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Nov. 9, 2009 - [PRLog](#) -- Over 40,000 years ago, the Cro-Magnons showed the first signs of jewelry with pieces such as crude necklaces and bracelets made of bone, teeth, and stone hung on pieces of string or bone. Jewelry from this time period was also found to have been crafted using shell or mother-of-pearl pieces.

In Southern Russia, bracelets that were carved using mammoth tusks have been found. Many pieces of ancient jewelry were commonly found as grave-goods, which are items that were buried or preserved along with the deceased, often serving as offerings to the gods.

Around 3,000 to 5,000 years ago, the first signs of jewelry making were prevalent in Ancient Egypt. The Egyptians most commonly worked with gold, for its luxury, rarity and workability. Wealthy Egyptians adorned gold jewelry in their life and death, as sterling silver jewelry was often placed among grave goods.

Besides gold and silver, and in place of precious gems, the Egyptians also used colored glass to design silver jewelry.

Jewelry making was also prevalent through Asia, starting in China over 5,000 years ago. Asian jewelry was decorative, religion-oriented, and used mainly in ceremonies. Also in Asia, India has the longest continual heritage of jewelry making in the entire world.

In ancient Mesopotamia jewelry making had taken over as a predominant role in the cities of Sumer and Akkad. The Royal Cemetery of Ur serves as the most significant archaeological evidence to date. Home to hundreds of burials dating 2900-2300 BC, the cemetery contained a massive quantity of artifacts in gold, silver, and semi-precious stones.

Greek and Roman jewelry date back to beads that were shaped into shells and animals. In later years, around 1400 BC, both civilizations started using gold and gems in their sterling silver jewelry. The main purpose of jewelry to the Greeks and Romans was to ward off evil spirits and the "Evil eye" given by other people. While Greek men and women rarely wore jewelry (it was mostly worn for public appearances or on special occasions), Roman men and women dressed themselves in a considerable amount of 925 silver jewelry wholesale. Both Roman men and women wore rings with a carved stone on it, used with wax to seal documents. This act would carry well into medieval times when kings and noblemen used the same technique.

The history of jewelry carries on throughout several civilizations post the fall of the Roman Empire. Unique jewelry designs and uses paved its way throughout the Middle Ages, and the eras of the Renaissance, Romanticism, Art Nouveau, and Art Deco. Jewelry also played a major role in American history, with the Native Americans, the Spanish discovery of gold, the modern jewelry movement, and more.

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