

The Jewellers Toolkit a guide to manufacturing



Introduction

Welcome to the Jewellers Toolkit.

This Toolkit was conceived as a direct outcome of the successful delivery of the Jewellery Connections project in 2011. The Jewellery Connections Project took place across London and was designed to encourage collaboration and innovation within the jewellery sector. The aim of the project was to bring together designers and manufacturers, and by introduction, create new and exciting products and services through innovation, education and collaboration.

The project was open to jewellery designers, jewellers, designer/makers, manufacturers and related trades who were based in and around London's Hatton Garden. The project brought many facets of the industry together in a collaboration, which resulted in new ways of working for both designers and manufacturers.

The Jewellery Connections Project ended in September 2011, after seeing 90 participants make positive collaborations and forge new working relationships with exciting results.

This Toolkit is aimed at being a legacy of the project.

The benefit of experience

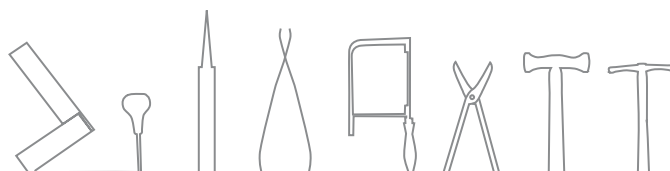
The Jewellery Connections Project recognised the gap in knowledge between manufacturers and designers. Each specialism owns its expertise and the project was aimed at marrying technical and manufacturing knowledge with the creative aspect of design in order to support the development of new product lines. As a result, product development issues were resolved and support was provided to form the creation of new services and processes for the jewellery sector.

After working with over 90 jewellery businesses which all spanned these different areas of industry, it became apparent that the Project should record what its participants had learnt from these collaborations throughout the year in which the project ran, for the benefit of the wider trade and industry as a legacy.

Why a toolkit?

The aim of this document is to provide the reader with an easy to use guide for how to approach outsourcing your business' manufacturing requirements in relation to business requirements.

This Toolkit sets down the different areas of specific technical needs, which a modern jewellery business will deal with on a day-to-day basis.



This toolkit will give the jeweller the tools and information to understand and consider their manufacturing needs, and also help them prepare for and understand the process involved in commissioning someone else to produce their work.

About this toolkit

The Toolkit is made up of 10 fact sheets to guide you through specific manufacturing processes, which incorporate traditional manufacturing processes, but also more hi-tech solutions which use technology and computer aided design and manufacture. These include:

01 Getting your work made

An explanation of the decisions you might have to make in order to start outsourcing, the pros and cons of doing so, and guidance on which method is best to use

02 Approaching a manufacturer

This fact sheet tells you how to go about the commissioning process, what questions you should ask, and importantly what you should know before you go along to discuss your requirements

03 Bench jeweller

The tool kit guides you through why you should consider using someone else to help manufacture your work. In this fact sheet you will learn the pros and cons

04 Master pattern making

A small run, batch production or mass manufacture? Confused? The toolkit explains what is best for your needs

05 Wax carving

Why use a wax carver? The toolkit explains the process

06 Lost wax casting

Confused about the casting process? Read this fact sheet which will demystify the process

07 Engraving

Engraving can add value to your work. This factsheet explains how

08 CAD

There are many perceived difficulties in using CAD, this fact sheet simplifies the process into understandable language

09 Rapid prototyping

If you are using CAD CAM, RP is an option for manufacture. Read more to learn how to use it as a resource in your toolkit

10 Laser welding

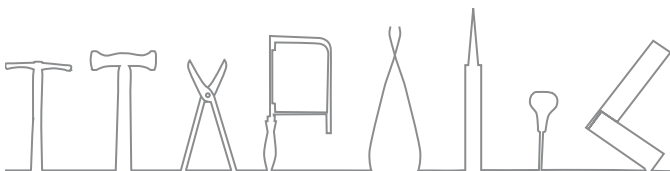
Laser welding can revolutionise working practices. The Toolkit explains more

11 Technical drawing

This fact sheet gives you an example of a simple way of laying out a technical drawing for a manufacturer

12 Purchase order form

This fact sheet contains a form that will give you a template you can customise for your own business



How to use this toolkit

The toolkit has been designed to be used in two different ways.

The first, as a complete guide to sourcing, commissioning and using a specialist manufacturer. The toolkit will equip you with the understanding of what to expect during the process of getting work manufactured through the outsourcing process.

The second, as a series of individual factsheets which can be used independently as a specialist fact sheet on a single manufacturing subject, according to the readers' needs.

The toolkit has embedded links throughout the fact sheets. If you want to refer to a process mentioned in one fact sheet which is detailed in another simply use the dynamic links to take you there.

"I was not aware of how much value I can add to my products and how much time I can save by working with others"

