

KenWorks Discusses How Gemologists Evaluate Diamonds and Precious Stones

METAIRIE, LA, UNITED STATES, June 5, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Diamonds and precious gemstones have fascinated people for centuries because of their beauty, rarity, and durability. Whether found in engagement rings, family heirlooms, estate jewelry, or investment collections, gemstones often carry both financial and sentimental value. Determining that value, however, involves much more than simply looking at a stone and deciding whether it sparkles.

Gemologists use specialized training, equipment, and evaluation techniques to assess diamonds and precious stones. The process involves examining a variety of characteristics that help determine authenticity, quality, condition, and overall value.



Kenworks

Many people are familiar with the "Four Cs" commonly associated with diamond grading: cut, color, clarity, and carat weight. While these factors remain important, professional evaluations often involve a much broader examination of a stone's characteristics.

Cut refers to how a diamond has been shaped and proportioned. A well-cut diamond reflects and disperses light differently than a poorly cut stone, affecting its overall appearance. Cut quality can influence brilliance, fire, and scintillation, which are terms used to describe the way light interacts with the diamond.

Color is another significant factor. In white diamonds, less color is generally associated with higher grading classifications. Gemologists use standardized grading scales and controlled lighting environments to evaluate subtle color variations that may not be obvious to the untrained eye.

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Ken Bowers

Clarity involves examining internal and external characteristics known as inclusions and blemishes. Many diamonds contain naturally occurring internal features formed during the creation process. Gemologists use magnification tools to evaluate these characteristics and determine how they affect overall grading.

Carat weight refers to the size and weight of the diamond. While larger diamonds are often more valuable, carat weight alone does not determine worth. Cut quality, color, clarity, and market demand all contribute to a stone's

overall value.

According to [Ken Bowers](#), owner of [KenWorks](#) in Metairie, Louisiana, professional evaluation involves looking beyond appearance alone.

"Many gemstones may appear similar at first glance, but trained gemologists evaluate numerous characteristics that influence authenticity, quality, and value. Proper identification often requires specialized equipment and experience," said Ken Bowers, owner of KenWorks in Metairie, Louisiana.

Colored gemstones such as rubies, sapphires, emeralds, tanzanite, aquamarine, and other precious stones require a different evaluation process. While color remains an important consideration, gemologists also assess factors such as transparency, saturation, tone, origin indicators, and the presence of treatments.

Color quality often plays a particularly important role in the evaluation of colored gemstones. Certain hues and saturation levels may be more desirable depending on the specific stone being examined.

Modern gemology relies on a variety of tools and instruments. Microscopes, refractometers, spectrometers, ultraviolet light sources, thermal conductivity testers, and precision scales may all be used during the evaluation process.

These tools help gemologists identify natural gemstones, laboratory-grown stones, simulants, and treated materials. Advances in gemstone production have increased the importance of professional identification, as some laboratory-created stones can closely resemble their natural counterparts.

Treatments are another important consideration. Many gemstones undergo treatments designed to improve appearance. Heat treatment, fracture filling, irradiation, oiling, and other enhancement methods may affect value and should be properly disclosed during evaluation.

Gemologists also examine mounting conditions when jewelry contains gemstones. Prongs, settings, wear patterns, repairs, and signs of damage may influence overall assessments.

Estate jewelry frequently presents unique evaluation challenges. Older pieces may contain gemstones cut using techniques different from those commonly used today. Historical craftsmanship, age, rarity, and design elements may contribute additional considerations beyond the gemstones themselves.

Documentation can also play a role in the evaluation process. Previous appraisals, grading reports, laboratory certificates, and purchase records may provide useful information regarding a stone's history and characteristics.

Many people seek gemstone evaluations for insurance purposes, estate planning, resale considerations, inheritance matters, charitable donations, or personal knowledge. Understanding the characteristics of a gemstone can provide valuable insight regardless of the reason for the evaluation.

As technology continues to advance and gemstone markets evolve, professional gemological evaluations remain an important resource for individuals seeking accurate information about diamonds and precious stones. Through careful examination, specialized equipment, and established grading methods, gemologists help identify the qualities that make each stone unique.

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