



NATURAL PEARL IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Four pearls in a white metal necklace stamped "Pt." and set with numerous transparent near-colorless round brilliants and single cuts.

Quantity: **4**
Weight: **47.70 grams (gross)**
Measurement: **Ranging from 10.77 x 9.40 mm to 5.27 mm (some measurements inaccessible due to mounting)**
Drilling: **Partially drilled**

IDENTIFICATION

Pearl(s): **Natural pearls**
Environment: **Saltwater**
Mollusk: **Pinctada species**
Treatments: **Worked**

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shape: **Drop and near-round**
Bodycolor: **White**
Overtone: **None**
Luster: **N/A**
Surface: **N/A**
Nacre Thickness: **N/A**
Matching: **N/A**

GIA LUSTER

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

POOR

GIA SURFACE

CLEAN

LIGHTLY SPOTTED

MODERATELY SPOTTED

HEAVILY SPOTTED

GIA MATCHING

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

POOR

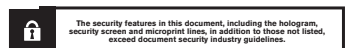
COMMENTS

**Pearls described insofar as mounting permits observation.
Pearl 1 has been polished.**



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PEARLS, NATURAL, CULTURED AND IMITATION

Natural Pearls: Natural pearls are formations secreted accidentally in the interior of a variety of seawater and freshwater mollusks, without the aid of any human agency. They are composed of an organic substance (a scleroprotein named conchiolin) and of calcium carbonate (usually in the form of aragonite but on occasion as calcite) arranged in concentric layers. The calcium carbonate forming the surface layers is normally arranged as partially overlapping platelets and the term used to describe this structure is “nacre.” Conch, melo, clam, scallop, some pen, and similar other varieties of natural pearls do not have a nacreous surface – they are “non-nacreous.” Non-nacreous pearls have surface appearances that vary from an appearance often described as a “flame structure” to mosaic-like or segmented patterns.

Cultured Pearls: Cultured pearls are nacreous formations secreted in the interior of productive mollusks following human intervention. The mollusks may be grown in farms. Technicians implant a piece of mantle tissue (to grow the “pearl sac”) with a shell bead to produce the “beaded” cultured pearl, or a piece of mantle tissue alone for the “non-beaded” cultured pearl. Both the beaded and the non-beaded varieties may be grown in either freshwater or saltwater. However, for the most part the beaded variety is produced in saltwater and the non-beaded in freshwater. Note: in Europe and some other parts of the world non-beaded cultured pearls are known as “non-nucleated cultured pearls” to differentiate them from the beaded variety. Other varieties of cultured pearls include “cultured three-quarter pearls,” “cultured half-pearls” and “composite cultured pearls.”

Imitation Pearls: Imitation pearls are products, completely or partially manmade, imitating the appearance, color, and effect of natural or cultured pearls without possessing their physical or chemical properties. Imitation pearls are any product that is pearl-like in appearance and its outer layers are not completely composed of natural formations secreted in the interior of productive mollusks.

Treatments: Following harvest, cultured pearls grown in the Akoya pearl oyster (*Pinctada fucata*) are normally bleached to improve their appearance. However, while this is not usually the case for white cultured pearls grown in the large gold or silver-lipped pearl oyster (*Pinctada maxima*) a few black cultured pearls produced by the black-lipped pearl oyster (*Pinctada margaritifera*) are bleached to a brown color. Some cultured pearls from the gold-lipped *Pinctada maxima* may have been heated to improve their color. Often cultured pearls and some natural pearls are polished to improve their appearance. It is possible for all varieties of cultured pearls to be either dyed or irradiated to change their color, and some may be coated. Some natural pearls may also be dyed (particularly to produce black) and hollow natural pearls may be filled with various substances to increase their weight and make them less liable to damage. Both natural and cultured pearls may be “worked” or “peeled” to improve their shape and/or surface appearance. Composite cultured pearls are filled with various substances and capped with a shell base. If detectable, all treatments will be noted in the body of this Report.

Weight: Through tradition several units of weight are used to describe the mass of natural and cultured pearls. In general for natural pearls the “pearl grain” is used (one grain = 1/4 carat = 50 milligrams = 1/20 gram), while for cultured pearls either the “carat” (one carat = 4 grains = 200 milligrams = 1/5 gram) or the “momme” (one momme = 18.75 carats = 3750 milligrams = 3.75 grams) is used. In addition when describing necklaces or items of jewelry that contain pearls in these Reports, the gross weight (of the whole item including metal and/or gem materials) in grams is used.

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