MATCH Pewter is handmade by artisans in the North of Italy. Each piece is made with an alloy that is lead-free and safe for everyday use. The classic forms harmonize with both traditional and modern settings.

MATCH was founded by David Reiss in 1995. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, David worked as a graphic designer in Boston and New York City for ten years before becoming the design director and buyer for the style-setting Soho store, Zona. When starting his own company, David’s love of Italy and the Italian tradition of artisanship led to the creation of MATCH.

MATCH was the first wholesale company in the United States to import Italian pewter in a comprehensive fashion, establishing Italian pewter as a new and important gift and tabletop category. Almost twenty-five years later, MATCH continues to play a leading role in the thriving United States pewter market.

What exactly is Pewter?

Pewter is an alloy made of tin, copper and antimony. After platinum, gold, and sterling silver, tin is the next most valuable metal. MATCH pewter contains 95% of the highest quality tin available. The remaining 5% is copper and antimony.

In order for a metal to be designated “pewter” it must contain at least 92% tin. There are many “mystery metal” products on the market that either call themselves “pewter” or are thought of as “pewter”, but these items usually contain a high amount of aluminum or other white metals such as nickel.  
  
Not all pewter is created equal. Just as there are varying levels of quality in gold and silver production, the same is true for pewter. There are pewter items on the market made with poor quality tin, or with less tin in the alloy. The pewter from these companies is typically lighter in weight and poorly finished. You will see their pieces sold cheaply in national catalogs and chain stores. MATCH Pewter is a superior product, having the advantage of the highest quality alloy, artisan production, and a warm finish.

Every piece is cast, assembled, and finished completely by hand.

MATCH is also pleased to offer outstanding and personal customer service.

Each piece of MATCH Pewter has at least two hallmarks, either on the front or the underside. These hallmarks designate the tin content (‘95’) and the artisan mark of the workshop. Frequently, an additional hallmark is present, representing the city or region where the piece is produced. The MATCH hallmark, the letter “M,” is also present on most pieces.

MATCH introduces new designs almost every market season. All new pieces are the result of design collaboration between MATCH owner David Reiss and our Italian workshop, Our top-selling barware collection, and all the pewter trimmed ceramic styles, (Convivio, Luisa,Viviana, & Gianna) are examples of this collaboration.

Many MATCH pieces are classic designs developed with historical references. Quite a few are cast directly from molds made from original antiques. This is why you will see symbols and initials on the front of some pieces; these marks are picked up directly from the original.

MATCH Pewter Care  
Pewter develops a patina very slowly, and requires almost no maintenance. Should you wish to keep your pewter bright, any good quality metal polish will do.

Please be sure to read the label on the polish to confirm it is appropriate for pewter.

We prefer Cape Cod Metal Polish. MATCH offers pre-packaged tins of the Cape Cod polishing cloths, and Cape Cod is found in most hardware stores.

It is is very easy to use, and smells good too!

Pewter is a soft metal with a low melting point, and should never be placed in the oven, not even on the lowest setting. Nor should it be placed in a warming drawer or on a warm stove eye. However, hot food can be served in pewter with no problem. It is the steady heat of an oven or warming drawer that can result in partial melting or distortion.

Foods with a high level of acidity will discolor pewter if left for an extended period of time (like a dressed salad left overnight). If discoloration is addressed quickly, it can be removed with a good metal polish. Surface scratches can be removed by gently rubbing the area with extra-fine (0000) steel wool in a small, circular motion.  
  
When used for food service solid pewter items, as well as pewter & glass items, should be hand washed and hand dried. MATCH stemware and barware must always be washed by hand. Please do not soak these items in hot water or place them in the dishwasher. It will compromise the bond between the crystal and the pewter, and could possibly lead to separation.

Both the flatware, and pewter trimmed ceramic dinnerware, are as dishwasher safe as any pewter on the market. When using a dishwasher, we advise using the china or gentle cycle setting, no-heat dry, along with liquid dishwasher detergent.

Do not place any MATCH item in a dishwasher if the water is hard. The minerals in hard water will leave discoloring deposits and may pit the pewter.

When washing the flatware and pewter trimmed ceramic pieces in a dishwasher, always wait until the pieces have cooled before handling. Metal expands when it is warm, and allowing the pieces to cool will minimize the risk of loosesness or separation.

If the pieces are handled while the pewter portion is too warm, looseness or separation can result.

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MATCH is proud to offer the broadest selection of the highest quality Italian pewter available in the American market, and to sup There are more than a dozen categories in the Match pewter collection; they include almost every piece needed to set and dress the perfect table, an extensive wine and bar collection, desk accessories, picture frames and handsome bath sets. Each piece of Match pewter is an heirloom.