

What does the regulation require?

Per [902 KAR 45:065](#) and [902 KAR 45:070](#):

- (h) Only sterile jewelry made of implant stainless steel, solid 14K or 18K white or yellow gold, niobium, titanium, or platinum and that is free of scratches, nicks, or irregular surfaces, and **internally threaded or threadless**, shall be placed in newly pierced skin;

This means that piercers must:

- Utilize **only** internally threaded or threadless jewelry for placement in **newly pierced skin**, and
- Restrict any placement of externally threaded jewelry to **previously healed piercings only**.

What is the difference between internally threaded, externally threaded, and threadless jewelry?



Internally threaded jewelry meets the requirements in 902 KAR 45:070 for use in newly pierced skin. The part of the jewelry that passes through the skin is smooth, and the threads are on the removable end(s), such as balls, gems, or spikes. Internally threaded jewelry avoids any possibility of scraping tissue with sharp threads, which is especially important with fresh piercings.



Threadless (or press-fit) jewelry is also an acceptable alternative that uses a pin coupling on the ornamental end, and contains no screw threads at all.



Externally threaded jewelry has a screw pattern cut into the post, and this rough surface must be passed through the tissue to insert and remove jewelry. This type of jewelry cannot be used on newly pierced skin.