



When [Rihanna](#) stepped out in a silky Zac Posen dress at her annual Clara Lionel Foundation Diamond Ball in 2014, all eyes were on the vast, ruby-red gem suspended from her [diamond](#) necklace. The dazzling piece – which features a massive 123.24 carat stone at its centre – is part of Chopard’s grand Red Carpet collection. Rih offset the huge pendant (actually a rubellite, even rarer than a ruby), with ruby, tanzanite and rubellite rings, and a rose gold bracelet.

The ruby is associated with love, health and wisdom, all of which has helped to make July’s birthstone one of the most desirable (and expensive) jewels in the world. Victoria Beckham has worn a colossal ruby ring (one of her [reported 15 engagement rings](#)), on several occasions. Perhaps she was inspired by the original magpie, Elizabeth Taylor, whose legendary jewellery collection included a glistening Van Cleef & Arpels ruby ring she was given as a stocking filler (yes, really), in 1968 by her then husband, Richard Burton.

Below, see British *Vogue*’s pick of the best ruby jewellery for July babies to lust after.



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Emefa Cole

Heritage-Afrika series black rhodium ring with rubies, £4,000, available at [Emefacole.com](https://www.emefacole.com).