Diamond vs Moissanite

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Diamond vs Moissanite: Key Differences Explained

Choosing between a diamond and a moissanite is one of the most common questions when selecting an engagement ring or bespoke jewellery. While both stones may appear similar at first glance, they differ significantly in origin, rarity, durability, value and long-term meaning. Understanding these distinctions helps buyers make confident and informed decisions.

What Is a Diamond?

How Diamonds Are Formed

Diamonds are formed deep within the Earth’s mantle under extreme heat and pressure over billions of years. Carbon atoms crystallise into a rigid structure, making diamond the hardest naturally occurring material on earth.

Natural Rarity and Provenance

Only a small percentage of mined diamonds are of gem quality. Their natural formation and finite supply contribute to their enduring value and heirloom status.

Diamond Treatments

Some diamonds may be treated to improve clarity or appearance, including laser drilling or fracture filling. Ethical jewellers disclose all treatments clearly to ensure transparency.

What Is Moissanite?

How Moissanite Is Created

Moissanite is a lab-created gemstone composed of silicon carbide. Although first discovered in meteorites, the moissanite used in jewellery today is entirely man-made.

Availability and Consistency

Because moissanite is manufactured, it is available in consistent sizes, colours and clarity grades, making it widely accessible and more affordable than natural diamonds.

Diamond vs Moissanite: Visual Appearance

Brilliance and Fire

Diamonds offer a crisp, balanced brilliance with controlled fire. Moissanite reflects more rainbow-like flashes due to its higher refractive index, which can appear overly fiery in certain lighting conditions.

Colour Comparison

Diamonds are graded on a recognised colour scale from D to Z. Moissanite may show subtle warmth or greenish tones in larger stones or under artificial lighting.

Diamond vs Moissanite: Durability and Wearability

Hardness and Longevity

Diamond ranks 10 on the Mohs hardness scale, making it the hardest natural gemstone. Moissanite ranks approximately 9.25, offering excellent durability but slightly less resistance to scratching.

Both stones are suitable for everyday wear, though the diamond remains unmatched in hardness.

Diamond vs Moissanite: Cost and Value

What Determines Diamond Value

Diamond pricing is influenced by cut, colour, clarity and carat weight, along with rarity and provenance. Natural diamonds tend to retain long-term value and are often passed down as heirlooms.

What Determines Moissanite Value

Moissanite pricing is primarily based on size and quality grade. As a lab-created stone, it does not hold intrinsic rarity or long-term resale value.

Diamond vs Moissanite for Engagement Rings

Why Choose a Diamond

Diamonds are traditionally associated with engagement rings due to their symbolism of permanence, strength and legacy. Their rarity and durability make them ideal for lifetime wear.

Why Choose Moissanite

Moissanite appeals to those seeking maximum sparkle at a lower cost. It offers a modern alternative but is generally regarded as a substitute rather than a natural fine-jewellery gemstone.

Diamond vs Moissanite in Bespoke Jewellery

Craftsmanship at PureJewels

At PureJewels, both diamonds and moissanite can be set into bespoke designs with careful consideration of proportion, setting style and longevity.

Available Precious Metals

Bespoke jewellery can be crafted in:

- 18ct yellow or white gold
- 22ct yellow gold
- 22ct Sunrise Gold
- Platinum

Each metal is chosen to complement the stone and the wearer’s lifestyle.

Responsible Sourcing and Transparency

PureJewels prioritises responsible sourcing and clear disclosure, particularly for natural diamonds. Clients are guided openly through all options to ensure confidence and trust.

Which Is Better: Diamond or Moissanite?

There is no universal answer. Diamonds offer rarity, heritage and enduring value, while moissanite offers affordability and brilliance. The right choice depends on personal priorities, budget and the meaning attached to the piece.

At PureJewels, the focus is on education, transparency and craftsmanship, ensuring every bespoke piece reflects integrity and intention.