

Buyer Beware Tips for Buying Antique & Vintage Jewelry Online

By Danielle Olivia Tefft



<http://danielleolivatefftwrites.com/found-in-the-jewelry-box-blog.html>

1. ***Beware*** a listing claiming the item is “rare.” *Horse-puckey!* Do a Google search of the item title. I bet you’ll come up with at least three if not more similar items. Remember: online, your market is world-wide! Hardly anything is rare these days. Don’t pay extra because of this claim.
2. ***Beware*** listings claiming real pearls or real opals. These gems are ultra-easy to fake and often are! So get the seller to guarantee they are real if they truly are! How do you tell if you have a real pearl? Check out my post:
<http://danielleolivatefftwrites.com/found-in-the-jewelry-box-blog/how-to-tell-if-pearls-are-real-or-fake>
3. ***Beware*** when a listing claims the item is Victorian AND Art Deco! The Victorian period spanned from 1837-1901. The Art Deco period spanned from 1920-1930. If a listing claims to be both-suspect everything about it!
4. ***Beware*** a listing that gives you the total weight for a gold filled (G.F.) or gold plated (G.E., HGE, RGP, etc.) item. (Gold filled pieces are typically marked on back, '1/20 12K gold filled'. Sometimes they have 14K instead of 12K.) To be fair, genuine gold filled pieces are higher quality than gold plated pieces because by law, they must contain a minimum of 5% gold, which is not much, in my opinion! But there is so little gold in gold plated items compared to base metal weight that the total weight of a gold plated item is irrelevant!

5. ***Beware*** a listing that says the stone is CZ (cubic Zirconia) and was made prior to the 1970s. CZ was not available to the public until then! For more info check out my post:

<http://danielleolivatefftwrites.com/found-in-the-jewelry-box-blog/pre-1970s-vintage-costume-jewelry-does-not-contain-cubic-zirconia>

Note: Dear Readers,

Please Do Check Back for Updates As I will Add to this List from Time to Time!