

# Jewelry NEWS & VIEWS

brought to you by  
**HOUSTON**  
**JEWELRY**  
*& Fine Gifts*

WORLD OF  
 COLORFUL  
 GEMSTONES



Visit the Friendly Staff  
 at Houston Jewelry

## Did You Know?

The 2015 fringe clothing rage continues into 2016 with a modern twist, or should we say tassel? New jewelry designs will mimic the craze and feature various length, multi-strand, vertical and zigzag tassels. Tassels will be seen swinging from necklaces to ear climbers and ear cuffs.

This year there is a new fringe jewelry design for anyone's taste. Some will lend a touch of edginess, others offer a softer and fluttery look, while most tend to freshen-up the trend of antique, vintage, or estate accessories.

### January Birthstone

**Garnet.** Traditionally regarded as the gem offering constancy, faith, and truth for those of January birth. The diversity of color and appearance places garnets among gemology's most alluring subjects.

MASTER **IJO** JEWELER  
 BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

## The 4 C's Of Colored Gems... Different From The 4C's Of Diamonds

**D**iamonds are usually judged on their Cut, Color, Clarity, and Carat Weight ... the 4 C's that determine the quality and value of these precious gems. With diamonds, Cut is most important, next is Color, then Clarity, and finally Carat weight. But with colored gems, the order of importance of the 4 C's is very different, with Color most important, Cut next, then Clarity, and finally Carat Weight. Here's why:

**Color:** As a rule, the closer a gem comes to the pure spectral hue of a color, with no strong undertone of any other color, the better it is. Evenness of color and complete saturation of color are also important in determining value. Equally critical is the intensity of color,

its brightness or vividness, and the depth of color, either light or dark.

**Cut:** How a colored gem is

cut affects both the depth of color seen in the stone and the liveliness it projects. If a stone's color is too dark, the cut may be too thick. If color is too light, the cut may be too shallow. Certain cuts and shapes may also be wrong for certain stones.

**Clarity:** As with diamonds, clarity refers to the absence of internal marks or inclusions. Good clarity is more important in light colored gems than in darker ones. Most colored gems are not totally flawless, but if flaws reduce durability, affect color, or are easily noticed, they will reduce value.

**Carat Weight:** Remember that "carat" is a weight, not a size. And some colored gems weigh more than others. For example, a 1-carat ruby appears to weigh less than a 1-carat emerald, so the emerald will look larger than the same weight ruby.



BIRTHSTONE OF THE MONTH:

Garnet



HOUSTON  
**JEWELRY**  
*& Fine Gifts*

9521 Westheimer ■ (713) 784-1000  
 www.HoustonJewelry.com

Houston's exclusive Master IJO Jeweler