

WHEN TO WEAR DIAMONDS

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THERE IS something singularly fascinating about a diamond. Its perfect clearness, the number of colors that lurk in it and that are brought out wonderfully by the gas light, its absolute look of purity, and its sharp, fine cutting all tend to make it the most beautiful of stones.

When a woman is asked the kind of

ring, or brooch, or bracelet she desires, she is apt to say "A diamond one." And unless she has a great many jewels this is a wise choice, for the diamond may be worn many times when the colored gems are in bad taste. Americans have been laughed at very much for wearing their diamonds at all times and in all places, but I think the woman of good taste and refined feelings realizes when and where she shall wear her jewels.

Diamonds should not be worn in the morning ever.

They should not be worn when a simple visit is paid before two o'clock.

They should not be worn when one is doing charitable work.

They should not be worn where they are likely to attract so much attention that they will cause envy and heart-burnings.

They should not be worn in profusion with any street toilet, although a small brooch, a pair of solitaire ear-rings and a ring which is concealed by the glove, are frequently noticed on refined women.

They should not be worn in bathing; this sounds a little odd, but as they have been seen in such places somebody evidently needs to be given a word or two about them.

They should not be worn to any extent, even in the evening, at places of amusement.

They should never be seen on children.

They should not be worn by people who are in mourning.

They should not be worn unless one's gown is in harmony with them, for a soiled, mussed costume and a profusion of diamonds is a very bad combination.

They should not be worn by men.

They should not be worn at all unless they are real, unless they are properly set, and unless they are suited to the wearer.

Enormous ear-rings, pulling down the lobes of the ear, are the essence of vulgarity. Enormous pins that look like electric lights are in equally bad taste.

Choose your diamonds for their clearness and perfection of cut rather than their size, and wear them, not as did the young lady who roved all over Ireland covered with gems, unless indeed it is in the evening when the soft light is upon you and you can feel as did the poet who described her, that your beauty is far beyond your sparkling gems.