

## The Jingdezhen Blue-and-White Porcelain Gift Idea

Renowned as white as jade, as bright as a mirror, as thin as paper, and as sonorous as a chime, Jingdezhen porcelain is the best in the ceramic industry and famous worldwide. The graceful blue-and-white porcelain, along with colorfully painted, color-glazed, and eggshell porcelains, is highly acclaimed in Chinese culture and art. These porcelains have traveled far and wide through the "Silk Road" and "Marine Ceramic Road," promoting Chinese-foreign cultural exchanges, business, and trade. Famous museums like the British Museum, the Louvre, and the Metropolitan Museum preserve Jingdezhen porcelains.



Blue-and-white porcelain, underglaze color porcelain, is painted with cobalt on a white background and fired at 1,300 degrees Celsius. The pattern is wearproof, long-lasting, and lead-free, creating a calm, deep, and mysterious feel. The design avoids monotony through well-handled shade, thickness, density, and line size. Common patterns include dragons, lotus scrolls, cloud designs, and fish designs.



Patterns can be designed on paper or directly on the biscuit. Skilled painters draw outlines with light ink, fill details, and use cobalt of different concentrations for the "fenshui" technique, creating natural light and shade effects. This technique relies on the painter's experience. Freehand style paintings do not require "fenshui," allowing artists to freely express their inner world.



During the 16th and 17th centuries, blue-and-white porcelains were highly popular in Europe, regarded as treasures by the nobility. Royal palaces, like the Madrid Royal Palace and Naples Palace, collected these porcelains. By the early 18th century, Chinese porcelain reached France, fascinating Europeans with its glossy finish and intricate designs, influencing their daily lives and decor.



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