

Diamond testers- useful tools but have their limitations

Useful tools

Diamond testers are a useful tool when wishing to check that the gem you are looking at, is in fact a diamond. There are a wide variety of suppliers and different units. The units shown in this article are for illustrative purposes only.

There are several gems or simulants that are passed off as diamond such as cubic zirconia (CZ), moissanite, glass, white sapphire (natural or synthetic), topaz and spinel.

Some testers only check for diamond and non-diamond and will give you a result based on that premise. Some testers test for diamond and moissanite and there are testers that test for diamond, non-diamond and moissanite. However, there are some limitations on all the units that you need to bear in mind.

Be mindful of limitations

Unless you have the high end and very sophisticated testing equipment at your disposal, reserved mainly for the gem testing laboratories, you need to be mindful of the following:

- Many of the testers will tell you that the stone is non-diamond, but it does not tell you what it is. However, there are some of the testers that are more sophisticated and do give you a more definitive answer.
- The testers will tell you that the gem is a diamond against non-diamond or moissanite but will not tell you if the diamond is laboratory grown/ synthetic. There are several specialized testers that are designed to differentiate between natural diamond and laboratory grown diamond. These units' range in price from approximately USD 5300.00 upward.



Presidium tester



Sherlock Holmes
synthetic diamond
tester



DiamondNite Tester



Horizon Diamond Tester