



DIAMONDPORT  
DIAMOND MERCHANT

# 13 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW THAT IS MISSING FROM A GIA DIAMOND CERTIFICATE





When researching online about diamonds, you will find that most diamonds have a GIA certificate. A GIA certificate is a diamond grading report from the **Gemological Institute of America.**

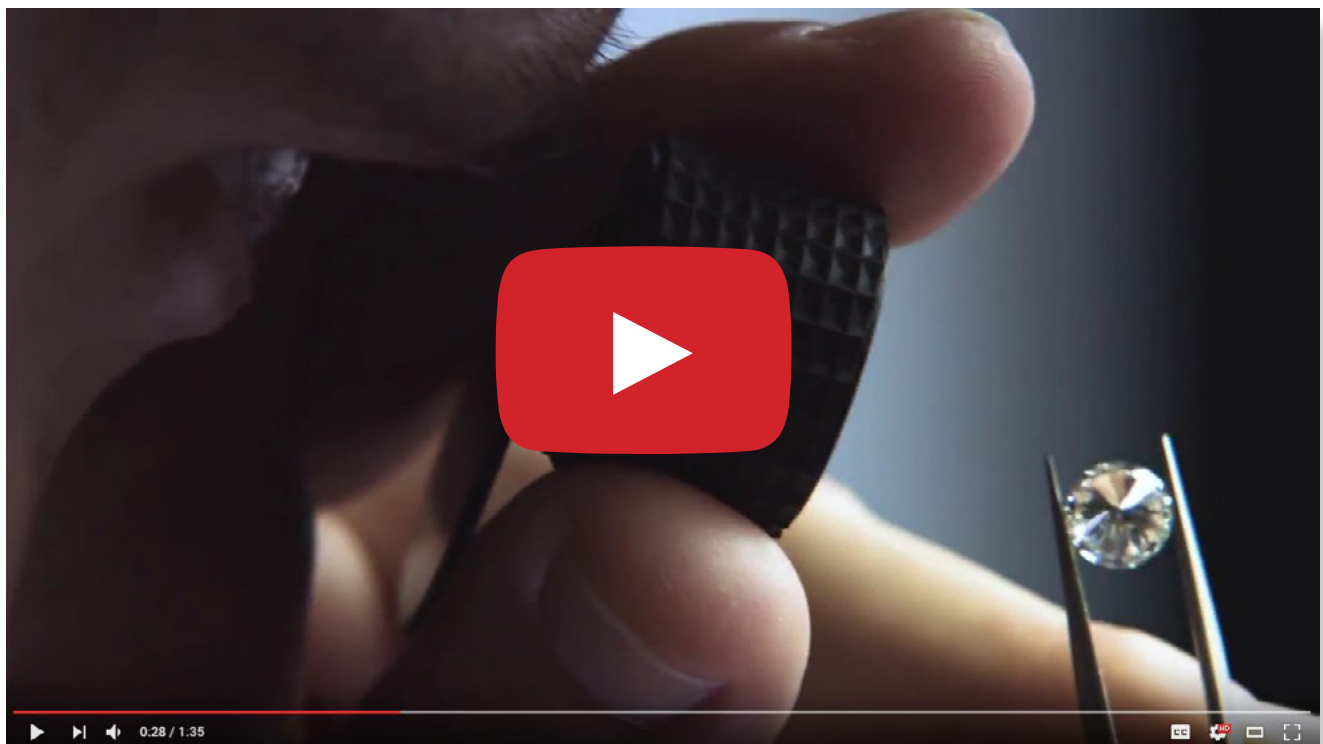
You may think that's all you have to know, but unfortunately it is only a small part of it. A **GIA certificate** does not tell you how beautiful a diamond is, nor does it tell you the full facts.

You still need an expert to **READ IN BETWEEN THE LINES,** to make sure you're not **buying a lemon.** By reading this report, you will gain more knowledge than **95% of jewellers.**

# My name is Ashley Portas.

I am a Diamond Merchant. I have been working in the trade for over a decade. I have written this report for young guys like you so you can;


- ✓ Be Informed about all the aspects of diamonds  
**NOT on a GIA certificate,**
- ✓ Be able to ask the jeweller or retailer all the right questions,
- ✓ Buy the best DIAMOND for your money,
- ✓ HAVE peace of Mind



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# 1. Shade

You should always ask if the diamond has a colour shade. Now, this is not something that is ever on a GIA certificate, but diamonds can have brown shades. Sometimes they can even have a green shade, and sometimes they can have a yellow shade. This doesn't come into factor when GIA determines the colour of the diamond. So this something to ask because sometimes a diamond can actually look brown, even though it's a 'colourless' diamond. Usually the diamonds sold on online websites that come up first when a consumer searches will have a colour shade. This is why it appears cheap. A diamond professional steers clear of these diamonds.



## 2. Lustre

Not all diamonds have an excellent lustre. Lustre of the diamond is the 'fire' and brilliance that has a diamond sparkle. Sometimes if a diamond's got a strong fluorescence or it's got large 'clouds' within the diamond, it can appear milky and dull. This is something you must ask.



## 3. Fluorescence

Fluorescence is on a GIA certificate. GIA describes if it's faint, medium, or strong, but that's it. It doesn't tell you how it affects the diamond. Some diamonds can have strong fluorescence, but it doesn't affect the look of the diamond, whereas others can appear milky. This is usually due to the fact that the diamond has got a large cloud in it and if it's got strong fluorescence, it will make the diamond appear milky.

Sometimes diamonds with faint or medium fluorescence can enhance the diamond. Say, if you were on a budget and you wanted to buy a white diamond, but your budget didn't allow it, but because you wanted a certain size, you could buy a diamond that's an I or J in colour and the medium fluorescence can actually make it appear to be a closer to a G. So that's one way you can actually buy a diamond with fluorescence that can enhance the look of the diamond. These are little things an honest diamond professional can guide you through when selecting your diamond.



## 4. Cut

Only Round brilliant cut (RBC) diamonds have a cut grade on a GIA certificate. Most diamond manufactures now have a cut grade rating for fancy (anything but RBC) cut diamonds, even though GIA doesn't have a universal one. If you would like to invest in a Fancy cut diamond there is no excellent cut, a very good cut, or a poor cut; or a fair cut. So this is something that you should ask, if you're buying anything other than a RBC diamond.

### GIA CUT SCALE

EXCELLENT

VERY GOOD

GOOD

FAIR

POOR





## 5. Hearts and Arrows

‘Hearts and Arrows’ diamonds are precision-cut variations of the traditional 57 faceted round brilliant cut. They are cut to ideal proportions with good optical symmetry, polish and a specific faceting pattern. When all these factors are present, the result is a repeatable, near perfect pattern of eight symmetrical arrows in the face-up position of the stone (called ‘crown’) and eight symmetrical hearts when viewed in the table-down position (called ‘pavilion’).















# 7. Clarity Grading

GIA does tell you what the diamond's clarity grade is, but what it doesn't tell you is if it's a light SI1 or a heavy SI1, a light SI2 or a heavy SI2 etc. Some SI2 marks are very heavy and they should almost be classed a I1(Included 1) as they're closer to--as a GIA graded diamond--an included 1 diamond. Some inclusions are near the girdle [the outside ridge of the diamond]; some are in the middle of the diamond in the table. All these things all affect the price and they all affect the look of the diamond. It is good to know the placement of the inclusion, and also if it is heavy or light for it's grading. At Diamondport, we always like to pick diamonds that are light for their grading.

## Diamond Quality Chart

GRADE	FL	IF	VVS1, VVS2	VS1, VS2	SI1	SI2, SI3	I1, I2	I3
								
CATEGORY	FLAWLESS	INTERNALLY FLAWLESS	VERY VERY SLIGHTLY INCLUDED	VERY SLIGHTLY INCLUDED	SLIGHTLY INCLUDED		INCLUDED	

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## 8. Eye Clean

A GIA diamond grading report does not tell you if a diamond is eye clean. Lots of factors effect weather or not a diamond is determined 'eye-clean' by a diamond professional. We may determine a diamond is not eye-clean, even though you can't see the mark straight away. A diamond professional will know that sometimes certain marks don't show up easily to the consumer until the ring has been worn and is a little dirty. This is when the mark will be obviouse, and your bride to be won't be to happy about everyone noticing the big mark in the middle of the table you didn't notice when you picked it up.

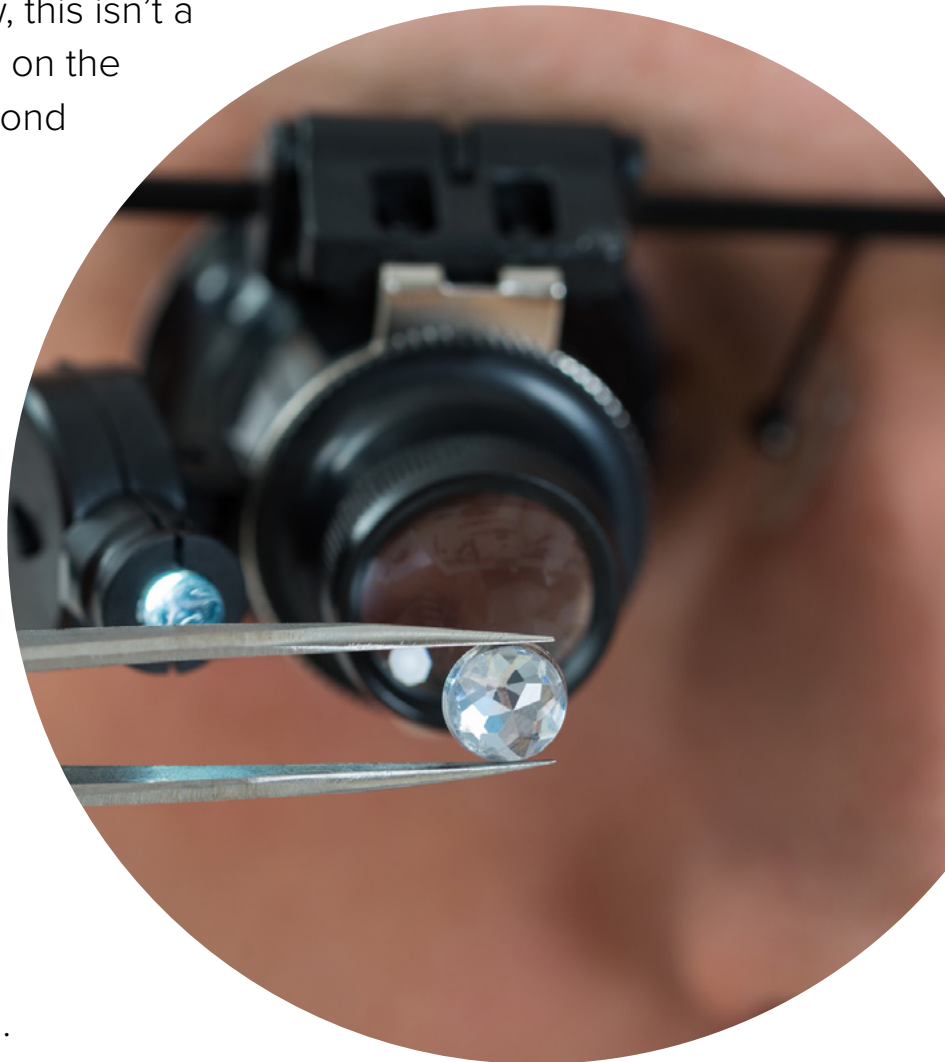
Now, you might expect that if a diamond has a clarity grading of SI2 or above, it's going to be eye clean, but this is not always the case. Depending on where the mark is or how big the diamond is, will determine if the diamond is determined 'eye clean'. This is a question you need to always ask, especially with diamonds in the SI1 – SI2 range.





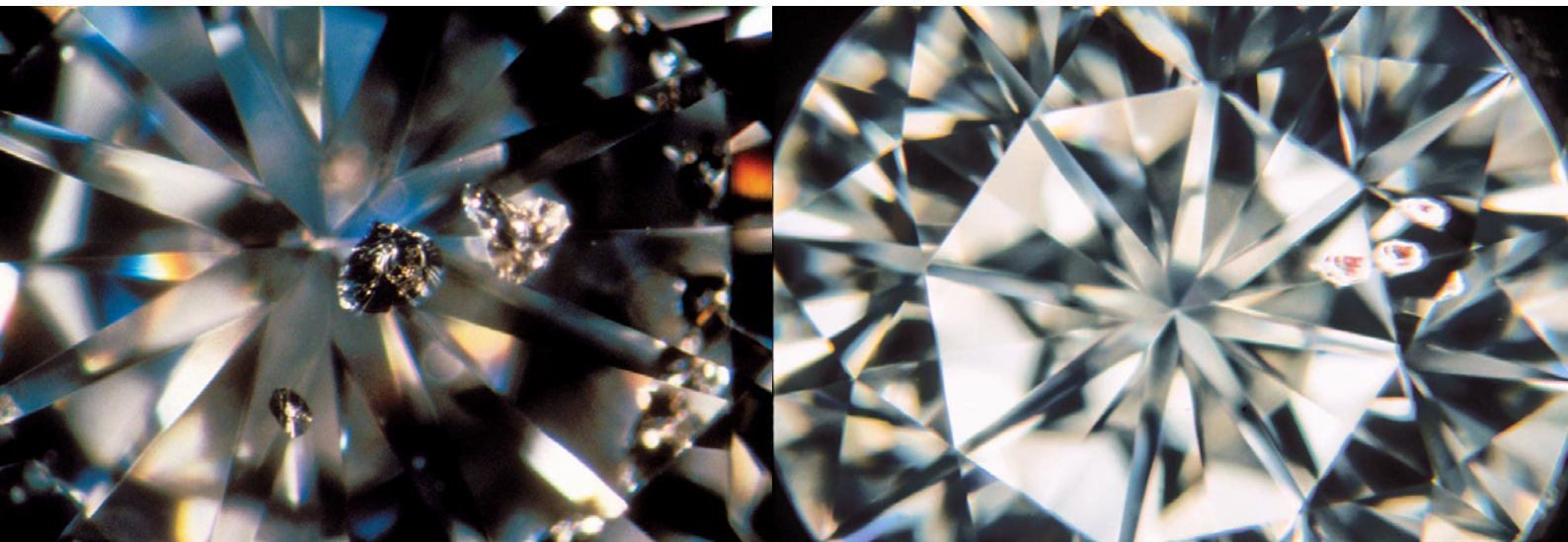
## 9. Surface Reaching Marks

GIA doesn't ever tell you whether the mark is surface reaching. Now, this isn't a huge issue if the mark is on the pavilion facets of a diamond (the rear). They can become problematic if they are on the girdle, especially a thin girdle, or if the open marks are on the table of the diamond. This is because this is where any impact is going to happen and an open mark is a point of weakness in the diamond. This is something that you can ask, or a good diamond professional can tell you.



# 10. Colour of Internal Inclusions

Black marks or white marks. GIA doesn't tell you whether the mark is black or whether it's white, or whether it's grey. Black marks in the table affects the stone more negatively, especially with price. And this is due to the fact that when the diamond does get dirty, you will see a black mark more easily. So you've got to be careful when you're buying a diamond as well because



# 11. Type of Inclusion

GIA doesn't really explain the types of inclusions, it just tells you what and where they are. Now, if you do a lot of research, you can probably find out what they are but even then, the explanations are sometimes a bit hard to understand. This is why it's best to talk to a diamond expert if you really want to understand what the actual inclusions are in the diamond, and which ones are better for the overall look of the diamond, and which ones are more detrimental to the lustre of the diamond. Some inclusions are also more structurally sound than others and will affect the value of your investment differently. This is something you're better off talking to a diamond expert about and having them explain the type of inclusion in the diamond.







## 12. Spread

GIA doesn't tell you if a diamond has a good spread or a small spread, it just tells you its measurements. Now, this is where you're best to talk to a diamond expert and just understand the spread of the diamond. Because sometimes you could be buying a diamond that a 1.00 carat diamond, but you can buy a 0.90 carat diamond that has the same spread because it's cut effectively. You may want to buy a one-carat diamond; and you're not bothered that it's 6.2 mm in diameter for a round brilliant cut, even though the best-cut 1.00 carat diamonds would be 6.4 - 6.5 mm. This is something to keep in mind.

# 13. Shape

This is more important to keep in mind when buying a fancy shape diamond (any shape other than Round). What do I mean by the shape? If you have a pear-shaped diamond for example, it can be very long and thin, or short and fat. There is a particular ratio and style a pear-shaped diamond is cut that looks best and is pleasing to my eye, and I'm sure it's pleasing to most. This is true for all fancy cut diamonds, and it is best to talk to a trained diamond expert to know you are getting a beautifully cut diamond.





If you are ready to start your journey on creating a beautiful custom diamond engagement ring of her dreams, contact me today. I will expertly guide you through selecting your perfect diamond and create the diamond engagement ring of her dreams, and you will walk away with the confidence knowing you have secured your investment.

Contact me on  
**07 3210 1011** or email me  
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