

Types of Ring Styles and Drafting



The three common styles for Rings

Top view is the most common view to begin any design. Once the guidelines have been prepared to the correct finger size for the customer the design of the ring will be layed over these lines for accuracy. We will begin with very simple and plain designs without details. The simple base of a ring is known as the **shank**.

In top view we have learnt that we will be viewing the length and width of the object.

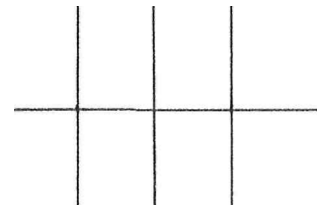
There are three common styles which can be observed from this view and look very different for one another: Flat shanks, $\frac{1}{2}$ round and knife edge shanks.

We begin with the Flat shank:

To determine the length we have certain considerations:

Length will be measured equally out from both finger-hole lines. The length is the furthest part of the outside of the ring and cannot be too thin nor too thick. If the ring shank is less than 1mm we will have a durability problem especially with high Karat Gold which is softer material. Never make the length measurement less than 1mm.

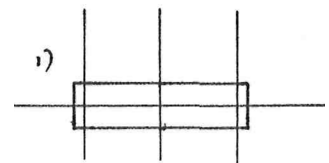
Equally problematic is extending the length beyond 3mm as a thick shank makes it difficult to close ones fingers and very uncomfortable to shake hands when greeting. Comfort is an important consideration when designing jewellery and especially for Rings. Never extend the length further than 3mm. A happy medium, not too thin nor too thick would be 2mm. Measure 2mm out from each finger-hole line and make a mark on the horizontal guideline.



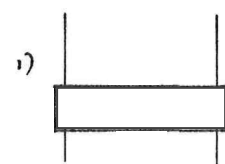
To determine the width we have other considerations:

Width will be measured equally up and down from the horizontal guideline. The width is the widest part on either side of the ring and should be too thin nor too thick. If the ring shank is less than 1mm again we will have a durability problem especially with high Karat Gold. Never make the length measurement less than 1mm.

Equally problematic is extending the width beyond 10 to 12mm as a very wide shank is more difficult to fit over ones fingers and very uncomfortable to wear causing a callous on the inside of the finger. Attempt to always have a comfortable width between 4mm to 8mm. A happy medium, not too thin nor too thick would be 6mm. Measure 3mm up and down on the vertical line of the 90° guideline.



Block in the two horizontal and vertical tick marks using the template and 2H pencil for accuracy.



Notice the edges of the ring shank are very straight.

Next the ½ Round shank:

To determine the length we have the same considerations:

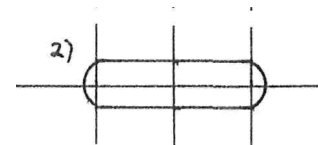
Length will be measured equally out from both finger-hole lines. The length is the furthest part of the outside of the ring and cannot be too thin nor too thick. If the ring shank is less than 1mm we will have a durability problem especially with high Karat Gold which is softer material. Never make the length measurement less than 1mm.



Equally problematic is extending the length beyond 3mm as a thick shank makes it difficult to close ones fingers and very uncomfortable to shake hands when greeting. Never extend the length further than 3mm. A happy medium, not too thin nor too thick would be 2mm. Measure 2mm out from each finger-hole line and make a mark on the horizontal guideline.

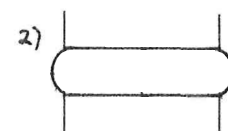
To determine the width we have the same considerations as for the Flat shank:

Width will be measured equally up and down from the horizontal guideline. The width is the widest part on either side of the ring and should not be too thin nor too thick. If the ring shank is less than 1mm again we will have a durability problem especially with high Karat Gold. Never make the length measurement less than 1mm.



Equally problematic is extending the width beyond 10 to 12mm as a very wide shank is more difficult to fit over ones fingers and very uncomfortable to wear causing a callous on the inside of the finger. Attempt to always have a comfortable width between 4mm to 8mm. A happy medium, not too thin nor too thick would be 6mm. Measure 3mm up and down on the vertical line of the 90° guideline.

With your templates aligned draw horizontal lines through the tick marks on the vertical portion of the 90° guideline and then using the template for round shapes find the circle that touches the top and bottom horizontal lines at the same time as the width tick mark and draw in ½ of the circle to complete one side. Use the same circle to complete the other side.



Notice that the two ends of the ring shank are very rounded.

Lastly, the Knife-edge shank:

To determine the length we have the same considerations again:

Never make the length measurement less than 1mm.

Never extend the length further than 3mm. A happy medium, not too thin nor too thick would be 2mm.

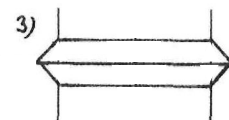
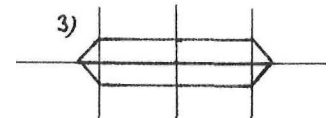
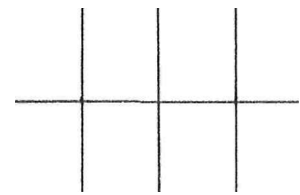
Measure 2mm out from each finger-hole line and make a mark on the horizontal guideline.

To determine the width:

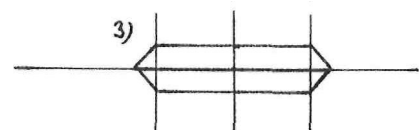
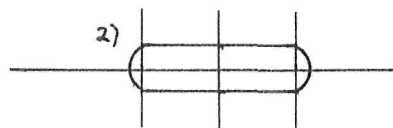
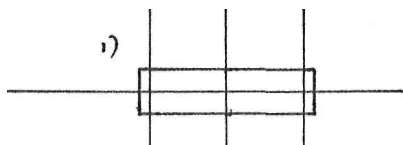
Never make the length measurement less than 1mm.

Attempt to always have a comfortable width between 4mm to 8mm. A happy medium, not too thin nor too thick would be 6mm. Measure 3mm up and down on the vertical line of the 90° guideline.

With your templates aligned draw the horizontal lines through the Tick marks on the vertical portion of the 90° guideline and then using the triangle template draw a direct line from the width tick mark to the top and then to the bottom on the shank on both sides.



Notice that the two ends of the ring shank are producing a sharp edge which is called the knife-edge.



To see the top view Ring shank clearly, use the black ink pen and outline the ring.

To suggest the visual of a ring shape on the finger outline a small portion of the finger-hole lines exiting from the ring shank on both sides. DO NOT draw the finger-hole running through the finished ring shank.

The three most common styles of ring shanks found in jewellery today are:
Flat, ½ round and Knife-edge.





Draw the Flat, Half Round and Knife-edge shanks

In the allocated time frame

- 1) Prepare the guidelines for a ring - size 18 Hong Kong
- 2) Use the same considerations and measurements as in the lecture to produce three common styles of plain ring shanks.

Observations

Is it easy to distinguish between the different styles?

What are the main distinguishing factors?

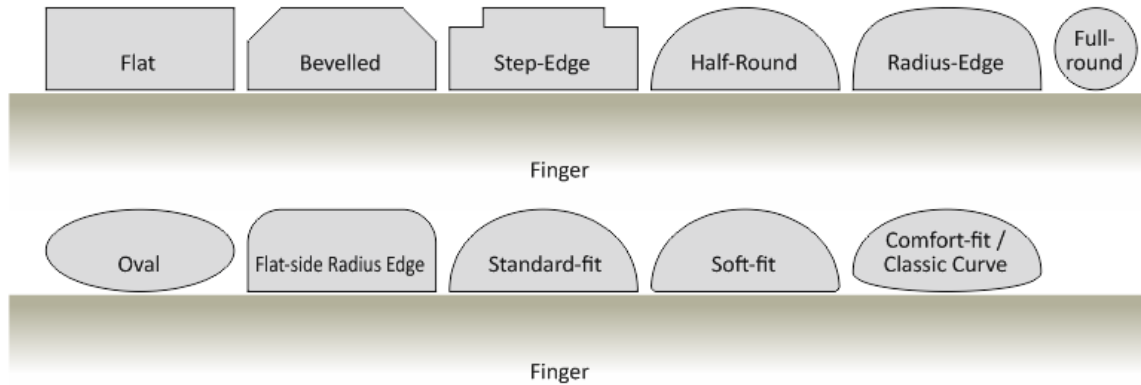
Notes



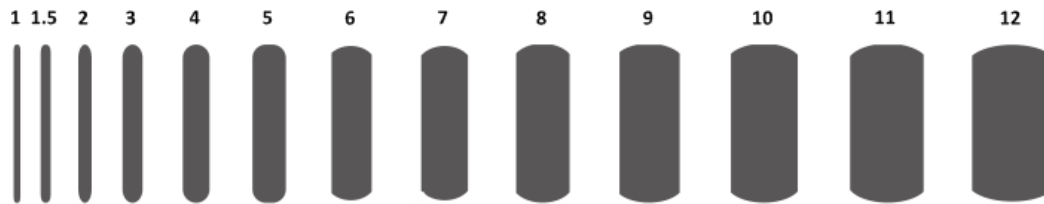
Ring Dimension Reference

Ring dimensions vary from market to market and preferred thicknesses change according to metal hardness, designer preference and manufacturer preference.

Band Types



Ring widths in mm for reference



Ring thicknesses

