

# GOLD

## Where to look for gold

Gravel bars usually found on the inside of the river bends. Although the gold here is mostly small flakes to very fine, there sometimes is a lot of it.

Where the stream levels out after a steeper part such as downstream of rapids or waterfalls. Newly formed gravel bars.

Small streaks of gravel laying on the bed rock but you will need some sort of sucker to retrieve it if it is underwater.

Down stream sides of large boulders and other obstacles which because of size or other factors appear to have been there for a long time.

Pot holes in the bed rock

Cracks in the bed rock. In popular prospecting areas, the large, obvious cracks have most likely been cleaned out many times. Look for lines of moss running along the bed rock. There is almost always a small crack under the moss and these cracks can contain a surprising amount of gold.

Moss and grass roots near the river.

The high benches. As a stream cuts deeper into a canyon, it can leave patches of gravel high on the canyon wall. These are called benches. Look for round or rounded rocks well above the present high water level. Round or rounded rocks have lived in a river at some time in their lives.

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**PANNING FOR GOLD:** Any kind of flat pan will do, but the best is the pan you can buy at local prospecting shops.

- Fill the pan with sand and small gravel.
- Fill with water and mix thoroughly.
- Rotate the pan in a fast circular motion to settle the gold. (tapping while doing this helps settle the gold)
- While keeping the pan level and continuing the circular motion, slightly tip the pan to get the lighter material to the top. (keep the material covered with water)
- Take your thumb and scrape the lighter and larger pieces out of the pan.
- Repeat the process over and over until only a small

- part of the pan is covered with concentrate.  
-Leave just enough water to feather the tailings as you lightly swirl the material.  
-The heavier material (gold) will be at the tail of the feather.  
-Now break out the syphon bottle and get your gold
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## How Miners Weigh Their Gold

### Weights and Measures

24 grains = 1 pennyweight (abbreviated dwt)

20 pennyweights = 1 troy ounce

480 grains = 1 troy ounce

12 troy ounces = 1 troy pound (Please notify me where you are digging if you need to know this)

1 troy ounce = 31.104 grams

1 pennyweight = 1.552 grams

1 grain = 64.8 milligrams

1 gram = .543 pennyweights

24 Karat=100% Pure Gold

18 Karat=75% Pure Gold

14 Karat=58% Pure Gold

10 Karat=42% Pure Gold

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