



GIA®

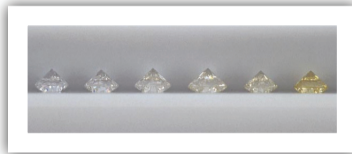
DIAMOND



Diamonds are among nature's most precious and beautiful creations. The hardest gem of all, they are made of just one element: carbon. Diamonds are valued for their colorless nature and purity.

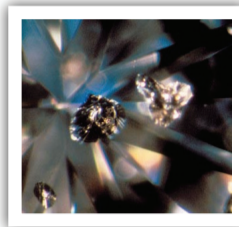
DIAMOND COLOR

GIA's D-to-Z scale measures the colorlessness of a diamond, comparing it to masterstones under controlled viewing conditions.



DIAMOND CLARITY

Clarity is the relative absence of inclusions and blemishes. Clarity grades are based on the number, size, relief, position and nature of the inclusions that can be seen under 10x magnification by a trained grader.



TIPS AND ADVICE

INSIST ON A GIA DIAMOND GRADING REPORT.

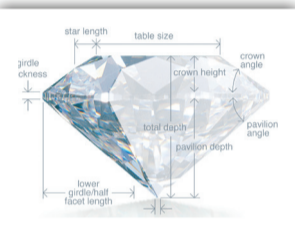
The differences in diamond quality can be so subtle even a trained jeweler can't recognize them without lab verification. Insist that any diamond you buy comes with an indisputable verification of its quality from an unbiased source.

PROTECT YOUR PURCHASE.

Have your diamond appraised and insured. Appraisers and insurers rely on GIA Diamond Grading Reports which accurately describe the stone. This information is used by the appraiser to establish the stone's value. As an additional measure, consider having your diamond laser-inscribed with its GIA report number, to provide verification if it is ever lost or stolen.

LOOK FOR A GEM THAT WEIGHS A BIT LESS THAN YOUR TARGET SIZE.

Prices per carat generally increase as the weight passes "magic numbers" such as 1.00, 1.50, and 2.00 carats. A diamond that weighs 0.95 carat will cost less per carat than a 1.00 carat stone but look almost the same.



DIAMOND CUT

The cut of a diamond can affect a diamond's appearance. Precise workmanship is required to cut a diamond so its proportions, symmetry, and polish maximize brightness, scintillation, and fire.

DIAMOND CARAT WEIGHT

Diamonds are sold by weight. One carat is equal to 0.20 grams. Only one in 1,000 diamonds weighs more than a carat.



FAQ

Q: HOW DO I GET A GIA GRADING REPORT?

A: You can send your diamond to GIA for grading and analysis or you can choose to send the diamond through a retailer who knows how to properly package, ship and insure the item. If the diamond is mounted, the jeweler will have to remove your diamond from its setting, since GIA Diamond Grading Reports are only issued for unmounted stones.

Q: ARE DIAMONDS WITH A HIGHER NUMBER OF FACETS BRIGHTER?

A: The number of facets affects the pattern of the reflections in a diamond rather than overall brightness. Diamonds with more facets have smaller reflections instead of fewer larger reflections. Brightness is a function of proportions, polish and symmetry, not the number of facets.

Q: HOW CAN I BE SURE A DIAMOND IS CONFLICT-FREE?

A: In 2002, a coalition of governments, non-governmental organizations, and the diamond industry established the Kimberley Process to control the export and import of rough diamonds to eliminate the trade in conflict diamonds. Today 99% of diamonds in the marketplace are conflict free.

Q: DOES GIA GRADE DIAMOND CUT?

A: Yes. GIA grades the cut for standard round brilliant diamonds. The GIA Diamond Cut Grading System was introduced in 2006 after years of extensive research. It assigns one of five grades to describe the overall cut quality and appearance of a standard round brilliant diamond in the GIA D-to-Z color range.

Q: HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT A GIA GRADING REPORT IS AUTHENTIC?

A: All GIA reports contain security features such as a hologram, security screen and microprint lines that prevent them from being forged or duplicated. Also, GIA's Report Check service can verify whether the information on the report matches what's contained in our database.

Q: WILL GIA APPRAISE MY DIAMOND?

A: No. GIA does not perform appraisals, however, a GIA report does independently confirm the quality characteristics that determine value. While GIA does not recommend an individual appraiser, there are several appraisal associations and networks that can help you locate one in your area.

Q: DOES GIA GRADE SYNTHETIC DIAMONDS?

A: Yes. GIA offers synthetic diamond grading reports using the same color and clarity boundaries as the grading system for natural diamonds, but with fewer quality grade categories.

GIA exists to connect people to the understanding of gems. As a long-standing scientific authority, GIA is not only a unique source for gem knowledge, its grading reports inspire confidence wherever they appear.

For more information on GIA visit: www.4Cs.gia.edu



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