

The Question of Weight

The weight of all diamonds and gemstones are measured in metric carats. One carat equals 0.2 grams. One carat is also divided into 100 points. This explains when a jeweller talks about a 25 pointer, he refers to a .25ct diamond, or a 50 pointer, he refers to a .50ct diamond, or a 75 pointer would mean a .75ct diamond, and so on.

The larger the diamond, the more valuable and rare it could be. A fraction of a carat could result in a large difference in price as some weights are considered "magic sizes". These are half carat, three-quarter carat, and carat. One would think there is no difference between a 0.99ct. diamond and one that weighs a full carat. The one carat diamond falls into the "magic size" category and therefore could have a significant difference in price from the 0.99ct diamond. For this reason diamonds are weighed very accurately and the weight is measured to a thousandth of a carat and rounded to the nearest hundredth. It is also important to understand that one large diamond weighing one carat is more rare and therefore more valuable than four 25 point diamonds weighing one carat in total.

Here is a chart showing the approximate mm measurement of the diameter of some round diamonds equal to their weight:

Measurement	Carat weight
4.1mm	$\frac{1}{4}$ ct
4.4mm	$\frac{1}{3}$ ct
5.2mm	$\frac{1}{2}$ ct
5.9mm	$\frac{3}{4}$ ct
6.5mm	1 ct
7mm	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ct
7.4mm	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ct
7.8mm	$1\frac{3}{4}$ ct
8.2mm	2 ct
8.8mm	$2\frac{1}{2}$ ct
9.4mm	3 ct
9.7mm	$3\frac{1}{2}$ ct
10.4mm	4 ct

Diamond values also increase disproportionately as the size of the stone increases. Therefore, a two-carat diamond will not cost twice the price of a one-carat stone. It could cost much more, since the larger the diamond, the more rare and valuable it is.

Even though carat weight is easy to establish, by now you know that the weight of a diamond is not the only determining factor of its value. Carat weight is one of the 4C categories and should therefore be considered in conjunction with the other three, Clarity, Colour and Cut, before establishing the value of the diamond.