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INSTRUCTIONS FOR METAL TEST SET

No. 450-217

WARNING: USE EXTREME CARE IN HANDLING GOLD AND SILVER TESTING SOLUTIONS, FOR THEY ARE CORROSIVE ACIDS. IN CASE OF SKIN CONTACT, FLUSH WITH LARGE AMOUNTS OF WATER. THEN TREAT AFFECTED AREA WITH SODIUM BICARBONATE OR BAKING SODA. IF SWALLOWED, CONTACT A PHYSICIAN OR HOSPITAL AT ONCE. IN CASE OF SPILLS, TREAT WITH WATER AND THEN SODIUM BICARBONATE OR BAKING SODA.

Testing Gold

1. Drag the piece of metal to be tested over the surface of a test stone. Press firmly so as to leave a visible deposit, preferably a line 1"-1¹/₂" long.
2. Place a drop of the 10K testing solution on the scratch on the test stone. If the solution dissolves the scratch on the stone, it means that the object is less than 10K or not gold at all. If the solution leaves the scratch intact, it means the object being tested is 10K or greater. If this is the case, move on to the next step.
3. Make another scratch on the test stone and place a drop of the 14K test solution on the scratch. If the solution dissolves the scratch on the stone, the object being tested is less than 14K gold. (*If the scratch dissolves slowly and leaves rusty colored particles, it is probably 12K gold.*) If the solution leaves the scratch intact, the object is 14K or greater. *NOTE: objects fabricated before 1982 and marked 14K may actually be 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.*
4. Repeat step 3 with both the 18K and 22K test solutions until the karat of the object is determined. *When the solution dissolves the scratch slowly and leaves rusty particles, it is probably two karats lower than the solution being used.*
5. For greater accuracy, make a scratch on your test stone with a gold test needle of the karat you believe your test object to be and place a drop of the same karat test solution on the scratch. Compare this reaction to that of the scratch made with the test object. If the reaction is the same, the karat is the same.
6. If you believe that the object being tested has been electro-plated, it is recommended that a deep notch be made in the test piece and the testing solution be placed directly in this notch.

Testing Silver

1. Drag the piece of metal to be tested over the surface of a test stone. Press firmly so as to leave a visible deposit, preferably a line 1"-1¹/₂" long.
2. With a glass dropping rod, transfer a drop of silver solution to the scratch made. The color reaction of the solution with the metal scratch will be as follows: (*be sure to take into consideration that the background of the test stone is black*)

Bright Red	Fine Silver (.999)
Dark Red	Sterling Silver (.925)
Brown	Silver 800
Green	Silver 500

3. With the silver solution, it is possible to test directly on the piece, however, the solution will dull the piece, and leave a mark.