



Item # 400-003

TESTING FOR GOLD

First remove any protective coating



Scratch the piece to be tested over the surface of the black stone, press well so as to leave a visible deposit, preferably a line of 1" long. For the most accurate testing it is recommended that the user becomes familiar with comparative testing using standard gold testing needles. For highest sensitivity place a scratch line with a gold test needle next to the scratch line of the metal you are testing. Compare the speed at which the scratches dissolve. If the test scratch dissolves more quickly than the needle scratch, it is a lower karat than the needle.

Transfer a drop of the 10K solution to the scratch made. If the solution dissolves the scratch on the stone. It means the object is less than 10K gold or not gold at all. If the solution leaves the scratch intact, it means the object being tested is 10K or greater than 10K.

The scratching and testing is repeated with the 14K solution. If the Solution dissolves the scratch on the stone, it means the object is less than 14K gold (if the scratch dissolves slowly and leaves rusty color particles, it is probably 12k gold). If the solution leaves the scratch intact, it means the object being tested is 14K or greater than 14K. (CAUTION: Many objects are marked 14K, but were fabricated prior to 1982 when it was legal to mark items 14K, but in reality the gold was 13.5K. When testing 13.5K gold, the 14K solution will not dissolve the scratch, but it will make it lose its brightness and it will turn it into a yellow-rusty color).

The scratching and testing is repeated with the 18K solution and the 22K solution (if available) until the karat of the object is determined.

Remember that when the solution being used dissolves the scratch slowly and leaves rusty color particles it is probably two karats lower than the solution being used.

On items of heavy weight and volume such as chains, coins, etc, where plating could hide the true metal, it is recommended that a deep notch in the test piece be made and the testing be made with the metal inside the piece

Note: when you use any of these solutions, there's a possibility that the gold test sample scratch dissolves gradually and leaves behind rusty-colored particles. When this occurs, it signifies that the gold sample is most likely 2k less than the solution value that you use.