

## CARAT SIZE

Differences in size are clearly visible to the untrained eye.

So while size **does** matter in a sense, It is **not**, however, a measure of your love.

The carat is the diamond's physical weight measured in metric carats. One carat equals 1/5 gram and is divided into 100 points to be able to measure very accurately.

Carat is specifically a measure of a diamond's weight, and by itself may not accurately reflect a diamond's size.

We have a tendency to evaluate diamond size by viewing it from the top because that is how we see it when set into a ring. To have an accurate idea about the size, carat weight should be examined together with two other criteria:

- ❖ Size of the diamond (distance in millimeters across the top)
- ❖ Diamond's cut grade.

It is important to consider a diamond's cut grade because much of the weight of a poorly cut diamond may be "hidden" in the base or the girdle, making the diamond appear smaller than its carat weight would suggest. Consequently it is possible to have a diamond of a lower carat weight, but higher cut grade, which appears larger than a diamond with a larger carat weight, but poor cut.

Larger diamonds are found a lot less frequently than smaller ones, because of that, large diamonds are rare and have a greater value per carat. For that reason, the price of a diamond rises exponentially with its size.

 0.25ct 4.09×4.09 mm	 0.5ct 5.16×5.16 mm	 0.75ct 5.91×5.91 mm	 1ct 6.5×6.5 mm	 1.25ct 7×7 mm	 1.5ct 7.44×7.44 mm	 1.75ct 7.83×7.83 mm	 2ct 8.19×8.19 mm
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## CERTIFICATION

A diamond certificate, also called a diamond grading report is the 'blueprint' of a diamond, created by a team of gemologists, using trained eyes and industry tools like a microscope, master stones etc.

It describes the diamond's exact measurements and weight, clarity, colour, polish and symmetry, fluorescence, and a plot of the clarity characteristics. For round stones it will also have a cut grade. It precisely points out all the individual characteristics of the stone and serves as proof of the diamond's identity.

- ❖ The Gemmological Institute of America (**GIA**) and the American Gem Society Laboratories (**AGSL**) are among the most respected laboratories in the diamond industry, and are known for their consistency and unbiased grading systems. Diamonds that are accompanied by these grading reports are the most highly valued in the industry.
- ❖ A certificate from either of these laboratories ensures that you have an accurate assessment of your diamond.
- ❖ While there are many other diamond grading laboratories, different labs have different grading standards, and some will be more lenient with their standards than others. If you are purchasing a diamond with a report from another laboratory, make sure you research their standards.

Shopping for certified diamonds allows you to compare one diamond with a particular weight and quality with other diamonds of similar weight and quality, make an informed choice about your diamond selections and to comparison shop among various merchants to determine which diamond is the better value.

When you are comparing prices make sure you are comparing stones with reports from the **same** laboratory, because there are different values attached to different lab's certificates.

- ❖ If you are buying a diamond without a certificate, keep in mind that it means, the quality of the diamond is based only on the word of the seller, and that a trained gemologist or even another seller may disagree with his/her assessment.
- ❖ An appraisal is not the same thing as a certificate. A certificate describes and proves the quality of a diamond, but it does not have a value attached to it. An appraisal places a monetary value on your diamond or diamond jewellery, but does not certify the quality of the diamond.