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Pointed cut

<p>Side photo</p>  <p>First - Advanced</p>		<p>From the crown</p> 		<p>From the pavilion</p> 	
Year of creation	11th-14th century or earlier		Type of cut		Primitivo (first)
Number of veneers	Total 8		Top 4		Bottom 4
Features general	<p>Diamonds are the hardest substance on earth but they exhibit directional hardness; the material's ability to resist scratches differs in certain directions. The hardness of a diamond along its natural octahedral faces is very high. Therefore grinding should be done at an angle that diverges by at least one or two degrees from the natural angle of approximately 54.75 °. This is the natural angle that the ancient stones kept. The first pointed cut diamonds did not undergo significant changes in shape, but a simple polishing, finishing that allowed these gems to show superior luster and symmetry. Natural octahedral shaped gems are however difficult to wear, especially in large stones, due to the depth of the crystals. With the improvement of the cutting techniques, the understanding of the cleavage processes, the natural angle (generally that of the pavilion, but not only) of the crystals was reduced , creating less bulky gems (also given their hardness and fragility) and with optical effects different.</p>				

<p>History</p>	<p>Since ancient times the common idea was that a diamond had to be "natural and intact" to keep the best of its magical powers. The pointed cut was a way to bring the crooked and imperfect crystal towards an aesthetically more regular and harmonious shape, close to a perfect octahedral crystal, without however appearing shaped by man. In ancient Indian texts in which diamonds and precious stones were described, such as the work, the authors declared that attacking the surface of diamonds in any way eliminated their magical properties or even brought bad luck . Drill bits armed with pieces of sharp diamonds were already in use in India from the 1st millennium BC The text <i>Ratnaparīk ṣ ā</i> (early 1st millennium AD, gem science) also told how the <i>ratna - parīk ṣ aka</i> (gemologist / sacred evaluator), after examining <i>gu ṇ a</i> (quality), <i>do ṣ a</i> (defects) and <i>ākara</i> (provenance) of the stones, determines their price and then acted as a broker in the market or advised the king on the gems to be acquired for his treasure. Already in this treatise it is specified that diamonds cannot be touched both for their hardness and for their intrinsic properties. In another Sanskrit work entitled Agastimata / Agastyasa ṃ hiṭā (5th century AD), it is described how diamond dust, already at that time, was used as an abrasive. Poor quality diamonds could be destroyed, as it was believed that they could cause misfortune. The presence of this practice does not indicate that some stones were already altered at that time (which was anything but easy). It is also possible that, as often happens, someone has bypassed religious laws and warnings to make some money and have started to modify the shape of diamonds since ancient times. The origin of the pointed cut is unknown. After 1204 and the Sack of Constantinople, Venice took commercial control of the Mediterranean, becoming the port of choice for luxury goods from the East. This also included diamonds (and possibly some Middle Eastern or Indian processing techniques with them). Some scholars place the discovery of the first intentional modification of diamonds (which influenced all other precious stones, typically cabochon cut, engraved or simply polished) was experimented in the lagoon city in the first decades of the 14th century. It is certain that already from the end of the 15th century there were various forms of facet (shield, square / carrè etc. as attested, for example, by some French inventories of 1360). The moment was of prime importance for two main reasons. The first concerns the mythological indestructibility of the diamond (despite the belief that if this stone was bathed in the warm blood of a goat, it could be easily broken). The word for diamond also lost its initial a , indicating that it was now destructible. The second reason concerns the change in tastes. The development of techniques, machinery and preferences and the fact that it was practically impossible to engrave diamonds or cut them into cabochons (rounded shape), led to a gradual abandonment of the rounded shapes in the stones and to the birth of the facet . Although many minerals (such as beryl, garnet or spinel) occur naturally in regular crystals, these characteristics have always been seen as uninteresting. But with the birth of the diamond cut, other stones also began to be worked with the creation of flat bezels and regular symmetrical designs. The pointed cut can perhaps be considered as a forerunner of this small revolution. Other theories see it as a legacy of Indian origin or as a discovery of Muslim countries (Middle East). When, around the second half of the 15th century, <i>table cuts became fashionable</i> , many pointed cuts were transformed according to this new style. Both types were often equipped with reflective foils at the bottom to maximize light return. The pointed diamond must have been very popular during the period of Lorenzo de 'Medici, known as the Magnificent. The Tuscan nobleman in fact chose three diamond rings, intertwined according to a triangular arrangement as his company (coat of arms or personal heraldic symbol). Similar designs were also used by Piero il Gottoso (son of Cosimo de 'Medici) and by members of the Visconti, Sforza, Borromeo and Este families . Name : <i>punta</i> , from Late Latin punctus / <i>puncta</i> , noun form of the past participle of <i>pungĕre</i> 'to prick' Other names : <i>a ponta, en ponta</i> (ancient Venetian) In English : Point Cut</p>
<p>Facet process</p>	<p>More than a faceting process, it was a cleaning job . It initially made some octahedral diamonds more regular. Over time and with the understanding of natural cleavage processes (along the cleavage planes), the natural angles of the octahedra were changed to make the stones more attractive and easier to wear. The cleaning was</p>

	done using diamond abrasives, along the external surfaces of the stones that were to be polished.		
	Variations : advanced pointy cut (changing the corners of the top, bottom, or both).		
Weight retention	Almost complete	Popularity (markets) %	Fallen into disuse
Famous stones:	<p>The coronation ring of King Charles IX of Sweden is supposed to have been created by the goldsmiths Ruprecht Miller and Antonij Groot in 1607 .</p> <p>In a painting from 1612, Sigismund III, (during the siege of Smolensk, one of the key episodes of the Russo-Polish war), was portrayed wearing the Order of the Golden Fleece on the chain and the ring, barely visible, with a pointed crystal on her finger. The coronation of Charles IX in Uppsala Cathedral in 1607 was the last time a ring was included in the insignia. It is now kept in the Royal Armory in Stockholm.</p> <p>The Spitzer Renaissance Point Cut Diamond , created in Italy in the 16th century.</p>		