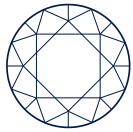


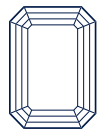


THE 4CS

Cut



Round



Emerald



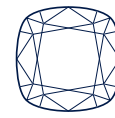
Pear



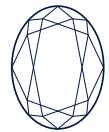
Heart



Marquise



Cushion



Oval

In the context of the 4Cs, cut refers to the shape of a diamond which falls into two categories; round and fancy shape.

Round diamonds are perfectly symmetrical and capable of reflecting nearly all the light that enters. It is the most brilliant of all diamond shapes and follows specific proportional guidelines.

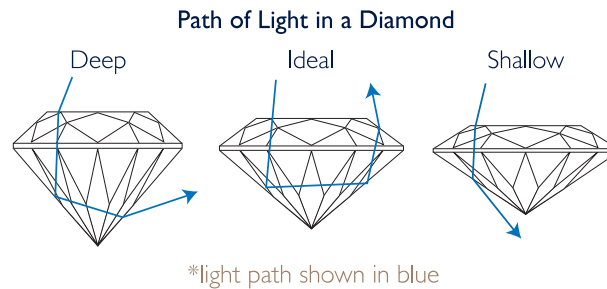
Fancy shapes, which include cushion, pear and oval have their own guidelines to be considered well cut.





THE 4CS

Cut



In many ways, the cut of a diamond is the least understood of the 4Cs. It is often thought the cut specifically refers to its shape but cut also includes its angles, proportions, polish and symmetry.

The way a diamond is cut determines how light enters and leaves the stone, which affects its “life” and “fire”. A well cut round diamond has 57 different surfaces, or “facets”. Those on the crown or top draw light into the centre of the stone, while the pavilion or bottom facets bounce the light back and forth before reflecting out through the crown. The result is a display of brilliance and fire.

Diamonds that are cut too deep or too shallow will lose or leak light through the side or bottom, resulting in less brilliance and ultimately, less beauty.

At Ronald Abram, cut is the most important of the 4Cs as it’s the most noticeable of the characteristics. So, our advice is to seek diamonds cut to the most perfect proportions.



THE 4CS

Carat










The number of carats in a diamond refers to its weight. A metric carat is 200 milligrams, or 0.20 grams in weight. A carat may be divided into 100 “points” so a 0.75 ct diamond may also be called a 75 point diamond.

There’s a common misconception that the heavier the diamond, the more valuable it will be. However, factors such as cut, clarity and colour should also be considered when determining value.

For this reason, smaller diamonds can sometimes be worth more than larger diamonds with inferior characteristics. Stones of equal weight can also vary significantly in value.

Diamond Size Chart

| | |
|---|-----------|
|  | 1.00 ct. |
|  | 1.50 ct. |
|  | 2.00 ct. |
|  | 3.00 ct. |
|  | 4.00 ct. |
|  | 5.00 ct. |
|  | 10.00 ct. |

*This chart does not reflect actual carat sizes and is only shown for the purpose of proportionality.



THE 4CS

Colour



Most diamonds appear icy white or colourless but many have hints of colour. Diamonds are graded on a colour scale established by the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), ranging from D (colourless) through to Z.

To the naked eye, there is only a slight difference between a colourless and a near-colourless diamond. While colourless diamonds are the most rare and therefore the most valuable, beautiful diamonds exist within every category of colour.

Diamonds also exist in a variety of fancy colours including pink, blue, green and red. These are truly rare and exceptional stones.

GIA Colour Scale

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| D | E | F |
|---|---|---|

Colourless

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| G | H | I | J |
|---|---|---|---|

Near colourless

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| K | L | M |
|---|---|---|

Faint yellow

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | O | P | Q | R |
|---|---|---|---|---|

Very light yellow

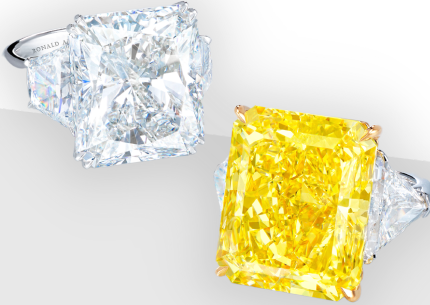
| |
|-----|
| S-Z |
|-----|

Light yellow



THE 4CS

Clarity



Imperfections occur naturally in diamonds. These are known as clarity characteristics and are developed by minerals or fractures while the diamond forms in the earth.

Clarity is measured by a diamond's internal imperfections (inclusions) and surface irregularities (blemishes). The position, size and number of inclusions can significantly affect the value of a diamond.

The number, size and location of inclusions is ranked on a scale of clarity from Flawless (FL) to Included (I) by the Gemological Institute of America (GIA). Such imperfections are not readily visible without magnification, and the differences between each category on the scale are very subtle.

GIA Clarity Scale

| | |
|--------|---|
| IF | No visible characteristics under magnification |
| VVS | Very minor characteristics just visible under magnification |
| VSI-2 | Minor characteristics visible under magnification |
| SII-2 | Characteristics visible under magnification |
| I1-2-3 | Characteristics visible with the naked eye |