Requirements for the Different Categories of Jewelry

Children’s Jewelry (children are defined as age 6 and older) -- must be made from one or more of the following:

1. A nonmetallic material that is a class 1* material and that does not otherwise violate the requirements of paragraph (4).
2. A nonmetallic material that is a class 2* material.
3. A metallic material that is either a class 1 material or contains less than 0.06 percent (600 parts per million) lead by weight.
4. Glass or crystal decorative components that weigh in total no more than one gram, excluding any glass or crystal decorative component that contains less than 0.02 percent (200 parts per million) lead by weight and has no intentionally added lead.
5. Printing ink or ceramic glaze that contains less than 0.06 percent (600 parts per million) lead by weight.
6. Class 3* material that contains less than 0.02 percent (200 parts per million) lead by weight.

In addition, California law restricts the amount/level of cadmium in children’s jewelry.

Body-Piercing Jewelry (the component of jewelry that is placed in a new piercing or a mucous membrane) -- must be made from one or more of the following:

1. Surgical implant stainless steel.
2. Surgical implant grade of titanium.
3. Niobium (Nb).
4. Solid 14 karat or higher white or yellow nickel-free gold.
5. Solid platinum.
6. A dense low-porosity plastic, including, but not limited to, Tygon or Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), if the plastic contains no intentionally added lead.

All Other Jewelry -- must be made from Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 materials, or a combination thereof.

*For classes of materials, see the [Types of Materials] Web page.