

**HONEYMOON
TRAVEL
TIPS**

Important things to consider about choosing a honeymoon spot are the amount of time and money you have.

Once you choose your destination, it is the groom's responsibility to make hotel reservations. Be sure to keep your deposit receipt as proof of your reservation.

If you are flying, be sure to pick up and immediately check your tickets well in advance of your wedding day. This will allow time in case of error or needed adjustment.

Estimate how much money you will need and purchase travelers' checks. Be sure to allow for shopping, meals, and hotel bills. You might want to add an extra amount for unexpected expenses.

If you plan to use credit cards, make sure they are accepted where you are going. Take small bills for tips.

If traveling outside the U.S., check proof of citizenship and customs requirements.

An organized and well-planned honeymoon is sure to be as happy and memorable as the day it follows.

Best Wishes To The Bride And Groom
The ABCs of Selecting Your Diamond Ring Are "Four C's"

On your first date, you might have felt slightly awkward, but by the second you were laughing and holding hands, and within a short time you began feeling more and more comfortable with each other until a special intimacy had grown between you and it seemed natural that you would be married. As wonderful as those days of new love and planning a life together are, says the Jewelry Industry Council, don't be in such a daze that you make the wrong decision when buying a diamond.

The engagement ring is not as easy to select as it is to wear, and though each stone may seem luxurious and elegant to the inexperienced shopper, each diamond is actually different. Because diamonds vary in quality, you should purchase yours from a reputable jeweler who can offer expert advice. But, it is equally essential that you know the "four C's" as they are referred to by

jewelers—cut, color, clarity and carat weight which will help you judge the quality of the gem that is to bring you a lifetime of happiness.

Cut refers both to the shape of the diamond—be it the popular, round brilliant, the rectangular emerald, pear, heart, oval, or boat-shaped marquise—and to the skill and precision of the cutting. To release maximum brilliance, a diamond must be cut according to strict standards. A full cut diamond has 58 facets: 33 above the girdle or outer edge and 25 below. A perfect cut refers not to the number of facets (that is standard), but to their angles and the proportions of the stone. Believe it or not, diamonds are so hard that it takes several days to cut and polish a one carat stone.

Color is thought by some to be the most important determinant of diamond value. The ideal diamond is crystal clear as a raindrop. But, such

stones are rare. Most are tinged with yellow or brown. And, while this tinge might detract from the diamond's value, it usually doesn't diminish the stone's spectacular sparkle.

Clarity refers to the diamond's internal quality. A flawless diamond shows no "inclusions" when viewed under ten power magnification. Ninety-nine per cent of diamonds over half a carat have some flaws. They range from a tiny white spot to dark carbon spots, nicks, cracks, or cloudy areas. Like a slight tinge of color, inclusions lessen a diamond's value but seldom detract from their beauty. Ask your jeweler to let you look at some diamonds under his ten power loupe. You will be able to see the small specks that make each stone different and unique.

Carat, of course, is the measure of the weight of the diamond. A carat equals 1/142nd of an



THE ALL-IMPORTANT CHOICE—Buying her engagement ring is a momentous occasion for most young couples, the Jewelry Industry Council reports. A little help from a professional—your favorite jeweler—will help you make the right selection quality-wise, the experts point out.

ounce, or two hundred milligrams. Each carat is divided into 100 points, thus a 1/2 carat diamond weighs 50 points. The word "carat" comes from the carob seed which was so uniform in weight that it was used to weigh diamonds. If there are one large and several smaller stones in a ring, ask your jeweler for the exact weight of the major stone,

rather than total carat weight. Every point affects value.

Receiving a diamond engagement ring is a very important event in a woman's life. It should be totally enjoyable. Knowing a little about the beautiful merchandise is one way to make this memorable occasion everything it should be.



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