

AUTHORITY IN VINTAGE JEWELRY

# DIAMOND

## BUYING GUIDE



VERMA  
GROUP

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# Understanding Diamonds

## Diamond Clarity

### What is Diamond Clarity?

Almost all diamonds that are mined from the Earth contain flaws. Diamonds are formed under extreme heat and pressure within the earth. As the diamond forms, each one will have different characteristics that may include internal flaws called inclusions and external marks called blemishes.

The number, size and positioning of these flaws and blemishes affect the value of the diamond. Clarity is graded on a scale starting at FL (Flawless) down to I3 (Included). A flawless diamond has the highest grade, and has no internal or external inclusions. These are extremely rare, and are high in value. A diamond with an 'Included' grading will have inclusions that are detectable to the naked eye and may even affect brilliance.

Therefore, these stones tend to be more commercially priced. In some cases, certain types of imperfections can impact the sparkle of a diamond but overall if they are well sourced, they will not affect the sparkle and life of the diamond. Please see our 'Clarity Scale' below which explains each grade in more detail.

### The Clarity Scale



FL

flawless

There are no inclusions or blemishes of any sort visible to a skilled diamond grader using 10x magnification.



IF

internally flawless

There are no inclusions, only insignificant blemishes visible to a skilled diamond grader using 10x magnification.

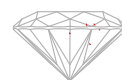


VVS

very very slightly included

VVS 1 & VVS 2

There are some minute inclusions that are difficult for a skilled diamond grader to see using 10x magnification.

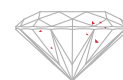


VS

very slightly included

VS 1 & VS 2

The inclusions are minor to a skilled grader using 10x magnification.

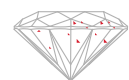


SI

slightly included

SI 1 & SI 2

The slight inclusions are noticeable to a skilled grader using 10x magnification.



I

included

I 1, I 2 & I 3

These Inclusions are easily detectable with the loupe and in some cases can be seen without to a skilled grader using 10x magnification



# Understanding Diamonds

## Diamond Color

### Diamond Color

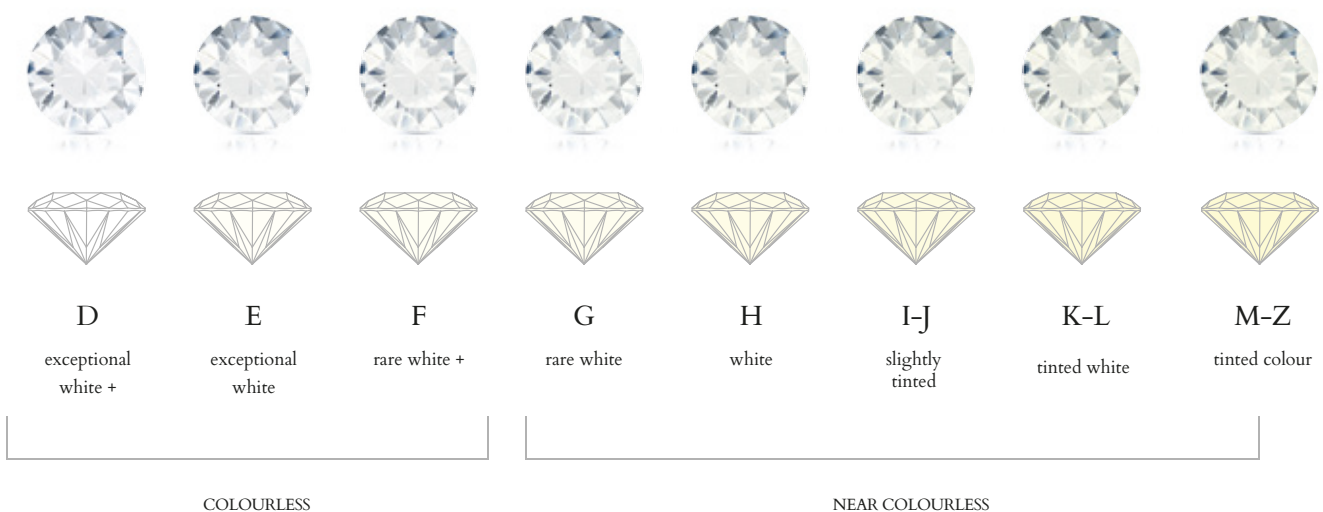
Colour is usually one of the four C's that diamond shoppers wish to prioritise. However, when it comes to sparkle, colour doesn't impact it that significantly.

The whiter the diamond, the higher the grade and price. The GIA Colour Grading Scale is the most universally used, and grades colour from the top grade of 'D' (Colourless) right down to 'Z' (Tinted Light Yellow).

When choosing your diamond, you want to be happy with the colour as your eye will be drawn to this when you look at the stone. Ideally, starting from a H upwards in colour will allow you to have a stone which should be visibly white to the naked eye. In some cases, stones with a grade of 'I-J' can also have a relatively white look from the top.

When it comes to Fancy Coloured Diamonds, these are exempt from this grading scale and are graded on their overall colour including; hue, saturation, tone and the distribution of colour. Please see our 'Colour Scale' below which explains each grade in more detail.

### The Color Scale



# Understanding Diamonds

## Diamond Carat

### Diamond Carat

Diamonds are measured in mass unit of 'carat' which takes into account the weight, as opposed to the actual size of the diamond.

Traditionally, carob seeds were used as a reference for the individual weight of a diamond. Today, the system has been standardized and a metric 'carat' is defined as 200 milligrams.

Carat is divided into points, for example, 1 carat is 100 points.

0.25ct = 25 points

0.50ct = 50 points

0.75ct = 75 points

1.00ct = 100 points

Please see our 'Size Scale' below which illustrates a variety of sizes, and the relative diameters of each one.

### The Size Scale

Estimating the weight of round brilliant cut diamonds



# Understanding Diamonds

## Diamond Cut

### Diamond Cut

When it comes to determining what is the most important aspect when purchasing a diamond, many consumers will look to Colour or Clarity. Whilst these are generally important characteristics, the Cut of the diamond will ultimately give you the most sparkle.

Cut refers to the diamond's particular ability to reflect and refract light back up through the top of the diamond, where it emits light through the facet lines in the diamond's crown.

Several aspects are vital to making this happen for optimum sparkle, and all are considered when a Diamond Grader makes the final assessment on the quality of the cut of the particular Diamond.

Cut is comprised of the Symmetry, Proportions and Polish of the diamond. Each of these are graded from 'Poor' up to 'Excellent'. Overall, Cut is the one of the most important factors to consider because ultimately, this has the greatest influence on the appearance of the stone.

Please see our 'Cut Scale' below which explains each grade in more detail.

### The Cut Scale

Estimating the weight of round brilliant cut diamonds

