

GIA POLISH AND SYMMETRY FEATURES

Overview

As you know, each GIA report contains a grade for two Finish categories: Polish and Symmetry. GIA will now provide the *specific factors* resulting in a given Finish grade on *every* diamond we grade. The information will be available online through our client portal.

To ensure that our clients are familiar with the terms we use in the laboratory, we are providing a list of polish features, symmetry deviations and facet terminology with definitions and abbreviations (when applicable), that will appear in the Item Details section of My Laboratory.

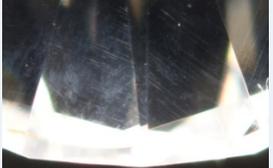
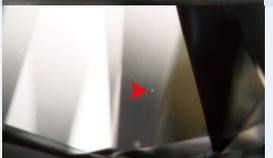
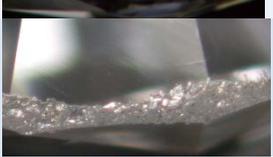
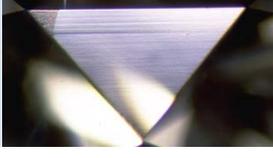
Please be aware that the polish and symmetry information we provide will include only grade-setting characteristics. The list is not intended to be a prescription for receiving the grade Excellent. There may be other polish or symmetry characteristics that would prevent the diamond from receiving the grade Excellent, even if the listed characteristics are removed.

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Polish Features

Polish is graded on a scale from Excellent to Poor based on the presence and visibility of polish features at 10x magnification. The following features are considered in the polish assessment.

Polish Feature	Abbreviation	Definition	Example
Abrasion	Abr	An area of minute scratches or pits along a facet edge producing a fuzzy white line instead of a sharp facet junction	
Burn	Brn Dop	Whitish haze caused by excessive heat during polishing or, occasionally, by a jeweler's torch is listed as "Brn." A burn mark caused by excessive heat at the location where the dop touched the diamond is referred to more specifically as "Dop."	
Laser Manufacturing Remnant	LMR	A remnant of laser manufacturing that remains on the surface of the polished diamond; typically appears as a transparent or white groove; only considered polish when it does not penetrate into the diamond at 10x magnification.	
Lizard Skin	LS	A transparent, uneven texture confined to one facet caused by polishing a facet off-grain	
Nick	Nck	A small notch on a facet junction, usually along the girdle or at the culet	
Pit	Pit	A tiny opening appearing as a white dot	
Rough Girdle	RG	An irregular pitted or granular surface of a bruted girdle due to pits and nicks	
Scratch	Scr	A surface mark, normally seen as a fine white line that may be curved or straight	
Polish Lines	Wht TP Drag line Polish mark	Parallel lines left by the polishing process; may appear white (Wht) or transparent (TP). A heavy transparent polish line off a surface-reaching feature is referred to more specifically as a "drag line". A surface feature made during the polishing process that resembles an extra facet without a distinct or straight facet junction is referred to as a "polish mark".	 

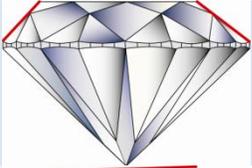
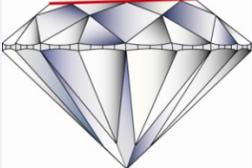
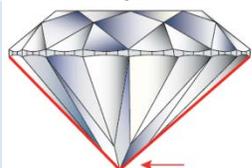
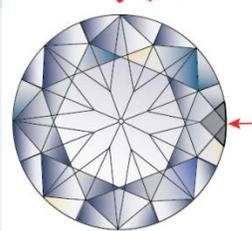
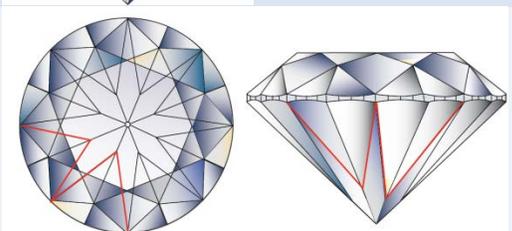
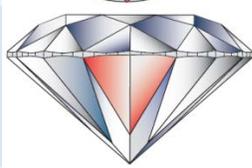
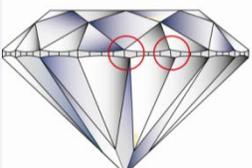
Polish Feature Locations

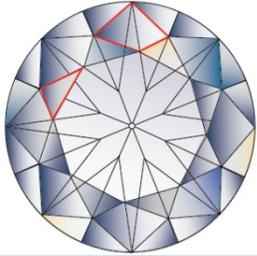
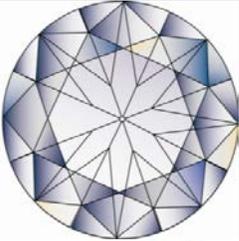
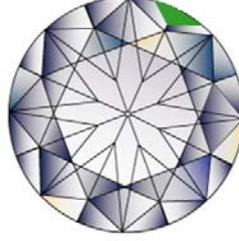
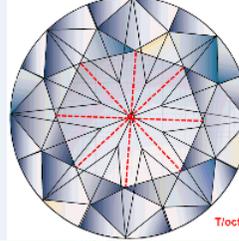
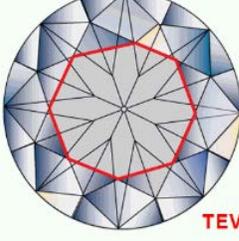
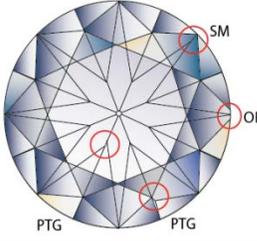
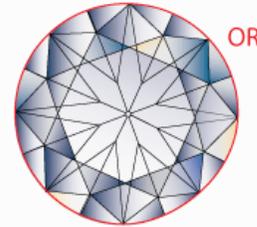
The location of each polish feature is specified using one of the following terms.

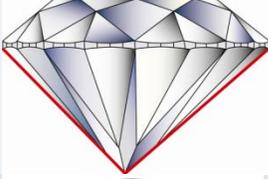
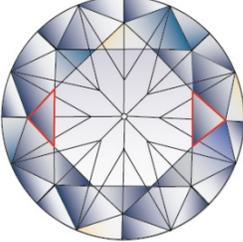
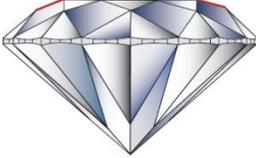
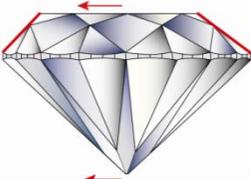
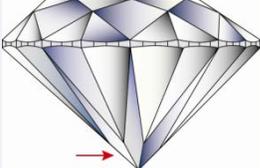
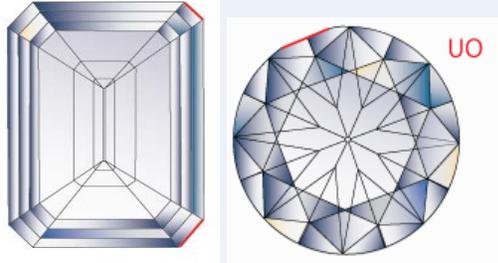
Location	Abbreviation	Examples
Bezel Facet	bez	
Chevron Facet	chevron	
Crown Corner Step Facet	crown corner step	
Crown	crown	
Crown Facet	crown facet	
Crown Step Facet	crown step	
Culet	culet	
Girdle	girdle	
Half-Moon Facet	half-moon	
Lower Half Facet	l.h.	
Pavilion Main Facet	main	
Pavilion	pav	
Pavilion Corner Step Facet	pav corner step	
Pavilion Facet	pav facet	
Pavilion Step Facet	pav step	
Star Facet	star	
Table Facet	table	
Upper Half Facet	u.h.	

Symmetry Features

Symmetry is graded on a scale from Excellent to Poor based on the presence and visibility of symmetry deviations at 10x magnification. The following features are considered in the symmetry assessment.

Symmetry Feature	Abbreviation	Definition	Example
Crown Angle Variation	CV	Unequal crown angles	
Crown Height Variation	CHV	Girdle plane not parallel to the table causing uneven crown height	
Culet Off-Center	C/oc	Deviation of the culet from the central position on the pavilion	
Extra Facet	EF	Additional facet placed without regard for symmetry and not required by the cutting style	
Girdle Thickness Variation	GTV	Variation of the girdle thickness	
Lower Half Percentage Variation	LPV	Variation of lower half facet length percentages	
Lower Half Variation	LHV	Unequal lower half facet angles	
Misalignment	Aln	Displacement of the crown and pavilion facets in relation to each other	

Symmetry Feature	Abbreviation	Definition	Example
Misshapen Facet	Fac MB MS MM	Difference in shape or size between one facet and another of the same type, or distortion of a given facet; bezel, star and main facets that are misshapen are listed more specifically as misshapen bezel (MB), misshapen star (MS) and misshapen main (MM)	
Missing Facet	MF	Asymmetrically missing facet	
Natural	N	Part of the original rough diamond's surface that remains on the polished diamond	
Non-Octagonal Table	T/oct TEV	The table of a Round Brilliant is not a regular octagon, showing differences among the four table sizes (T/oct) or among the eight table edges (TEV)	 
Non-Pointing	Ptg SM SB OM OB	Fully formed facet that does not reach its prescribed location (short facet) or is incompletely finished (open facet), resulting in adjoining facets not meeting at precise points; non-pointing of bezel and main facets are listed more specifically as short main (SM), short bezel (SB), open main (OM) and open bezel (OB)	
Out-of-Round	OR	Deviation from the circular shape of a round diamond	

Symmetry Feature	Abbreviation	Definition	Example
Pavilion Depth Variation	PDV	Variation of pavilion depth	
Pavilion Angle Variation	PV	Unequal pavilion angles	
Star Percentage Variation	SPV	Variation of star facet length percentages	
Star Angle Variation	SV	Unequal star facet angles	
Table Off-Center	T/oc	Deviation of the table from the central position on the crown	
Table/Culet Alignment	T/C	Displacement of the table facet and culet in different directions	
Upper Half Variation	UHV	Unequal upper half facet angles	
Uneven Outline	UO	Asymmetrical shape outline; also refers to bumps and flattened areas created by a natural, extra facet or uneven girdle faceting on round diamonds	

Cumulative

Cumulative is listed under symmetry features when the symmetry grade is based on the combined effect of symmetry features instead of individual deviations. For example, a diamond with PDV and CV that measure on the border of VG/GD may receive a lower symmetry grade based on their combined appearance; “Cumulative: PDV, CV.”

Abbreviations

POLISH FEATURES

Abbreviation	Polish Feature
Abr	Abrasion
Brn	Burn
Dop	Dop Burn
LMR	Laser Manufacturing Remnant
LS	Lizard Skin
Nck	Nick
Pit	Pit
RG	Rough Girdle
Scr	Scratch
Wht	White Polish Lines
TP	Transparent Polish Lines
Drag line	
Polish mark	

SYMMETRY FEATURES

Abbreviation	Symmetry Feature
Aln	Misalignment
C/oc	Culet Off-Center
CV	Crown Angle Variation
CHV	Crown Height Variation
EF	Extra Facet
Fac	Misshapen Facet
GTV	Girdle Thickness Variation
LHV	Lower Half Angle Variation
LPV	Lower Half Percentage Variation
MB	Misshapen Bezel
MF	Missing Facet
MM	Misshapen Main
MS	Misshapen Star
N	Natural
OB	Open Bezel
OM	Open Main
OR	Out-of-Round
PDV	Pavilion Depth Variation
Ptg	Non-Pointing
PV	Pavilion Angle Variation
SB	Short Bezel
SM	Short Main
SPV	Star Percentage Variation
SV	Star Angle Variation
T/C	Table/Culet Alignment
T/oc	Table Off-Center
T/oct	Non-Octagonal Table
TEV	Table Edge Variation
UHV	Upper Half Angle Variation
UO	Uneven Outline

POLISH LOCATIONS

Abbreviation	Polish Location
bez	Bezel Facet
chevron	Chevron Facet
crown corner step	Crown Corner Step Facet
crown	Crown
crown facet	Crown Facet
crown step	Crown Step Facet
culet	Culet
girdle	Girdle
half-moon	Half-Moon Facet
l.h.	Lower Half Facet
main	Pavilion Main Facet
pav	Pavilion
pav corner step	Pavilion Corner Step Facet
pav facet	Pavilion Facet
pav step	Pavilion Step Facet
star	Star Facet
table	Table Facet
u.h.	Upper Half Facet

MODIFIERS*

Abbreviation	Modifier
sl	slight
fnt	faint
hvy	heavy
+	multiple



*Reports for all diamonds graded later than January 30th, 2012 should include only the terminology and abbreviations listed in this document. You may come across non-standardized information on diamonds graded prior to January 30th, 2012 including the use of the modifiers listed in the table above.

Cumulative: Cumulative is listed under symmetry features when the symmetry grade is based on the combined effect of symmetry features instead of individual deviations.

“SI” and “+” were typically applied to both Polish features and Symmetry deviations, while “fnt” and “hvy” were applied exclusively to Polish features. The modifier “+” referred to multiple facets of the same type with a given polish feature, or multiple facets of the same type with a given symmetry deviation (Ex. TP: I.h.+; MM+).