

DIAMOND

Diamonds are among nature's most precious and beautiful creations.



ABOUT DIAMOND



Diamond forms under high temperature and pressure conditions that exist only about 100 miles beneath the earth's surface. Diamond's carbon atoms are bonded in essentially the same way in all directions.

Another mineral, graphite, also contains only carbon, but its formation process and crystal structure are very different. Graphite is so soft that you can write with it, while diamond is so hard that you can only scratch it with another diamond.

BIRTHSTONES & ANNIVERSARIES

On almost all modern birthstone lists, diamond is recognized today as the birthstone for April. Diamond is also the gem that marks the 60th and 75th wedding anniversaries.

TREATMENTS

There are a number of processes used to alter the color, apparent clarity, or improve the durability of gems.

SYNTHETICS

Some gemstones have synthetic counterparts that have essentially the same chemical, physical, and optical properties, but are grown by man in a laboratory.

IMITATIONS

Any gem can be imitated—sometimes by manmade materials or by natural materials chosen by man to impersonate a particular gem.

58X HARDER

Diamonds are the hardest material on earth: 58 times harder than anything else in nature.

"LUCY" IN THE SKY

Fifty light years from earth, this star is a 10 billion-trillion-trillion carat diamond.

1 IN 1,000,000

The average yield in most diamond mines is 1 part diamond to 1 million parts host rock.

FACTS

MINERAL: Diamond

CHEMISTRY: C

COLOR: Colorless

REFRACTIVE INDEX: 2.42

SPECIFIC GRAVITY: 3.52 (+/-0.01)

MOHS HARDNESS: 10



WHY WE LOVE THIS GEMSTONE

GLOBAL LANGUAGE

The 4Cs, created by GIA, are considered the global language of diamond quality.

CARBON

Diamond is the only gem composed of one single element: carbon.

A BILLION YEARS

Most diamonds formed more than a billion years ago, deep in the earth's mantle.