Turn into a Sleuth Before You Shop Engagement Rings by Alexandra Gulkin

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Understandably, most men never even think about the intricacies of Engagement Rings until the time comes. But if that time is near for you, it's time for you to begin doing some snooping before you go shopping. The best way to pick out her diamond engagement ring is to let her do it. This way, you know she'll like it. But, if you're still trying to go for that element of surprise, there's some information you need to find out ahead of time.

â€¢ Her Ring Size - Yes, that sounds basic enough, but you'd be surprised how many men have no idea what size ring she wears. Asking her won't help much either as most women don't know their size either. The best bet is to sneak one of her less often worn rings out of her jewelry box and to the store with you, so that a salesman can help you figure out the correct size. The last thing you want to do is give her a ring, have her say yes and it not fit.

â€¢ Color of Jewelry - Take note of what color jewelry she currently wears the most. Is she a yellow gold kind of gal or does she sparkle more with the silver/white gold/platinum styles? If you never see her in yellow gold, don't make her engagement ring the first piece in that color.

â€¢ Style of Jewelry - Does she like the vintage look or does she prefer the bold striking look? A lot of what she prefers probably depends on the size of her hands. A woman with long fingers can pull of a big bold ring a lot better than a woman with shorter fingers. The same holds true for the shape of the engagement diamond. A marquis or oval shape help elongate the fingers, giving shorter fingers a more elegant feel to them. Wide bands on the engagement or wedding rings make the fingers look shorter, so think about how well proportioned the ring will be in comparison to her hand.

â€¢ Consider Her Occupation - While bigger seems like it would be better, consider her lifestyle and occupation before you choose the diamond. A large diamond that sticks out may snag on the work she does. If this is a consideration, take a look at the diamond cluster engagement rings or bands that have diamonds set inside the band.

There's a lot of information to scrounge around for before you go shopping. But scouring around for the 411 on her likes, dislikes and preferences will pay off when she's bedazzled by the ring and diamond that you pick out for her.

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Alexandra Gulkin is a reporter, writer and columnist in the jewelry industry. She is celebrated for her real-time coverage of trade shows, jewelry trends in a cheap engagement rings, gemstones, events and secrets on where to find the highest quality a engagement rings.

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