What is forging?

Goldsmithing Techniques · https://www.purejewels.com/faqs/goldsmithing-techniques/what-is-forging/

Before a piece of jewellery sparkles in the light, it begins its life as a piece of raw metal, shaped not just by tools, but by human touch, pressure, and tradition. One of the oldest and most revered techniques in jewellery making is **forging**.

At **PureJewels**, where fine gold meets time-honoured skill, **forging** is more than a method; it’s a symbol of strength, intention, and authenticity.

Forging Defined: Shaping Through Force

Forging is the process of **shaping metal using compressive force**, often with hammers or presses, while the metal is heated or cold-worked. Unlike casting, where metal is melted and poured, forging **preserves the grain structure of the metal**, making it stronger and more durable.

In jewellery, forging is commonly used to:

- Create **solid bangles and bracelets**
- Form **ring bands and wire shapes**
- Craft **custom textures or finishes**
- Strengthen delicate components

Types of Forging in Jewellery

1. **Cold Forging**: Shaping metal without heat, used for light adjustments, texturing, and minimal deformation.
2. **Hot Forging**: Heating the metal until it's malleable, then hammering it into a form ideal for thicker, purer metals like **22ct gold**.

Forging and Gold Purity

Higher-purity gold, like **22ct**, is naturally soft and lends itself beautifully to hand-forging. At **PureJewels**, many of our traditional bangles and bespoke bridal pieces are **hand-forged by master artisans**, a testament to both heritage and skill.

The forging process ensures:

- Greater **density** (less porosity)
- **Longer-lasting structure**
- A tactile, artisanal feel, each strike of the hammer adds character

Why is Forging Important in Jewellery?

- **Enhanced Strength**: Forged metals are stronger and more wear-resistant.
- **Artisanal Finish**: It adds a hand-crafted feel that can't be replicated by casting alone.
- **Custom Sizing & Fit**: Forged pieces can be finely adjusted for comfort and fit.
- **Sustainable**: Forging is ideal for **reworking heirloom gold** into new forms.

Forged vs Cast Jewellery – What's the Difference?

Feature	Forged Jewellery	Cast Jewellery
Made By	Hammering and shaping	Pouring molten metal into a mould
Strength	Higher	Moderate
Finish	Organic, textured	Smooth, defined
Ideal For	Bangles, rings, custom designs	Replicated pieces, detailed shapes

At PureJewels, we proudly offer both techniques, honouring the legacy of forging while embracing the precision of casting where appropriate.

Final Thoughts: A Testament to the Maker's Hand

Forging is one of the **purest forms of metalwork**, a direct interaction between the jeweller and the gold. It speaks of tradition, resilience, and a deep respect for the material.

At **PureJewels**, every forged piece carries a story: of heritage, of craft, and of the hands that shaped it. Whether it's a solid gold bangle, a bespoke ring, or a family heirloom reborn, forging brings jewellery to life with meaning and strength.