THE DIAMOND BUYERS’ GUIDE
The magic of nature.  
The beauty of art.  
The precision of science.

Diamonds are born deep within the earth, where tremendous heat, pressure, and time set the stage for a dazzling display. Once the rough stones emerge, they are literally transformed by imagination and artistry.

The result is both rare and remarkable: exceptional beauty that captures the eye and the heart.

Each diamond is completely unique. And its individual characteristics — even those that are subtle — can impact its visual appeal and value. A reliable gemological report can provide a clear basis for comparison.

EGL USA’s diamond evaluation process is recognized throughout the industry and the world for its superior science and service. Every EGL USA-certified diamond is examined by no fewer than four different gemologists, using the most advanced technology available.

This expert analysis is presented in a wide variety of comprehensive gem identification and evaluation reports. They are simply indispensable resources for diamond buyers everywhere: all the facts about the facets.
FACTS ABOUT FACETS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carat Weight</th>
<th>0.10</th>
<th>0.25</th>
<th>0.50</th>
<th>1.00</th>
<th>1.25</th>
<th>1.50</th>
<th>1.75</th>
<th>2.00</th>
<th>2.50</th>
<th>3.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diameter</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clarity Grade
Clarity refers to the internal and external characteristics, or inclusions, in a diamond.

- FL Flawless: No visible inclusions or surface blemishes at 10x magnification.
- IF Internally Flawless: No visible internal characteristics at 10x magnification, but may have minor surface blemishes.
- VVS1 Very Very Slightly Included: With very, very small inclusions that are difficult to see at 10x magnification.
- VVS2 Very Very Slightly Included: With very, very small inclusions that are difficult to see at 10x magnification.
- SI1 Slightly Included: With small inclusions that are easy to see at 10x magnification. Occasionally, visible to the unaided eye.
- SI2 Slightly Included: With small inclusions that are easy to see at 10x magnification.
- SI3 Slightly Included: With small inclusions that are easy to see at 10x magnification.
- I1 Included: With medium or large inclusions that are obvious to the unaided eye.
- I2 Included: With medium or large inclusions.
- I3 Included: With medium or large inclusions.

Color Grade
For colorless to light diamonds, color is graded on a scale from "D" (colorless) to "Z" (possessing a strong brown tonal modifier). Most diamonds have a yellow or brown tonal modifier.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color Grade</th>
<th>DEF</th>
<th>GHJJ</th>
<th>KLMN</th>
<th>O-P</th>
<th>Q-R</th>
<th>S-T</th>
<th>U-V</th>
<th>WX</th>
<th>Y-Z</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorless</td>
<td>Near Colorless</td>
<td>Faint Yellow</td>
<td>Very Light Yellow</td>
<td>Light Yellow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Color Origin
Color origin identifies the basis of a diamond’s color. This can include sources described as natural, treated, enhanced, etc.

 Enhancement
A diamond’s appeal can be enhanced by a variety of treatments. Clarity, for example, can appear to be improved by laser drilling or internal laser drilling (KM), which address inclusions, or feather/fracture filling, which introduces glass-like material to a diamond’s natural feathers or fractures. Color can appear to be improved by the effects of treatments such as High Pressure High Temperature (HPHT) or irradiation.

 Finish
Finish refers to the analysis of a diamond’s polish and symmetry. Polish relates directly to the smoothness and 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 a 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.

 Proportions
Diamond proportions refer to the stone’s dimensions and facet angles, as well as the relationship between them. Measurements for round diamonds are indicated by maximum—minimum diameter x depth, in millimeters. Fancy shapes are indicated by length x width x depth.

Cut (Shape and Style)
Cut describes the silhouette or form created by a diamond’s contours and facets. Shapes vary from round to fancy cuts, such as emerald, pear, and princess. Style includes variations of brilliant, stepped, and mixed cuts. Beautiful diamonds can be found in virtually any shape or style.

 Cut Grade
A diamond’s cut grade is based on the combined analysis of its proportions, polish, and symmetry — factors that determine the way light interacts with the stone. The most preferred stones are graded on a scale from very good to ideal plus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cut Grade</th>
<th>POOR</th>
<th>FAIR</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
<th>VERY GOOD</th>
<th>IDEAL</th>
<th>IDEAL PLUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hearts & Arrows Round
Some preferred stones achieve a particularly precise and romantic “hearts & arrows” pattern that reveals a circle of hearts through the pavilion and arrows through the crown.

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