

Emerald

The quality and value of an emerald is dependant on a combination of the following criteria:

An emerald's weight is measured in carats. 5 carats = 1 gram. All other criteria being equal, the greater the carat weight, the rarer the emerald and therefore greater its value. Illustrated below is the approximate appearance of a well cut octagon shaped emerald for a given carat weight.

CARAT



SHAPE AND CUT

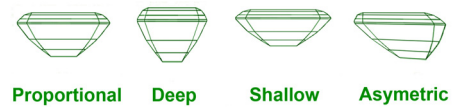
To optimize the natural rough, emeralds are cut into a wide variety of shapes such as those illustrated below.

CUT



PROFILE

Cut refers to the accuracy of the angles, proportions, symmetry and polish of the emerald. It greatly affects how light travels within the emerald, and how it exits in the form of brilliance.



COLOUR

Colour is a matter of personal preference. Emeralds vary in colour depending mainly upon their chromium and vanadium content. Therefore emeralds from different countries* and mines have different predominant colours. Emeralds range from bluish and yellowish shades to brownish ones. But, a natural colour will always have a greater value than an equivalent colour obtained by any other process.



* Main countries where emeralds are mined: Afghanistan, Brazil, Columbia, India, Madagascar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Inks and paper are subject to aging and differences in printing techniques. Therefore these colours should not be used for colour references.

CLARITY

INCLUSIONS

The clarity of an emerald is determined by the number, size and location of inclusions which are present in the stone. They reflect its fascinating geological aspects. Internally and externally too, there may be the presence of fissures, fractures and cavities which affect clarity.



TRANSPARENCY

Transparency refers to the ability of an emerald to transmit light. It is affected by the quantity or absence of opacity and brilliance present in the stone.



Gemstone Modification

A NATURAL UNPROCESSED EMERALD IS VERY RARE; IT HAS A GREATER INTRINSIC VALUE THAN ONE WHICH HAS UNDERGONE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MAIN PROCESSES:

CLARITY MODIFICATION: Besides cutting and polishing, emeralds are commonly modified to improve their colour and clarity.

FISSURE FILLING: Fissures, wide fractures and cavities may be filled with colourless and/or near-colourless oil, resins or other agents to significantly improve clarity.

DYED: Beryl / Emeralds may undergo a substantial colour modification through the filling of fissures and fractures with coloured agents.

It is required that customers be informed about such modifications.

Ask for a written confirmation.

Value of a gemstone

In addition to the information on the front, the value of a gemstone is also defined by the combination of relative beauty, rarity and durability.

Synthetic and imitation stones can be produced in industrial plants in any quantity and are therefore not rare and not considered precious. As a result, they cost much less than their natural counterparts of equal characteristics.

For additional information and knowledge, please refer to the CIBJO Gemstone Book available at:

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