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Engagement ring shopping is a big deal. Not only are you under the pressure of this monumental decision you are about to make, but, now you want to impress upon her just how sincere you are in this commitment of a lifetime. Loose diamonds make it possible to make that statement with jewelry.

A Few Things You Should Know about Certified Loose Diamonds

It might seem, at first, that you have a lot to learn about diamonds prior to making a purchase if you want to ensure the best selection. While there is a lot that goes into the rating and value assessment of diamonds, from a consumer perspective, you really only need to be concerned with four things. They are cut, color, carats and clarity; more familiarly known as the four CTMs.

Cut

The cut of a diamond refers to its basic shape. Pear, Princess, Round and Marquise are just a few examples of different diamond cuts which can be purchased as loose diamonds and then fitted into a custom setting for a one-of-a-kind engagement ring.

Color

Loose diamonds come in different shades, such as pink or chocolate, but color is really a term used to determine diamond quality. Some diamonds exhibit a slight yellowish tint or other moderate discoloration. The “clearer” colored the diamond, the more valuable and higher quality it is considered to be.

Carats

Loose diamonds are measured by carat weight. This term refers to the size of a solitaire diamond, while the term “total carat weight” refers collectively to all of the diamonds, large and small, comprising a single piece of jewelry.

Clarity

The clarity of loose diamonds refers to their translucence. The bigger a diamond is, the more likely it is to have flaws internally. While these “flaws” are not typically visible to the naked eye, they can affect the “sparkle” factor of loose diamonds, and are most definitely a determining factor in a diamondTMs value assessment.

The Value of Loose Diamonds for Custom Engagement Rings

Certified loose diamonds are a wonderful option for the person looking to create a unique and beautiful piece of jewelry of their very own design. The thoughtfulness behind the gesture of designing your own engagement ring for that special someone is a declaration all its own of the one-of-a-kind love you share. You can choose to design a ring around a single diamond, or vice versa; choosing a favorite ring design first and allowing that to determine the perfect diamond. Either way, itTMs sure to be a ring sheTMll love to wear for a lifetime.

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[Alexandra Gulkin](#) - About Author:

Alexandra Gulkin is a reporter, writer and columnist in the jewelry industry. She is celebrated for her real-time coverage of trade shows, jewelry trends in a [loose diamonds](#), gemstones, events and secrets on where to find the highest quality a [certified loose diamonds](#).

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