

DIAMONDS



Diamond is a mineral species. Being pure carbon it is the only gemstone consisting of a single element.



Name: From Greek “adamas” (invincible, unconquerable, unbreakable) a reference to the extreme hardness of diamond.



Appearance: Usually white to yellow or brown, but can be virtually any colour. PANDORA uses round, brilliant cut white diamonds (G-H/VS), cognac colour diamonds and heat enhanced black diamonds.

General: Due to its unique hardness and unsurpassed ability to interact with light diamond is the uncontested king of gems. It has been known by man since at least 800 BC, but it was developments in cutting technique in the fifteenth century that

finally began to unlock the true brilliance and fire of diamonds.

Unlike other gemstones the four rarity/quality/value parameters of individual diamonds can be described using internationally standardized terminology – the 4C’s from Carat (weight), Colour, Clarity and Cut.

Colours in the colourless to light yellow/brown range are graded from D (colourless or exceptional white) to Z (light yellow/light brown). Colour is a matter of personal taste, but colourless diamonds are rarer than yellowish or brownish ones and therefore more costly. The white diamonds in PANDORA jewellery are graded G-H (near colourless or white).

Clarity grades are expressions of the visibility of inclusions (internal characteristics) and blemishes (external characteristics) under 10X magnification.

D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
COLOURLESS			NEAR COLOURLESS				FAINT YELLOW			VERY LIGHT YELLOW				LIGHT YELLOW								

GIA Colour Scale

Blemishes and inclusions should not be regarded as simply negative characteristics. Just like fingerprints, they are part of what marks the diamond as unique. Moreover, they are proof that a diamond is formed in a natural process and can be used to distinguish between natural diamonds and synthetics. The main grades are Flawless, Internally Flawless (IF), Very Very Slightly Included (VVS), Very Slightly Included (VS), Slightly Included (SI) and Included (I). Flawless diamonds are much rarer than included ones and therefore more costly, but clarity is basically a rarity factor since clarity characteristics visible to the unaided eye appear in the (I) range only. The white diamonds in PANDORA jewellery are graded VS, which means that inclusions are small and only observed with effort under 10X magnification.



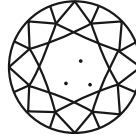
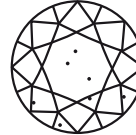

Yellow and brown diamonds with a colour outside the D-Z range and colours other than yellow and brown are called fancy colours. In this range colour is everything and clarity often ignored. The

cognac colour diamonds in PANDORA jewellery are examples of naturally coloured diamonds in the yellow to brown range.

Black diamonds occur in nature, but most of them are impossible to cut due to an aggregate structure or they have a greyish often very inhomogeneous colour making it hard to find matching stones. Like the heat enhanced black diamonds in PANDORA jewellery the vast majority of black diamonds on the market therefore owe their colour to treatment.

Processing: The black diamonds in PANDORA jewellery have had their uniform black colour created by heat treatment in a vacuum. The colour is permanent under normal conditions and requires no special care.

All other diamonds in PANDORA jewellery are cut/polished only.

GIA Clarity Grading Scale										
GIA	FL-IF	VVS ₁	VVS ₂	VS ₁	VS ₂	SI ₁	SI ₂	I ₁	I ₂	I ₃
Clarity Grading Scale	Internally Flawless	Very Very Slight Inclusions		Very Slight Inclusions		Slight Inclusions		Imperfect		
										

Durability: With a hardness of 10 Mohs (hundreds of times harder than any other natural stone), good toughness in cleavage directions and exceptional toughness in all other directions combined with an extraordinary resistance to chemical attack makes diamond extremely durable and ideal for all kinds of jewellery.

Special care: No

Sources: Diamonds are primarily found in Africa (mainly Botswana), Russia and Canada.

Lore:

- Ancient Greeks named the diamond “adamas,” meaning “invincible,” “indestructible,” “proper,” and “untamed.” Warriors in ancient Greece wore diamonds as the stones were thought to strengthen the warriors’ muscles and bring them invincibility.
- The power, hardness and beauty of the diamond have been prized throughout history in many civilizations. The famous Persian poet Hafiz remarked that, “the rainbow is confined in a diamond forever”.
- In antiquity, a diamond was always thought to be a symbol of innocence and purity. Ancient Greeks thought that diamonds represented the tears of weeping gods.
- Ancient Romans thought diamonds were splinters of fallen stars.
- Almost every civilization has some kind of lore about the diamond. Every civilization’s lore however, shares one theme- that the diamond symbolizes all forces necessary for a healthy society, and that it brings its wearer great strength.
- The diamond was always considered a stone of winners. In fact, it was the talisman of Julius Caesar, Louis IV and Napoleon. In the middle ages diamonds were associated with victory, strength, courage and fortitude.
- Later diamonds came to symbolize love, beauty and success. They have also become almost synonymous with love and marriage, a diamond ring, especially a diamond solitaire, is the classic engagement ring and considered the ultimate gift of love.

