

DIAMOND Education

The 4-C's of Diamonds; Cut, Carat, Clarity and Colour.



► [Cut](#)

► [Carat](#)

► [Clarity](#)

► [Colour](#)

Shape



Round



Marquise



Pear



Heart



Oval

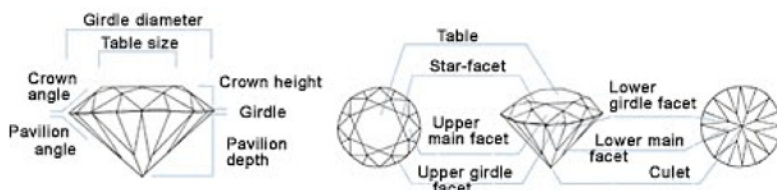


Emerald



Princess

Cut



Diamonds are cut from a rough state into a polished shape called a "cut," which is the only characteristic of a diamond that is manufactured. Both the beauty and the value of the diamond are determined by the quality of the cut. The most common cuts are emerald, marquise, oval, pear, princess, radiant, and round.

Carat

Ct	0.90	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.50	3.00
mm	6.3	6.5	6.9	7.4	7.8	8.2	8.8	9.4

Ct	0.05	0.10	0.20	0.25	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.70
mm	2.5	3.0	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.8	5.2	5.8

Diamonds are classified by "carat" weight, with 1 carat being comparable to 1/5 of a gram. Each carat has 100 points; subsequently a 0.50 diamond is referred to as a half-carat diamond.

Clarity

Internally Flawless Free from internal blemishes visible under 10x magnification (small external details tolerated).	Very Very Slightly included Inclusions and/or external blemishes very difficult to locate under 10x magnification.	Very Slightly included Inclusions and external blemishes difficult to locate under 10x magnification.		
Slightly included Inclusions and external blemishes easy to locate under 10x magnification.	Imperfect Inclusions and external blemishes very easy to locate under 10x magnification.	Imperfect Inclusions and external blemishes easy to locate with the naked eye.	Imperfect Heavy inclusions located with naked eye.	

Diamonds often contain an imperfection, referred to as an inclusion, which can obstruct the flow of light and diminish a diamond's brilliance or "clarity." To determine the level of clarity, a diamond is examined under 10x magnification and given a grade ranging from FL (Flawless) to I-3 (Heavily included) in accordance with the Gemmological Institute of America (GIA).

Colour



D(0+) - F(1+)
Colourless



G(1) - J(4)
Near Colourless



K(5) - M(7)
Slightly Tinted



N(8) - R(12)
Very Light Yellow



S(13) - Z(20)
Light Yellow-
Yellow

A white diamond's "colour" refers to the presence or lack of colouration. Lack of colour allows an increase in flow of light, enhancing the brilliance of a diamond; therefore, the whiter the diamond, the greater its value. A diamond is examined by the naked eye under corrected lighting and given a colour grade in accordance with the Gemmological Institute of America (GIA). The colour scale ranges from D (colourless) to Z.