

L A U R A  
E L I Z A B E T H

**Sustainable Jewelry Designer Laura Elizabeth Shares**

**Her Collection of Pieces Found in Nature**

**“Ethically made, naturally sourced, and durable.” - *Austin Woman Magazine***

[Laura Elizabeth](#) jewelry is a timeless, elevated, accessible jewelry line. Based in Austin, TX, many of the designs are made directly from nature; bark from an Austin oak tree, succulents, or even a starfish. The organic pieces are classic and unique. Laura Elizabeth necklaces are made for the wearer to swim, sweat, shower, and sleep in, and made to last.

Designer Laura Stuart was first inspired to create sustainable, durable jewelry after spending time around children. “I’ve always had a deep connection with kids. Their unfathomable joy, honesty, and innocence are heartwarming and inspiring, and when my niece was born I wanted to spend every minute with her. All this time with kids made me realize the need for durable jewelry that can be worn with tugging toddlers as well as out to dinner. Jewelry for our everyday lifestyle. This is the inspiration that eventually led me to create strong necklaces you can swim, sweat, shower, and sleep in.”

The chains are gold-filled, as opposed to simply gold-plated, and Stuart wire-wraps or welds all of the components, giving her small-batch line a durability that mass manufacturing can’t match.

Gen Padalecki, actress and advocate for sustainable fashion, is a fan. She says “Laura Elizabeth designs are timeless, easygoing, and elegant.” She also notes that Stuart’s “attention to detail and sustainability are at the core of every design.”

Stuart is an environmentalist at heart, who thinks a lot about the world we are leaving to the next generation. “As I began laying the foundation for my jewelry business,” she says, “it was incredibly important that sustainable and ethical practices were a cornerstone of my business.”

Stuart uses recycled metal in order to leave less of a carbon footprint, and creates jewelry in ways that are low-toxic and environmentally friendly. All packaging and shipping materials are recyclable and sourced sustainably.

While many designers choose to have their jewelry made overseas to increase profit margins, Stuart has made choices about her business that reflect her personal ethics. “It’s very important to me that both

the quality of the product and the treatment of people working on it is excellent, so I choose to make it all in a studio in Los Angeles, with safe and healthy working practices.”

“In addition to the great lengths we take to protect the environment,” she shares, “everyone working on my jewelry works less than eight hours a day and gets paid above a living wage.”

Stuart often turns to nature for inspiration. “Most of the pieces in my collection are actually items found in the wild. It first started with a dusty miller leaf I discovered on a walk. Since then, I have cast dried cactus, tree bark, real starfish, star anise, succulents, and petals.”

As the business continues to grow and evolve, Laura Elizabeth Jewelry remains committed to the core values of sustainability, accessibility, and timelessness.