



GIA
PEARL SPECIES & LOCALITIES
LEGEND

SYMBOL	PEARL SPECIES	GROWTH
①	<i>Amblema plicata</i>	Natural
⑧	<i>Argopecten purpuratus</i>	Natural
⑤	<i>Cassia madagascarensis</i>	Natural
●	<i>Cristaria plicata</i>	Cultured
◐	<i>Cyrtornais tampicoensis</i>	Natural
②	<i>Haliotis fulgens</i>	Natural
⑨	<i>Haliotis iris</i>	Natural & Cultured
⑥	<i>Haliotis rufescens</i>	Natural
○	<i>Hyriopsis cumingi</i>	Cultured
■	<i>Hyriopsis schlegeli</i>	Cultured
③	<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>	Natural
⑩	<i>Melo aethiopica</i>	Natural
⑦	<i>Melo amphora</i>	Natural
◆	<i>Melo broderipii</i>	Natural
□	<i>Melo georginae</i>	Natural
④	<i>Melo melo</i>	Natural
①	<i>Mercenaria mercenaria</i>	Natural
⑧	<i>Nodipecten nodosus</i>	Natural
◐	<i>Nodipecten subnodosus</i>	Natural
◑	<i>Pinctada fucata</i>	Natural & Cultured
⑤	<i>Pinctada imbricata</i>	Natural
②	<i>Pinctada maculata</i>	Natural
⑨	<i>Pinctada margaritifera</i>	Natural & Cultured
◐◑	<i>Pinctada maxima</i>	Natural & Cultured
◑	<i>Pinctada mazatlanica</i>	Natural & Cultured
⑥	<i>Pinctada radiata</i>	Natural
③	<i>Pinna nobilis</i>	Natural
⑩	<i>Pleuroploca gigantea</i>	Natural
◐	<i>Potamilis purpuratus</i>	Natural
◑	<i>Pteria penguin</i>	Natural & Cultured
⑦	<i>Pteria sterna</i>	Natural
◆	<i>Strombus gigas</i>	Natural
④	<i>Tridacna gigas</i>	Natural

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DEFINITIONS
KEY

SHAPE	COLOR	SURFACE CONT.
The three main categories of shape are spherical, symmetrical, and baroque. The seven standard shapes fall within one category or another. Pearls not falling into these groupings are described as they appear. For example, bar or cross. The shape of a pearl can be modified by faceting or the presence of circles. ROUND No variations are apparent to the unaided eye. NEAR-ROUND Slightly elongated or flattened. Only minor variations are apparent to the unaided eye. OVAL Appear symmetrical, rounded, and oblong. BUTTON Appear symmetrical, rounded, and flattened. DROP Appear symmetrical, rounded, and pear shaped. SEMI-BAROQUE Appear not quite symmetrical; off-round and/or slightly irregular drop, button, or oval shaped. BAROQUE Appear to have no apparent symmetry; irregular in shape. OTHER Any non-standard shape. For example: bar, cross, coin. CIRCLED (Modifier) One or more grooved or ridged rings around the circumference of any shape pearl. If the grooves extend around the entire circumference of the pearl, it is described as a circled pearl. Use the shape category and the circled modifier. For example: Circled oval.	The overall color of a pearl is called bodycolor. This bodycolor can have individual overlying translucent color(s) called overtone. Multiple overlying colors or surface iridescence is called orient, which can be present as well. Pearls can be treated to enhance their color and/or overtone. Common treatments include dye, irradiation, and coating. Note: Red is referred to as Pink when describing bodycolor in pearls. LUSTER Luster is the intensity of light reflected from the surface of the pearl. EXCELLENT Reflections appear bright and sharp. VERY GOOD Reflections appear bright and near sharp. GOOD Reflections are bright but not sharp. FAIR Reflections are weak and blurred. POOR Reflections are dim and diffused. SURFACE There are many types of characteristics and/or irregularities usually confined to the pearl's surface. These can affect appearance or durability or both. When classifying mounted items, the Surface description/ designated classification term will be preceded by the term "Face" to indicate that only the visible surface area has been assessed. CLEAN Pearl(s) might have minute surface characteristics that are difficult to see. LIGHTLY SPOTTED Have only minor surface irregularities visible. MODERATELY SPOTTED Have noticeable surface characteristics.	HEAVILY SPOTTED Have obvious surface irregularities that might affect durability. NACRE THICKNESS Nacre quality is related to durability and luster. If the nacre is too thin, the Bead Nucleus might be visible. Thick nacre does not guarantee a lustrous appearance. Nacre thickness will be expressed as an average measurement in millimeters with a comment describing the normal range of nacre thickness for the given variety of pearl/mollusk. In cases of extremely thin or poor quality nacre a further statement is made in the comments section of the report. MATCHING Matching describes the uniformity of pearls in jewelry. It is judged by the consistency of size, shape, color, luster, surface quality, and nacre quality. For pearls that are intentionally mismatched, harmonious design and balanced effect are also considered applicable factors. EXCELLENT Most to all pearls have a uniform appearance and are drilled on-center. VERY GOOD Most to all pearls have only very minor variations in uniformity. GOOD Most to all pearls have only minor variations in uniformity. FAIR Most to all pearls have noticeable variations in uniformity. POOR Most to all pearls have very noticeable variations in uniformity. NOT APPLICABLE N/A when describing single pearls and certain intentionally mismatched items.



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