

MY BENCH

Jade Pfeiffer

WORKS AT:

Peter W Beck

AGE: 35

YEARS IN TRADE: 14

TRAINING: Studied a bachelor of visual arts and a Certificate 4 in Jewellery

FIRST JOB: Lone Star Steakhouse

Favourite gemstone:

Diamonds. I can't go past the sparkle, and never get tired of both looking at and working with them.

Favourite metal:

I have two. I really like working with 18-carat white gold because it cleans up nicely and always looks beautiful as a finished piece. But I also like working with 9-carat yellow gold when I'm starting a piece from scratch.

Best part of job:

I've been fortunate to be involved in many different areas of the trade. There are always new techniques to learn and develop.

Worst part of job:

Black fingers and fingernails from polishing.

Best tip from a jeweller:

Treat an engraver for bright cutting and hand engraving "like an aeroplane landing" – smooth and gliding across the surface of the metal, not straight down, digging it out.

Best tip to a jeweller:

The devil is in the detail – do not overlook any part of the process.

My bench is always:

Immaculately organised as then I know where everything is. I can't work in chaos!

Favourite sports team:

Hmm ... I don't follow any sport. I like Zumba though!

