

## Bold and Unique: Top 2008 Jewelry Trends

The top jewelry trends for 2008 call for less, but the key ingredient for fashionistas is bold and unique pieces. For those who like to draw a bit of attention, think show-stopper pieces that make a statement and are gem-intensive.

Galas and parties this season will sparkle with socialites wearing larger, signature pieces for the classic "Grace Kelly" look. Women who want to copy the same look should invest in a stunning cuff bracelet or bold ring. While past seasons have focused on the bling, the 2008 season focuses on color. Choose jewels and stones in bright colors and exotic settings.

Always a favorite accessory, right hand rings (formerly known as "cocktail rings") are not only show-stopping pieces, they match perfectly with well manicured hands. Wearers can choose from a dazzling array of styles. Check out rings set with stones such as turquoise, lapis or jade. Group several smaller rings together or wear one for a bold statement.

Gemstones are on the trend menu this season, favoring shades of blue such as aquamarine blue topaz, sapphire, and tanzanite. For those who find tanzanite is a bit out of their budget, try the lovely iolite. While blue rules the season, gemstones in all colors are incorporated into necklaces, bracelets and earrings. Favorites include shades of purple and pink - amethyst and pink topaz or their cubic zirconia sisters. Other popular gemstones this season are peridot and opal. Lapis lazuli and moonstones are also being seen on a variety of jewelry designs.

Ethnic influences remain strong in jewelry trends for 2008 and range from Oriental-inspired to Egyptian elements. Jewelry wearers looking to stand out should look for a big brooch or pendant adorned with an exotic animal or ethnic design with colors like turquoise against gold. For a more classic look, heart motifs are a popular choice for a simple pendant look. Pendants made of a favorite stone or symbol with special meaning are also being worn on cords and chains. Classic pendants work well with spring and summer's more detailed, showy clothing.

The Annual Grammy Awards are also a great indicator of what's hot, not only in fashion but in accessories as well. Celebrities this year were decked out in diamonds - from Alicia Keys' 18K yellow gold set with rough diamonds in a medley of colors to Natalie Cole's stunning diamond drop earrings. All that glitters was diamonds for the gala event. In addition, stacked bracelets continue to be a hit and Tia Carrere wore the trend beautifully with a set of diamond and gold bracelets by Judith Ripka. Meanwhile, bold rings in gold and diamonds were sported by Alicia Keyes and Giuliana Rancic and Tia Carrere.

One of the guiding principles for wearing jewelry is choosing pieces that convey the personality and uniqueness of the wearer. Jewelry lines with modular beads capture the imagination of women who want to create their own style for every whim or special moment. Look for handmade Danish designs in sterling silver and 14K gold. Some of these bead collections include colorful precious stones and cultured pearls, keeping in line with 2008's colorful display. With hundreds of beads and matching jewelry from which to choose, bracelet and jewelry wearers have an endless array of combinations from which to create their signature pieces.

## About the Author

Lewis Jewelers is proud to carry the full line of [Pandora Jewelry](#). Pandora bracelets, Pandora charms and Pandora beads are only a part of the collection. For more information, Lewis Jewelers, 2000 West Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48103, 877-88-LEWIS or visit the website.

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