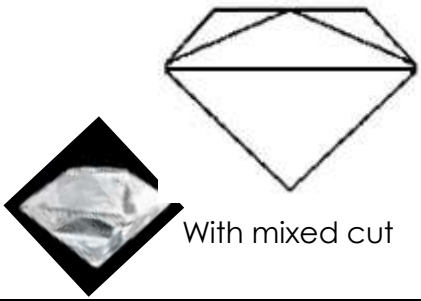
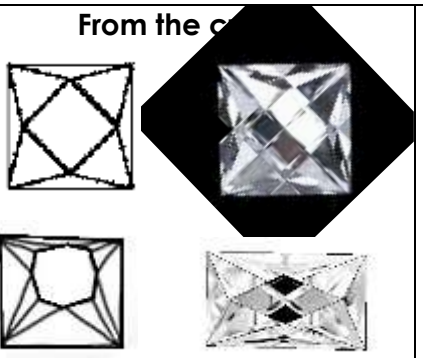
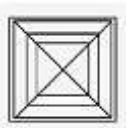
Warning: this version has been completed with Google Translate, it certainly contains errors or inaccuracies.

French cut

Side photo	From the c	From the pavilion
 With mixed cut		Ancient (without apex)  Modern version with mixed cut (stepped pavilion)

Year of creation	Second half of the **14th century**	**Type of cut**	Ancient
Number of veneers	**Total** 13 (ancient) 18-24 (modern)	**Top** 9 9-15	**Bottom** 4 9 (with superscript)
Features general	The old French cut had only **9 crown facets** , with the facet of the table being square or rhomboid in shape, **diagonal to the rest of the crown** . On the 4 sides of the table there are four triangular facets that point towards the corners of the crown. This gives **the appearance of a 4-pointed star** . The pavilion is divided into 4 main facets. Overall, a modern French cut diamond should have at least 18 and up to a maximum of 24. Due to the small number of cuts, the gem cutter should be extremely accurate with measurements.		
History	**Ancient version** The French cut is one of the oldest facet styles and probably dates back to the **second half of the fourteenth century** . Although it is among the first, it became appreciated only from the **seventeenth century,** when it became the favorite of many nobles (until the brilliant cut was introduced). Given its appearance among the first forms of modification of the original crystal and the consequent inexperience of the first diamonds and the lack of sophisticated equipment, the facets of the first gems thus worked were often jagged and asymmetrical. This style is the evolution of an earlier facet style known as ***table cut*** , the first first verse of the original crystal alteration style in history. The ***scissor cut*** is a variety of the French cut and offers a slightly more elaborate type of work. The first faceted diamonds, with the primitive table cut, became popular in Europe (particularly in the areas of present-day Italy, Great Britain and especially in France, hence the name) and in the Middle East. As table-cut diamonds grew in popularity among the nobles, further modeling of the precious stones developed. Over time, four more triangular facets have been added to the crown area. This shape was already more exclusive and captivating, especially when compared with the rough or simply polished stone, but further attraction came from the greater amount of light reflected when the diamond moved relative to the observer (or vice versa). In 1800, it had a flashback, which led to its evolution and improvement of symmetry and proportions. These improvements were made possible by processing techniques and tools much more advanced than those of the fifteenth-sixteenth century, moreover the most recent aesthetic tastes required the addition of some veneers. **Modern version** The French cut as we know it today **dates back to the early 20th century** . Before that it was available in a wide range of combinations, although only a couple of such designs have survived to this day. Many of the styles are derived from paintings or images of texts, rather than from real specimens that have won the challenge over time. Most of the ancient diamonds have been remodeled with more modern		

	styles on various occasions, so little or nothing of the original material has come down to the present time. The modern French cut reached its greatest popularity **during the Art Deco period, from 1919 to 1930 (1940 in the USA)** . This artistic period is known for its simple, geometric designs and the French cut met the prevailing standards of art and architecture of the time like no other. The culture of the period often exhibited French-cut gems **as accents** on bezels, bracelets, and watches. This style was often preferred as it featured a more vibrant appearance than that offered by stepped cut or Carré cut stones. It was not only used for diamonds, but also for sapphires, rubies, emeralds and precious stones. The greatest advantage of this style was perhaps its simplicity, also ideal, precisely, for the processing of small stones, an alternative to the single cut, which later gradually replaced it **.** After the 2008 recession, some of the few antique gems with a vintage cut were put back on the market (for example in pawn shops) and here and there you could also find some with a French cut. Due to the rarity of these diamonds, which were normally modified with new designs, today they may be worth more than their modern counterparts. **Name:** The term *French cut* probably originated from its popularity in France (where perhaps it was invented?). It seems likely that this name "is a creation of the twentieth century (in this case the name that defined the original fourteenth-fifteenth century style is unknown) **Other names** : It is also used for a form of haircut (also called French Crop) and an accidental hit in the game of Cricket. **In English** : French Cut		
Facet process	It uses a **square shape** (or, less commonly, rectangular or even trapezoidal.), When viewed from above because it rests on the octahedral shape of the natural diamond. Often it denotes a high crown and cross motifs of triangular facets. It was often applied **to dodecahedral crystals** (one of the most common after the octahedral). It can be easily recognized by **a rhomboid table rotated 90 degrees with respect to the diamond profile,** created by cutting one end of a well-formed octahedral crystal; smaller veneers are placed on its edges for greater brilliance. The pavilion is divided into four simple facets, which in the less ancient stones were sometimes divided in half. **Variations** : The traditional French cut features a rhombus-shaped plank, faceted over a square or rectangular crown. Over time, however, the originally square base of the table, which nevertheless remained the most widespread, evolved and diversified. When the stone was not regular, for reasons of inclusions or irregularities of the outline, it was possible to pass from the perfect symmetry of the square base to a less specular one, but always regular, with the sides of different sizes: the one with a **rectangular base** (similar in general to the lozenge shape, but with the table arranged in a different way). Sometimes a French cut could come to have an **octagonal shape** . To obtain this variation, the four vertices were smoothed so that the resulting eight were of equal size. This modification improved reflection, with light bouncing quickly and evenly across all facets. This option became more sought after in the early twentieth century. A peculiarity of stones worked with this style is that when French cut diamonds (such as side diamonds) are sometimes placed side by side, they can sometimes produce quite remarkable optical effects. In addition, the adaptable geometric shape allows these gems to give a good show of themselves in almost any jewelry model, whether simple or sophisticated. There was also a ***French cut with a flat bottom*** , which referred to stones without a pavilion (such as those with a rose cut). Their crowns followed the style of the traditional French cut.		
Weight retention	Variable (high on dodecahedral crystal)	**Popularity (markets) %**	Today practically non-existent

Famous stones:	Vintage and antique designs are back in fashion. After 2010, some early 20th-century Art Deco-inspired jewels made French-cut diamonds popular again in some way. . Some important jewels, worn by celebrities, from Hollywood actresses to high fashion models, have reintroduced this ancient style in the world of contemporary precious. A striking example of the above comes from the diamond ring, with a central 6-carat *princess talon stone* , flanked by French-cut diamonds. The precious jewel was given to **Jessica Biel by Justin Timberlake** . A few years later, Adam Levine, famous for Maroon 5, asked the hand of **Behati Prinsloo** , a Victoria's Secret model, with the "help" of a platinum ring, Art Deco style, with a central diamond flanked by a stone French cut on each side. Actress **Scarlett Johansson** was also photographed exhibiting a jewel adorned with faceted diamonds with this ancient motif in 2014.