

# **Carat Weight**

A carat is a unit of metric measurement used for diamonds. One carat (ct.) equals 100 points, 200 milligrams, or 1/5 of a gram.

## **Clarity Grade**

Clarity grade considers blemishes and inclusions, to rank diamonds on a scale from "FL" (flawless) to "I" (included), as detailed below.

**The FL Grade** (Flawless) describes diamonds in which a skilled observer does not see any inclusions or surface blemishes, after thorough examination at 10-power magnification under standardized lighting conditions.

**The IF Grade** (Internally Flawless) describes diamonds that have no internal characteristics observable under the conditions described above, but that may have minor blemishes confined to the surface.

The VVS Grades (Very Very Slightly Included) describe diamonds with very, very small inclusions that are difficult for a skilled observer to see, under the conditions described above.

**The VS Grades** (Very Slightly Included) describe diamonds with very small inclusions ranging from difficult to somewhat easy to observe, under the conditions described above.

The SI Grades (Slightly Included) describe diamonds with small inclusions that are easy or very easy to see, under the conditions described above. Occasionally, inclusions in the SI category are visible to the unaided eye.

**The I Grades** (Included) describe diamonds with medium or large inclusions that are usually obvious to the unaided eye, under standardized lighting conditions.

### **Color Grade**

For colorless to light diamonds, color is graded on a scale from "D" (colorless) to "Z" (possessing a strong tonal modifier, such as brown, gray, green, pink, or yellow). The example below depicts yellow.



### Finish

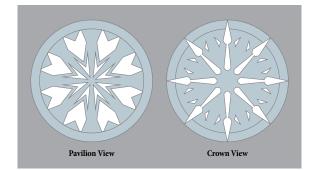
Finish refers to the analysis of a diamond's polish and symmetry. Polish relates directly to the quality of the overall surface condition of the diamond. Symmetry relates to facet shape and arrangement, and the overall exactness of the stone's contour and outline. Both are rated on a scale ranging from poor to excellent.

#### Fluorescence

Fluorescence refers to a diamond's capacity to emit visible light when its atoms react to long- and short-wave ultraviolet rays. Fluorescence is measured for identification purposes and described on a scale from inert (none) to very strong.

### Hearts & Arrows Cut

The precise cut of a hearts & arrows diamond creates a unique, romantic facet pattern. Viewed through its pavilion, the stone shows a circle of hearts. And through its crown, it reveals arrows. Cut is rated on a scale from very good to ideal plus (the most symmetrical). The diagram below depicts a symmetrical hearts & arrows cut.



# Plotting

A plotting diagram approximates a diamond's style and shape, and notes its characteristics with these symbols.

External Characteristics	
/ Abrasion	• Pit
<b>A</b> Extra Facet	Polish Lines
<b>V</b> Natural	/ Scratch
∨ Nick	Surface Graining
Internal Characteristics	
X Bruise	Internal Graining
Cavity	Internal Laser Drill
∧ Chip	<b>Knot</b>
Cloud	• Laser Drill Hole
O Crystal	/ Needle
✓ Feather	• Pinpoint
🦳 Indented Natural	<b>W</b> Twinning Wisp

### **Proportions**

Diamond proportions refer to the stone's dimensions and facet angles, as well as the relationship between them. Measurements for round diamonds, such as hearts & arrows diamonds, are indicated by maximum–minimum diameter x depth, in millimeters.

