

my bench

Simon Grew

WORKS AT:

Grew & Co, Sydney

AGE: 36

YEARS IN TRADE: 18

TRAINING: Apprenticeship, completed 2000

FIRST JOB: RJ & CR Pinn

Favourite metal:

Tantalum. I love its colour, rarity and unusual working characteristics. It's kind of like platinum's evil twin.

Favourite gemstone:

Pearls. They're perfect as they're formed ... until we drill them full of holes.

Favourite tool:

My GraverMax.

Best new tool discovery:

Carbide gravers. They cut metal like butter and generally make the world a brighter place.

Best part of job:

Knowing the work I create day in, day out has the potential to last generations.

Worst part of job:

Obsessing over minute details.

Top tip from a jeweller:

"Figure it out."

Top tip to a jeweller:

Every day and every job makes you a better jeweller. Approach each repair, make and customer with this mentality and you will become the best craftsman you can be.

My bench is always:

Messy, as I often have to go from one job to the next very quickly. Although I try to keep order among the chaos, a thorough once-a-year cleaning is a rejuvenating experience.

Favourite sport:

Chess boxing (yes it exists!).

