Light's Effect on a Diamond

Cut Definitions

Diamond Components

Depth: A measurement of the diamond's length, width, and height used to determine its appeal.

Pavilion: The lower part of the diamond, which is cut to allow light to escape from the stone.

Crown: The top part of the diamond, which is cut to maximize the size of the diamond and its brilliance.

Depth of girdle: The distance between the girdle and the pavilion.

Pavilion depth:

Angle of girdle: The angle at which the girdle meets the pavilion.

Height:

Angle:

Depth:

SIDE VIEW

Polish Symmetry Cut grade

A diamond's cut is an integral factor in determining its brilliance and fire. Even a flawless diamond will appear dull and muted if the cut is poor. When evaluating the cut of a diamond, there are some core characteristics that should be considered:

- A symmetrical diamond will have well-balanced, properly aligned facets, resulting in a high level of fire and brilliance. A well-cut stone sacrifices more of the rough diamond during the cutting process, resulting in lower levels of fire and brilliance. A poorly cut diamond will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing.

- A diamond's cut can be determined by measuring its depth and width percentage. A proper depth percentage allows the diamond to reflect light, resulting in a high level of brilliance. A shallower diamond will reflect less light, resulting in a dull, dark appearance.

- A diamond's proportions, a measure of the number of gemstones an ideal cut can produce, also contribute to its appeal. For its shape, it will reflect more light out of the top, resulting in higher levels of fire and brilliance. A poorly cut diamond will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing.

- A diamond's girdle can be rough, polished, or diamond-shaped, which can affect its visual appeal and market value. A rough girdle will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing as a polished girdle. A diamond-shaped girdle will allow light to escape from the stone, resulting in higher levels of fire and brilliance.

- A diamond's girdle represents the perimeter of the diamond, which is cut to allow light to escape from the stone. It can be rough, polished, or diamond-shaped, which can affect its visual appeal and market value. A rough girdle will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing as a polished girdle. A diamond-shaped girdle will allow light to escape from the stone, resulting in higher levels of fire and brilliance.

- A diamond's culet is the small facet located at the bottom of the stone, which can affect its appearance and market value. A large culet will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing as a small culet. A culet of 'None' will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing as a culet of 'Very Small'.

- A diamond's symmetry is a measure of how well the diamond's facets are aligned, which can affect its appearance and market value. A perfect symmetry will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing as a well-aligned symmetry. A symmetrical diamond will have well-balanced, properly aligned facets, resulting in a high level of fire and brilliance. A well-cut stone sacrifices more of the rough diamond during the cutting process, resulting in lower levels of fire and brilliance. A poorly cut diamond will create the illusion of a larger stone, but it will not be as visually appealing.