

## Diamond

Russia is the leading diamond mining country, with abundant reserves and being the largest exporter of rough diamonds. Botswana is known for its high-quality and large-sized diamonds. Africa is the largest rough diamond-producing region, with the Democratic Republic of the Congo being a major player in the diamond market.

Mineral Group: Carbon

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION – Carbon

Hardness: 10, maximum hardness

Diamonds are the hardest known gemstone and are famous for their strong sparkle. Their beauty and value mainly depend on how clear they are, how well they are cut, how white or colorless they look, and their size.

- **High Quality:** Very clear, almost no flaws inside, brilliant shine, and a bright white look. These are rare and sell at very high prices, often **\$15,000–\$20,000 or more per carat**.
- **Medium Quality:** Clear enough to look attractive but may have small marks or a slight yellowish shade. They still shine nicely and are valued at **\$4,000–\$10,000 per carat**.
- **Low Quality:** Many flaws and a dull look. They often appear cloudy and may have a brown or yellow tint. These are the most affordable, around **\$1,500–\$3,000 per carat**.