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# SALT AND PEPPER TRAINING MANUAL

Call us for any special-order requests or custom Salt and Pepper Orders

# What are Salt and Pepper Diamonds?

- Salt and Pepper Diamonds are natural mined diamonds that have natural striations and peppering throughout the diamond
- These stones come in a variety of colors
  - The most prevalent and popular are those of the grey variety
- Salt and pepper diamonds can be diamond slices or full cut
  - Salt and Pepper Diamond slices give a similar (if not the same) look as a full cut salt and pepper diamond at a fraction of the cost
  - Aiya Designs creates styles that give the illusion of a full cut salt and pepper center when the center stone is a slice

#### Modern Spin on a Classic Concept

- Diamond engagement rings have been traditional for years now
  - Salt and Pepper rings take that traditional concept and turn it on its head – fusing traditional with innovative
    - Think retro modern
  - The center is still a diamond just not the traditional flawless diamond to which we have become accustomed
- These rings can be sold as right-hand fashion rings as well as engagement rings
  - Often (but not always) 'which' boils down to demographics
    - Millennials often buy S&P rings as engagement rings
    - Non-millennials often buy them as right hand rings
    - This is not a hard and fast rule, don't make assumptions and cheat yourself out of a sale. Simply be aware of who your consumer is.

- Salt and Pepper centers make great gemstone alternatives as well.
  - They can be described as 'Earthy' which appeals to many who think they want a gemstone center

#### One of a kind

- Each center is unique and 'one of a kind'
- While all diamonds are technically one of a kind, Salt and Pepper centers have visible differences that appeal to the consumer
- Two rings of the same style can look completely different because the center stone will never look exactly like another
  - It is important to note that this also means pricing may vary from piece to piece based on the size and quality of the center stone
- Phrases to use when emphasizing this concept:
  - One of a kind
  - Not your Mom's engagement ring
    - This also makes a great hashtag when promoting online #notyourmomsengagementring
  - Naturally unique
  - o Mother nature's artwork
  - o Visibly distinctive
  - o Earthy alternative
  - The beauty is in the flaws

### Other factors

The cost of a salt and pepper piece is less than that made with a traditional flawless center

- This affordability speaks to many people. They can now afford diamond jewelry without having to sacrifice other larger purchases
- While this is a trendy concept and has become popular with many, you are still selling gold and diamonds which will always hold value
- We have found salt and pepper sells best in rose or yellow gold settings however all styles are available in white gold as well
- These are the styles consumers are seeing online and cannot find in their local store (until now)

#### Aiya Designs Salt and Pepper Jewelry

- Aiya Designs (pronounced eye-yah with the emphasis on the first syllable) prides itself on the quality and craftsmanship of its jewelry
- These rings, earrings, and pendants are set in 14k solid gold and surrounded by H color SI white diamonds
  - By using good quality side diamonds, the jewelry still has significant sparkle
    - It's the best of both worlds
  - The white diamonds also add to the contrast and individuality of the center stone
- Our designs have a variety of styles that range from classic round centers to distinctive geometric shapes such as hexagons and kites
  - o The more alternative shapes and settings pair well with what the audience is looking for
- We also have half halos and heavier metal accents such as bezels
- We play with contrast and juxtaposition to create exceptional styles that sell
- We can custom make any salt and pepper style if your customer has a specific look in mind

### Tips on Selling Salt and Pepper Jewelry

- Quickly educate your audience on what salt and pepper is
  - Salt and pepper diamonds are natural mined diamonds that are unique and one of a kind
- Explain the value of what they could be purchasing
  - Solid 14k gold with all-natural mined H color SI white diamonds surrounding the center (where applicable)
  - Natural mined center diamond at a fraction of the cost of a traditional diamond
- Emphasize the uniqueness of the center stone
  - No two stones are alike. You can see the difference.
    Unlike anything you or your friends have.
  - o The beauty is in the flaws
- Show them the variety of styles and the flyer with other styles not in store – if they are looking for something different
- \* Remember, earrings and pendants make great add on sales.
  - Many popular styles have matching pendants or earrings

# Who to Target

- Millennials looking to get engaged
- ❖ Women (or men) looking for a fun and different right-hand ring
- Anyone who wants a diamond but cannot afford a traditional flawless diamond
- Anyone looking at gemstone jewelry
- Anyone looking for the new hot thing

If you have any questions or concerns or would like more information, please call us at 1-800-427-8886

Happy Selling!