

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO

Choosing *the right ring*



ARABEL LEBRUSAN

BESPOKE & LIMITED EDITION JEWELS

You've found the one.. now find the ring to match.

So you've found the girl you want to marry, and have decided to ask the big question. Congratulations!

The next step, finding the perfect engagement ring to suit the love of your life, can be an overwhelming process, but we are here to help! Let us walk you through everything you need to know with this 8 page guide - the perfect accompaniment to browsing through Arabel Lebrusan's beautiful selection of ethical engagement rings.

We'll cover everything from choosing the right ring to suit your fiancée-to-be, to the technicalities of diamonds, to some important tips on finding out her ring size without her knowing!



Style & Substance

Before considering what kind of diamond you want, consider what kind of fiancée you have. Is she a diamond kind of girl? What's her overall style? A lady that loves vintage might prefer something a bit unique, either a vintage ring, or maybe a bespoke ring designed to reflect her personality. If she's a modern, sophisticated woman, she'll probably be aware of the latest engagement styles: a round solitaire ring in a modern setting for example.

Arabel offers a diverse range of ethical engagement and wedding rings to suit any style of bride-to-be.. here are a few suggestions to get you thinking!

Traditional

Her style is timeless with a romantic touch. The centuries-old classic engagement ring style of a solitaire diamond ring would suit her perfectly. Add an extra vintage touch with an engraved band, or keep it classic with a plain band.

Contemporary

The contemporary woman is modern and stylish, so what better way to propose than with an effortlessly stylish contemporary ring? Maybe a polished band crowned with unique square shaped setting or an engraved ring with an up-to-date modern setting.

Quirky

The quirky style woman is always true to herself and never fails to be unique in her style: both in clothing, accessories and home. Look into more interesting, unique styles featuring engraving, unusual settings or coloured stones such as rubies.

Glamorous

Perfect for the impeccably styled woman who loves to dress up, a glamorous style ring offers a dramatic look that all of your friends will want a closer look at. Add extra sparkle with a diamond-studded band or Princess-cut diamond.

Traditional



Contemporary



— “Not only do I love the ring. I now love my hands again.” - Sigi, London —



Quirky

Glamorous

Diamonds: What you need to know

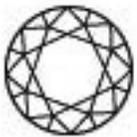
Diamonds are 99.95% pure crystallised carbon and the hardest naturally occurring substance known to man. It is their hardness, brilliance and sparkle that transforms them into a girl's best friend. If, like the majority of men (around 75% in the UK), you decide to go for a diamond, you need to pay careful attention to the universally agreed rules for identifying the quality of the stone.

So what do you need to know about them when deciding on a ring? If you follow the 5 C's you won't go too far wrong: Cut, Colour, Clarity, Carat and Certificate.

Cut

The cut determines the shape of the diamond, and is one of the biggest influences in your choice of what ring will suit your fiancée-to-be most. The most common shape is the round cut, but others include the heart, princess, emerald and oval.

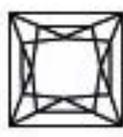
As the only characteristic of a diamond not influenced by nature, the cut is open to mistakes and bad practices. Cut a diamond incorrectly and the defining sparkle will be compromised. It is how the 57 or 58 facets (the tiny planes cut on the diamond's surface) are angled and sized that dictate how light reflects and exits the diamond, an effect known as its "fire". Make the cuts too deep or too shallow and the diamond will be less brilliant.



ROUND



HEART



PRINCESS



EMERALD



OVAL

Colour

The most valuable and rare colour is white, that is to say, colourless. Jewellers grade absolutely colourless diamonds with a "D". The scale moves up to "Z" (don't ask what happened to A, B and C) and, between these two extremes, diamonds will display subtle coloured tones. Diamonds with a very strong and distinct colour are extremely rare and are called fancies.

Clarity

Many people get unnecessarily hung up over the clarity of a diamond. Look into most diamonds with a magnifying eyeglass and you will see small "inclusions", also known as "nature's fingerprints". They look like small clouds or feathers but are usually invisible to the naked eye. Inclusions can affect the diamond's fire, but they also make your diamond unique and shouldn't always be seen as a fault. As long as the stone is graded SI1 (Slightly Included 1) or better (best and most expensive is IF, or Internally Flawless; worst is I3, or Imperfect 3), you should be all right.

Carat

The weight, and thus the size, of a diamond is measured by carat. A carat is equal to 0.2gm, or 200mgm. A carat is divided into 100 smaller units called points. For example, three-quarters of a carat is 75 points. The average size of most engagement-ring diamonds is somewhere between one carat and half a carat. Do not confuse carats with karats, the unit of purity for gold.

Certificate

Regarding ethical standards, the most important thing is to know where a diamond is coming from and the characteristics of the mine of origin. We mainly use traceable Canadian conflict-free sourced diamonds, as we believe that at present Canada has very good standards regarding diamond mining, and it is one of the only countries that has a certificate of Origin for their stones. To know more about the diamonds in each Arabel Lebrusan design, please see product descriptions for details on sourcing, certificates and origin.

Our approach to ethical jewellery

Arabel Lebrusan is committed to sourcing the finest materials mined and created only through sustainable practices. We look at all options available to find the most socially, environmentally and culturally responsible sources to ensure that every single engagement and wedding ring can be worn with peace of mind by the ethically-minded couple.

As one of the first jewellery designers in the UK to be Fairtrade certified, Arabel has always been dedicated to creating jewellery that is beautiful both inside and out, combining the ethical with exquisite design.

Ethical Metals

We use a variety of ethical metals in our wedding and engagement rings: Fairtrade gold, Fairtrade Eco gold, 100% recycled gold, Fairtrade Platinum, Fairtrade Eco Platinum, 100% recycled Platinum, Fairtrade Silver, Fairtrade Eco Silver and 100% recycled silver.

Our 100% recycled materials are sourced specifically from a carefully selected refinery, and buying Fairtrade certified gold jewellery ensures that small scale artisan miners and their communities are supported by receiving a fair price, and also through receiving extra money to invest in education, medical care and environmental projects.

If you would prefer to have your ring made from a different ethical metal, just drop us an email on customerservice@arabellebrusan.com and we will be happy to help.

Ethical Precious Stones

Our commitment to ethical materials doesn't stop at metals - we also ensure that every stone used in our jewellery is ethical also. This includes: responsibly-sourced diamonds, Canadian diamonds and fair trade precious stones (sapphires, garnets, smoky quartz and rubies to name a few).

Certified jewellery

Every Arabel Lebrusan engagement and wedding ring arrives with a certificate of origin to reassure you and your partner that your jewellery has been made using the most ethical materials available.

Our Charity

We donate a percentage of our profits to our chosen charity, The Water Project. Our reason for choosing The Water Project is to help the water problems in Sierra Leone, a country which suffered eleven years of civil war in part due to fighting over the diamond mining industry and traffic of blood diamonds.

Packaging

In line with Arabel's commitment to using the most ethical materials available, our beautiful engagement rings arrive in boxes made from 100% recycled cardboard and FSC paper for that ethical touch.



A few more considerations..

What looks best on her hands?

An elongated diamond, such as a marquise or oval can make short fingers look more sleek--but be careful not to overdo the look or it could have the opposite effect. Wide bands usually make fingers appear even shorter than they are, so think proportional. Women with long fingers can easily wear bold ring styles, conversely, a setting that's extremely delicate could get lost on large hands, over-emphasizing their size and making the ring look smaller.

Will the ring suit her lifestyle?

Not a very romantic consideration, but an important one nonetheless. Consider what kind of lifestyle she leads and if a certain style of ring would be a hindrance, for example a pointed stone with clasps could snag on clothing (and people) and can be more difficult to keep clean. Also, if her profession demands quite a conservative style, a more elaborately designed engagement ring could seem out of place.

Should I go for a bespoke option?

For couples looking for something different, Arabel also offers a bespoke jewellery service, which is most commonly sought after for the design of engagement rings. This can be done together as a couple after the proposal, or as a surprise for her, but opting for a bespoke ring is certainly something to be considered if you know she will want something unique, or if despite a lot of searching, you haven't found that perfect ring yet.

Bespoke engagement rings could start at around £800 and take around 6-8 weeks to create from the initial consultation to the final delivery.

Manufacture & Delivery

Once ordered, her perfect engagement ring will be with you in 6 weeks. Why the wait? All of Arabel's engagement rings feature responsibly sourced, conflict-free diamonds which are rare and have a high value in the world of jewellery, and we want to make sure that the perfect ethical diamond crowns the ring she will wear for the rest of her life.

We will contact you immediately with an estimated delivery time so that you are able to plan the proposal with the ring delivery date in mind.

Her ring will arrive via insured postage, packaged in a beautiful 100% recycled Arabel Lebrusan box to make a lasting impression and the perfect finishing touch to your proposal.

Sizing: Getting the correct fit

So you've found the ring of your girl's dreams, but how do you know if it fits? A simple way of finding out the size of your fiancée's ring finger would be to take another of her rings and find out its size. The easiest way to do this is to follow the instructions on the following page, or get it sized by a jeweller.

However, bearing in mind that she's unlikely to be wearing a ring on the intended finger (the old wives tale about it being bad luck puts most off!) this won't be an exact science, and even taking a ring from the same finger on her right hand won't guarantee a good fit as most people's hands vary slightly from each other, but it's a good start.

Remember that sizing down the ring is easier than making a ring larger, but neither should be too problematic if undertaken by a good jeweller.

How to find her ring size

For use with a ring. For the greatest accuracy, use a ring that with a similar width band and style to the one you wish to purchase.

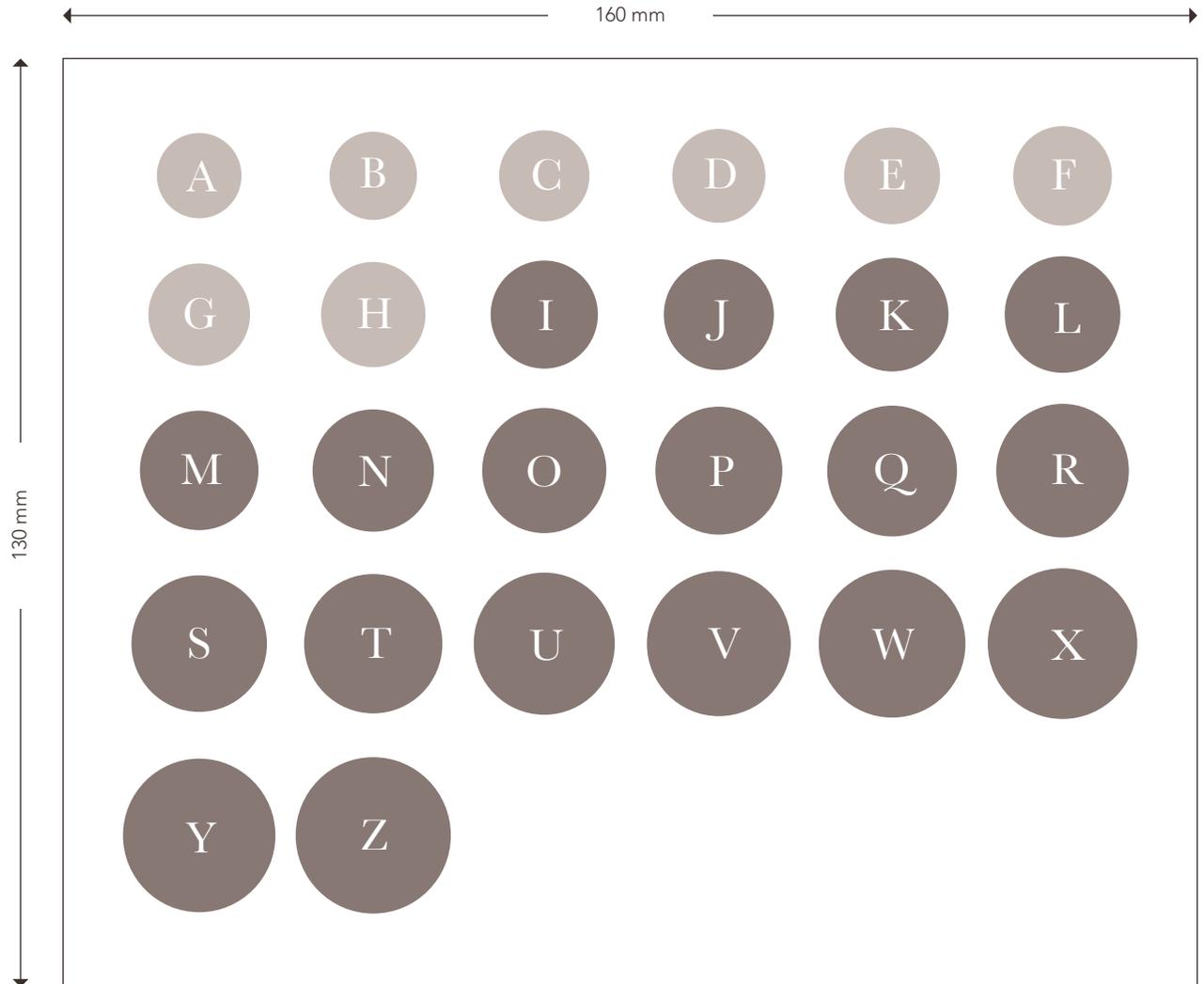
1. Print this document at 100% size. Make sure the options to 'scale to fit page' or 'shrink to fit' are not selected in the print window.
2. Check your print size by measuring the outer box with a ruler to ensure it matches the dimensions marked.
3. Place the ring over the circles on the chart and choose the circle that best matches the internal diameter of the ring.
4. Her ring size is the letter shown within the circle.

If you can't choose between two sizes, remember that sizing down a ring is easier than making a ring larger.

Note: This ring sizer is provided as a guide only. For further information or advice on ring sizes, contact our customer services department on:

By phone: +44 (0)794 6942350 (9am - 5pm - Monday-Friday)

By email: customerservice@arabellebrusan.com



Any further questions?

We hope this PDF has been a useful resource in helping you to answer all the big questions that inevitably come with the decision to purchase an engagement ring!

If you feel your fiance-to-be would love a truly unique piece, why not consider a bespoke engagement ring? For more information about commissioning a bespoke piece of jewellery, get in touch and we will be happy to talk you through the process.

If you have any further questions about our engagement rings and how we can help, don't hesitate to get in touch!

customerservice@arabellebrusan.com

+44 (0) 794 694 2350



About Arabel Lebrusan



Arabel Lebrusan is an award-winning designer of intricately beautiful designer jewellery. Her collections contain a mix of traditional craftsmanship with original, chic designs, giving a vintage quality to her pieces.

As one of the first designers in the UK to be Fairtrade certified, she offers an extensive collection of wedding and engagement rings that are beautiful both inside and out for the ethical couple. For the bride and groom looking for something extra special, Arabel offers a bespoke design service to bring a couple's jewellery dreams to life, combining the ethical with exquisite design.