
CHARLTON & LOLA

PRECIOUS WISDOM

Thank You

Thank you for buying the audiobook ***Precious: An Ultimate Guide to Loving and Selecting a Diamond Engagement Ring.***

Enjoy this precious bonus on fine jewelry and diamonds.

If you developed a passion for diamonds, gemstones and fine jewelry, please know there is a wealth of information, from major books to online resources, to research and learn more.

If you enjoyed the audiobook, please take a moment to put in a review on Audible. It is greatly appreciated, Thank you.



How to Measure Your Ring Size!

A ring should fit comfortably on your finger –snug enough so it will not slip off, but loose enough to slide over the knuckle with some resistance.

Consider the knuckle: if it is on the larger side, consider half a size bigger than what the sizer indicates, otherwise you won't be able slide a ring into the right place.

The smartest option is to order a ring sizer on the internet. Amazon is the best option for an affordable ring sizer. I prefer metal ring sizers for their sturdiness over plastic ones.

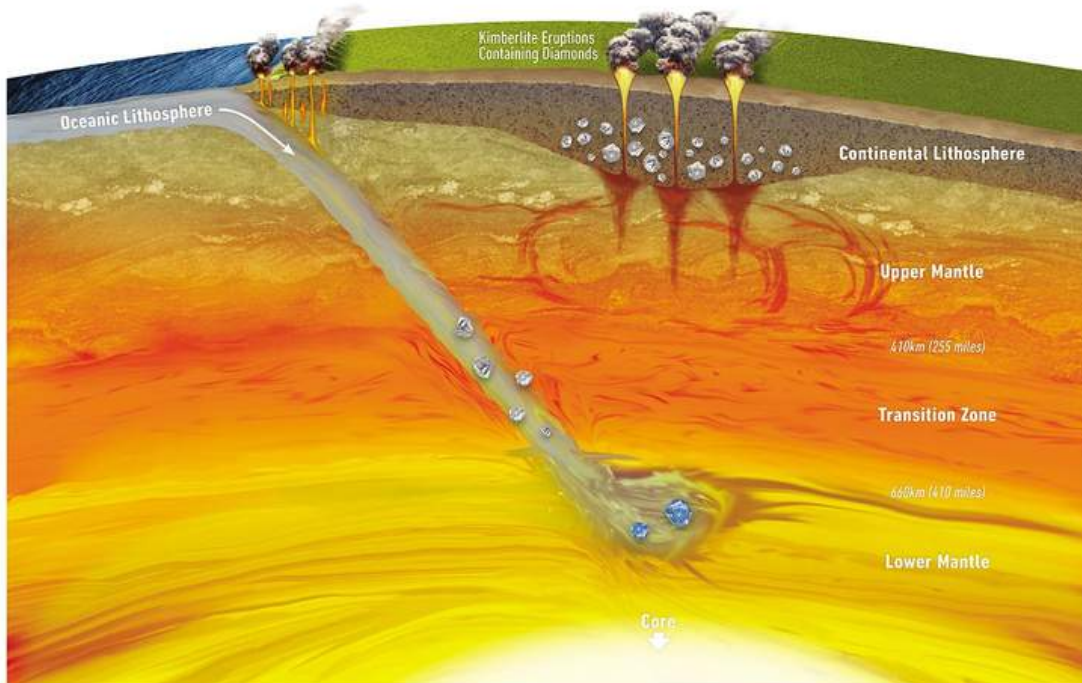
For a surprise engagement, take one of your partner's rings to the jewelry store or the jeweler for professional sizing.

If you cannot sneak a ring, look online and print out a "true-to-size" ring size chart, and place a ring on the circles until you find the one that matches up with the inside circumference of the ring.

Be aware that it is likely a ring will have to be resized when doing a surprise proposal- the jewelry store or jeweler will offer such a service.

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The Gemological Institute of America (GIA) 4Cs

Nature's finest work: the diamond.

Diamonds formed 90 million to 3 billion years ago at a depth of 90 to 400 miles beneath Earth's surface. Extreme temperature (more than 2100°F [1150°C]) and pressure (45,000 times greater than sea level) cause carbon atoms to form incredibly tight bonds. The result was the hardest gemstone on Earth — diamond.



Rough natural diamonds: Photo Natural Diamond Council

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Mary of Burgundy, Half-Length in Profile
Oil on panel, 80 x 56 cm
Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna

The First Engagement Ring

In 1477 Archduke Maximilian of Hamburg presented his wife to be, Mary of Burgundy, with a diamond engagement ring as a gift to mark their engagement.

At the time, diamonds were exceptionally rare and very costly, and for the next few centuries the giving of diamond engagement rings was limited to only the richest and noblest of families.

The diamond engagement ring was the Archduke's written marriage proposal. It consisted of a small number of oblong shaped (possibly early marquise cut) diamonds arranged in the form of a letter 'M', for Mary, and set on a plain band.

A Diamond is Forever



Diamonds were on a downward trend after the Great Depression. Mary Frances Gerety, who primarily went by 'Frances' worked with only one main account: De Beers at the time. In 1947, Frances wrote "A Diamond Is Forever" for an advertising campaign for De Beers. She would go on to write all of the company's ads for 25 years.

[Read More About Her in the New York Times article: "How Diamonds Became Forever"](#)

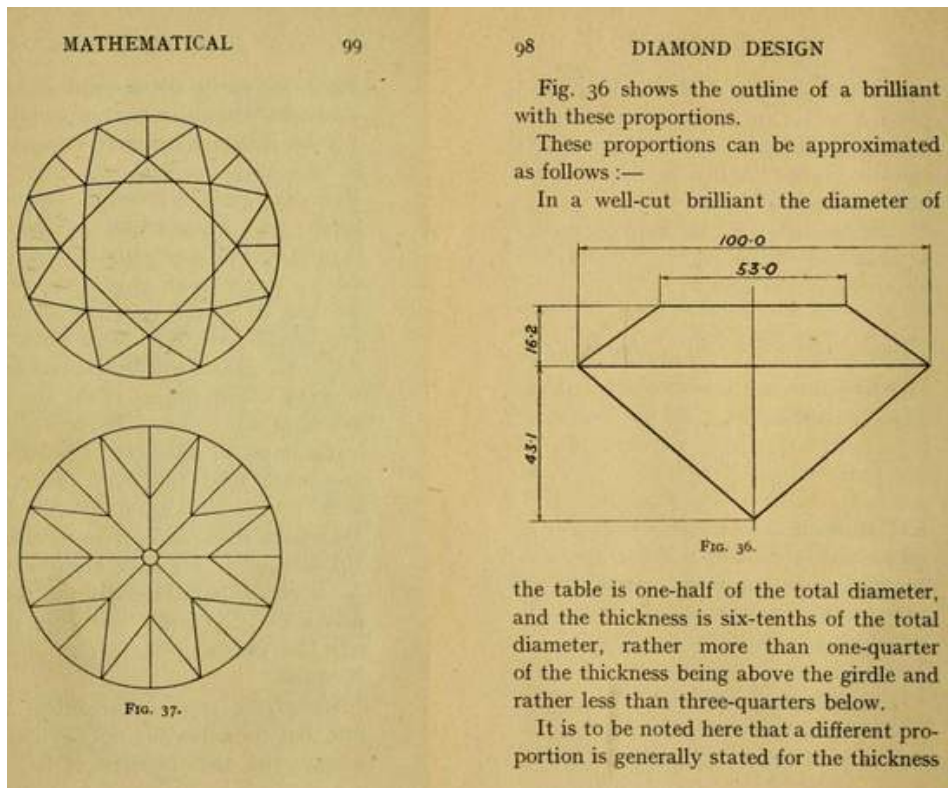
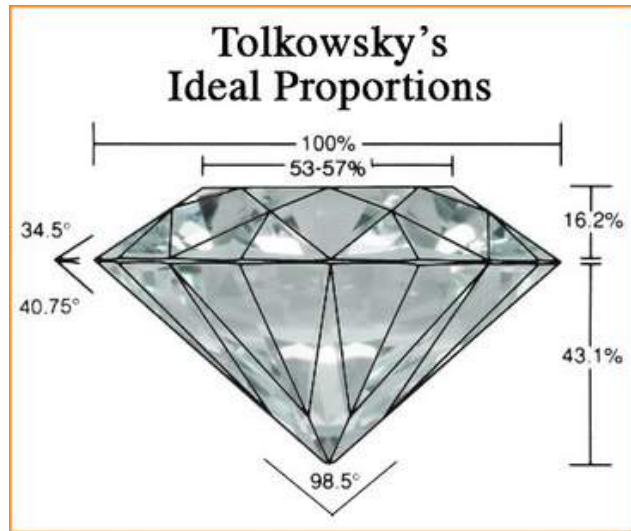
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Brilliant Cut Diamond

It was in 1919 when Marcel Tolowsky published his essay Diamond Design, where he shared the ideal proportions of diamonds. An essay resulting from the mathematical study of shapes and light in order to extract the maximum beauty of the precious stone.

The Ideal Cut consists of 58 perfectly proportioned diamond facets; 33 facets are on the crown or above the diamond's girdle and the other 25 facets are located on the pavilion, known as the conical base of the diamond. Marcel's formula has been used as a diamond cutting guideline for many years with a few different interpretations of the Ideal Cut.



Marcel Tolowsky's essay Diamond Design

Precious Care

Some tips to take care of your valuable treasures...

Most diamonds and colored gems can be cleaned with warm water, mild dish soap (no detergents) and a soft brush. Keep a soft, lint-free cloth on hand. Be sure to rinse your jewelry in a glass of water to remove cleaning solutions since you risk losing loose stones – or even an entire piece of jewelry – if you rinse directly in the sink.

Keep jewelry in unlikely places. Jewelry boxes are an obvious place for thieves to look.

Fine jewelry should be removed before diving into a chlorinated swimming pool or before using household cleaners. Many of these cleaners contain ammonia, which can be too harsh. Chlorine bleach, another common household solvent, can pit or damage gold alloys.

Always take time to place jewelry in a secure place, not in a pocket, on a counter, or in a public area.

When not wearing your jewelry, place each item in a separate soft, compact container. If cluttered together, jewelry can become scratched -- even diamonds.

Salt water and jewelry don't mix. Ocean water can damage some stones and metals.

Exposure to chemicals can damage or discolor precious metals – gold, silver and platinum – and may harm some colored gems. Even everyday substances like hairspray, lotion, perfume or other cosmetics can contain chemicals that will permanently damage fine jewelry.

Love From New York City's Diamond District

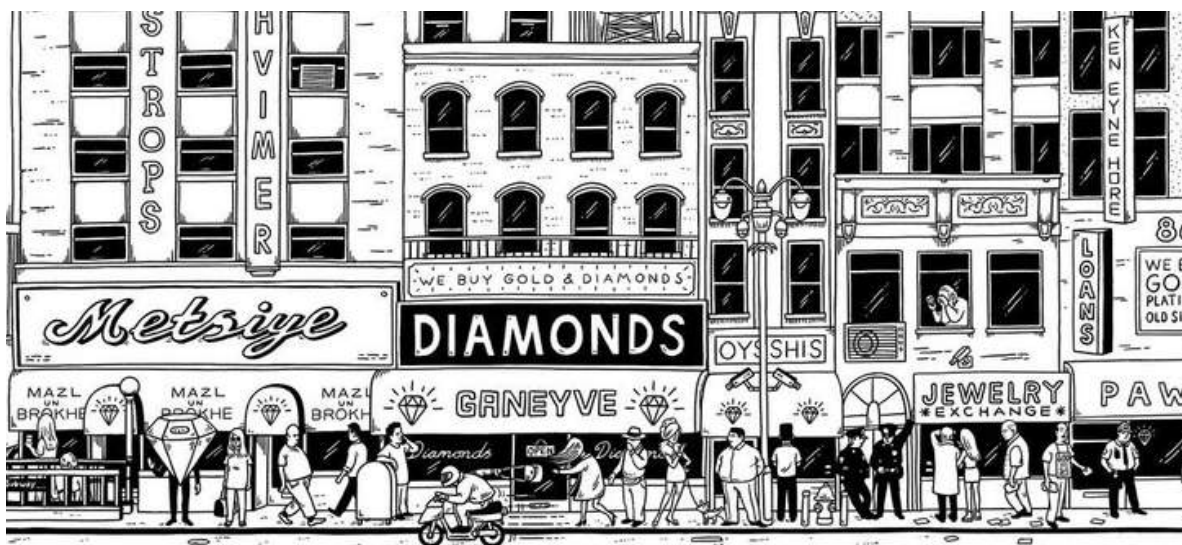


Illustration by Andrew Rae in "The Secret Slang of the Diamond District", a New York Times Article

A Precious City

Jewelry is New York's third largest industry. Did you know NYC is the gateway to the world's largest consumer diamond market? Over 90 percent of the diamonds that enter the U.S.A pass through NYC.

Next time you are in New York City walk up to West 47th Street between Fifth and the Avenue of the Americas in midtown Manhattan. The District is within walking distance of Rockefeller Center, Radio City Music Hall and St. Patrick's Cathedral.