning

By Steve Haywood



Wedding rings are purchases that you'll wear day-in and day-out for a lifetime. Each day, your bands will remind you of your love for one another; they'll reinforce your commitment to each other; and forever they'll be a symbol of your devotion to one another.

It makes sense, therefore, to capture all that you feel for each other in a wedding band made just for you – something totally unique, something that's totally for and about YOU!

A few years ago I had quite a few male customers come into my store asking "Where are all the interesting men's wedding rings?"

This got me thinking and, with the inspiration of my Ducati Monster motorcycle, I came up with the 'Engineered Ring', a finalist in the National Jewellery Show Case, 2008. It features black diamonds all the way around, is set in 18ct Gold and Palladium, and shows off masculine Titanium screws. I now do a range of Engineered Jewellery which is completely customisable.

Not long after, I met with a couple who had decided that spending money on their wedding rings would be a longer lasting memory than spending money on their wedding day. They had the idea of using the bride's fingerprint on the groom's ring. We took an imprint from her wedding finger, took a section of it and wrapped that right around the platinum ring. It doesn't get more personalised than that!

Recently, I had a male customer who wanted just a plain wedding band. Once we got talking, however, I discovered he had a passion for astronomy. Now, instead of that boring plain band, he proudly wears a 1ct Princess cut black diamond, set in platinum, with the Southern Cross in black diamonds on one side of the ring and the Pleiades (sometimes known as the Seven Sisters) cluster in black diamonds on the other side. We also incorporated the Golden Ratio in the design.

I love collaborating with different artists, and recently worked with Ta Moko artist, Te Rangitu Netana. Together we have created a range of jewellery that goes by the name of 'E Nga



Hau E Wha', which means The Four Winds. The design is based on a whale's jawbone. It is available with the additional option of a wood-turned holder by Alby Hall, which turns your ring into a sculpture when you're not wearing it.

When choosing your wedding ring, just remember that it doesn't cost much more to have it personalised and customised to ensure that it's not just some worked up gold or silver, but that it carries real meaning for you. Let a very symbolic piece of jewellery become a true symbol of all that your love embodies. ♥

Steve Haywood is a master jeweller, based in Whangarei, who specialises in custom made jewellery. With a passion for quality and true inspiration, Steve creates beautiful and meaningful wedding and engagement rings, as well as exquisite pendants and other jewellery.
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